It 11:00 p.m. on a school night and I am still at school. I am laying on the floor trying to get my brain to stop thinking ctrl+z, ctrl+s and ctrl+c. I am not really sure what day it is any more or if I should even go home because I will have to be back in eight hours. I don’t even know if the end is in sight, but I know this is why I love journalism.

Coming into journalism I was terrified I did not know what I was doing or what I was going to do. After being tossed around between design, broadcast, and writing, I found it. I was going to be a writer and after three years I have written too many stories to count. My first story I will never forget.

Every year our school host Danish exchange students and I had to write about what all they would so when they get here. I knew nothing. I didn’t know who to interview, I didn’t really know how to write, and I didn’t have the confidence to ask. With some luck and some great editors, my story was published in the first paper of the year.

When the paper day came I was overjoyed, my name was on the byline and I loved it. Under my name it said staff writer and I was determined to change that to editor.  Throughout the year I worked very hard to make that happen. I stayed after school to work on my stories and took on extra work to do better. At the end of my sophomore year I decided to apply for a board position.

I knew that getting a board position was a long shot because there were seven seniors and all the positions were taken, but one day I got a call from my adviser. I was expecting the worse of course and after about 30 minutes he asked how would you like to be on board? I jumped up and down out of joy, I could not believe it.

I walked into my first board meeting and I was the only junior, I was the baby of the group. I was the editor of the *Golden Fleece* my first year on board. I was in charge of making assignments, organizing pages and editing stories. On top of my jobs, I was still writing stories, one of my hardest stories was Music Throughout the Years.

The story was supposed to focus on how music has changed throughout the years, but it was harder then it sounded. After being pulled aside by my adviser I had to go back to the drawing board. In the end, I got to write a story about how a teacher at my school produced music with the same company as Justin Bieber.

This experience allowed me to grow as a writer and with this, I was allowed to help others. At the end of my junior year, I knew I wanted to apply for board again and I took a chance of applying for Editor-in-Chief. We had not had an Editor-in-Chief in about six years and somehow, I got it.

Being Editor-in-Chief has been the best experience I have ever had. As Editor-in-Chief I get to oversee everyone in the class meaning I get to talk to everyone all the time. I oversee making sure everyone has a good time and if I can help.

As my time in journalism is coming to an end I can honestly say I would not be where I am today without journalism. It has taught me how to be a leader, how to write and how to make connections with others in the world. Journalism has also brought some of my greatest role models into my life including Jamie Cummings, Caroline Bowers, and my adviser Mark Harrison. Even though I don’t plan on pursuing journalism in the future I am so thankful for my journalism career and the person it has made me.