

Hi. This month, I experienced a lot of things that I had never experienced before. I think I was able to make new friends and have a deep relationship with neighbors and relatives of my host family.

### 1. School

I started cheerleading as an after-school activity. It's hard because I have practice for 3 to 5 hours every day, but it's very fulfilling. I go cheer for the JV football team's game once a week. That's a game mainly played by sophomores and juniors.

One day my school was locked down, because of a phone call from outside the country that there are weapons in the school. Fortunately, this content was not true, but all students hid or evacuated the safe place. I felt scared.

### 2. Home coming

This is a traditional event of the school. Students dress up and dance at the school gym. The school was decorated gorgeously. This is a big party, so we have some enjoyable events before that. For example, we had a week called HOCO spirit week where we have a theme of clothes and students dress up according to the theme, like countries or actors. The night before the party, there was a pep assembly, parade, and football game. In the pep assembly, all the students gather at the gym, and we choose king and queen from each grade. They will be the representatives of the school and grade. Also, there are performances of cheerleading, band, dance team, and chorus. I did a cheer performance. I was nervous, but it was fun and became a good experience. Before the football game, there was a parade where band members and cheerleaders walk around the school. At the football game I did cheer. That time it was almost 5°C and we were not allowed to wear sweat shirt or pants, so it was very cold and I was freezing.

### 3. Halloween

Halloween is a big event here. I did trick-or-treat with my friends. We went to the sub-division where the houses are gathered nearby and walked around for about two hours. I got a pillowcase full of candy. I wear the costume of Sarah in Hocus Pocus. This is one of the popular American Halloween movies. On another day I went to Tilson Street which is a famous street for Halloween decorations. All the houses were decorated, and it was fun to see them. There is a trick that the doll will drop in front of the people watching the decoration. It surprised me a lot.

