



### A boost

Edina High Athletic Boosters will host a fundraiser for Edina sports.  
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Thursday, April 29, 2021

## Middle school does 'High School Musical'

South View's thespians performed first pandemic-era production

By CAITLIN ANDERSON  
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South View Middle School's young thespians have had to adapt and transition throughout the past semester in attempting to put on 'High School Musical.'

But in the middle school's first live production since the start of the pandemic, the students didn't let COVID-19 steal the show.

For a limited audience of about 250 friends and family members, more than 50 middle school students staged a live performance of the original Disney movie last week, depicting the story of two high school students who spark a romance together while dealing with meddling cliques. The show was the final product of a months-long process that first started in January through Google Meet gatherings. Then, once school was back to in-per-



(PHOTO COURTESY MOLLY ANDRESEN)

Genet Gessert, a 7th-grader, plays the role of Martha during South View Middle School's production of "High School Musical." This scene depicts the moment that several students reveal their interests outside of the cliques they belong to at East High, breaking out of the status quo.

son learning this spring, performers rehearsed together in the bus parking lot of the middle school.

And despite COVID-19, the show was a success, students said.

"It was great," said eighth-grader George Dorn, who played one of the main characters, Troy Bolton. "I loved every second of it. I don't think I would change it at all."

Originally, the intent for

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(PHOTO COURTESY MOLLY ANDRESEN)

Students at South View Middle School put on a live performance of 'High School Musical' to an audience of about 250 friends and family members.

## Edina Liquor sees spike in home delivery sales during pandemic

At its peak, the enterprise saw 465 orders in one day

By CAITLIN ANDERSON  
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Edina Liquor's general manager, Josh Furbish, was at the helm of the city-owned enterprise when it decided to begin its e-commerce and delivery services journey in 2019.

A year later, the fruits of Furbish's labor paid off strikingly. The municipal liquor operation, which typically sees up to 15 delivery orders per day, saw, at its peak, 465 orders in one day during the COVID-19 pandemic. This peak, Furbish said, is largely attributed to the pandemic and the initial closing of Edina Liquor's three retail locations.

"That was certainly

where we got shot out of a cannon," said Furbish, who joined the city in this role more than four years ago.

The city first launched its e-commerce and delivery service in the spring of 2019. During the fourth quarter of that year, Edina Liquor made \$30,000 in sales through its home delivery service. Then, in the fourth quarter of 2020, the city saw a 1,600% increase with \$480,000 in liquor delivery revenue.

In an April 5 tweet, City Manager Scott Neal said total sales from home delivery for 2020 was \$2 million. In 2019, it was \$70,000. "Pivot is such an over-used word these days, but it's a good word to describe a change in Edina Liquor sales from 2019 to 2020," the tweet said.

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