Obviously, this year was quite different to years past… or at least the one other real semester I had. There are many things different about this year, one of the main ones is lack of structure. overall, its harder to judge my performance as I usually would be in a classroom environment where I feel more obligated to do my work, but because we are out of the classroom setting it is up to YOU to build structure and decide what your schedule is. But because there was less in school structure, I got more of 2 things homework and time. This allowed me some luxuries that I have not had before, one of the main ones being the ability to work on one thing for a long period of time, not having to change my focus allowed me to solve more problems while I was in a diligent working state. I wouldn’t say that corona virus had made my work ethic better in this way, but I also don’t think it made it worse. It just showed me a different way of working whereas instead of spending 5 days a week one hour a day I could do 4-5 hours on one or two days during the week and accomplish the same thing with slightly less time. I found that I can work best in spans of 2-3 hours especially when it is something I am motivated to do. Playing into my classroom performance just like I said, the structure hasn’t changed my work ethic and I would say the same for my quality of work. The only down side I would say is not having a real person on spot to ask for help, obviously the internet works but sometimes things can be very situational and it is good to have someone to run it by not just teachers but peers as well.

Looking into TRIED some of the points are tougher than others to answer adequately.

Teamwork: Reflecting on the semester there is one main instance of teamwork in class that comes to mind; the catapult project, I worked on this with my teammates Logan and Harden where there was a healthy amount of team work between us all, each of us brining new skills and ways of thinking to the table. From an out of class perspective there is also really only one thing that comes to mind which is the BSA, I am an older scout in the troop and with that comes being part of a group of older boys where we have to sort of guide and choose outings for the troop this process takes patience and team work as it can take time to schedule these things and it is important that everyone stays in the loop about what we are doing. Another Semester of work and a great group project to show for it, this group project was similar in style to my first project earlier this year, (garbage disposal). This project was a little bit larger scale than both the catapult and the garbage disposal, I grouped up with brodie, logan and drew. Each person got their own unique part of the project, overall I would say that because of the complex nature it was a bit harder to plan out the development of the project. Communication on the project was good but everyone’s parts were slightly different sizes which was a problem that probably could have been avoided but I got some good learning out of it.

Respect: I have definitely developed a sense of respect, both in and for this class and outside of it. I’m not sure if its just getting older and understanding more things but I have definitely matured learning from my past mistakes. This respect is an important driving factor for me as it builds a sense of obligation for me to get things done. Not really to please anyone but by bettering myself in my work and in my life I am able to gain the respect of others in my character qualities and in the quality of my work. This same logic works the other way too. In second semester i felt the same level of respect being outside of the class but ironically, when I actually got into the class I felt like I wasn’t giving my time the same amount of respect, I did to work but I also played chess as well which probably was not the best or most respectful use of my time. Perhaps part of the reason is that I found it easier to model at home than in actual class as doing things oriented more around the drawings posting picture and writing became more frequent in class and I did more of my modeling outside of class. Either way I found that coming back into the class room for the second half of the year was nice, it was definitely different.

Integrity: I’m a pretty passionate and genuine person so when I tell you I’m going to get it done I will to the best of my ability. Of course, I am realistic with my expectation of the result but I know that for me the result is a product of my continued improvement. All in all I feel my sense of integrity is good. My opinion has not changed much on this topic and I don’t know what else there is to say but looking back honestly on what I worked on, I think of what I could have improved or done better, and I always have something to say about that. My final project this year taught me a large number of useful skills but at the very end of the year I realized that I had a large number of assignments to do for other classes and I didn’t finish the drawing portion of the to my standard which makes me sort of mad.

Exellence: My belief in excellence is odd because like with my statement in integrity I tend to be honest with myself and in some ways perhaps think poorly of my work, but for me I find solace in learning and improving my abilities techniques and knowledge trying to strive for an ever changing goal. In the second semester I think I set my goals a little higher as I should, and I definitely felt like I learned some new techniques when it came to my models but like I stated in integrity I think that my drawings should have been much better and if I were to improve one thing next year it would be to make sure I make time to do quality drawings of every unique part.

Discipline: My discipline has been here and there, because of the limited structure of school I do try to stay as disciplined as possible I am also a distracted teenager who finds as many ways to procrastinate as there are fish in the sea. So I would say I have been ok on discipline and it is the main thing I need to work on in the future. In second semester, as we started moving toward a more natural structure my sleep schedule eating and overall routine became more disciplined along with it, my discipline both in class and outside of class got slightly better with a more structured time for doing modeling and other assignments and such.

Three end of year lessons Grade 10:

1. One of the largest lessons I have tried my best to learn is how to manage my time, this year was very different from past years, I had a lot of time while also having to balance a little bit more homework, due to how little time we were actually in school. I wouldn’t say it’s a lesson I have fully learned but this year certainly made me better at it.
2. My second lesson is perseverance, to me this one is probably my most important take away. I firmly believe that even when you are tired or you don’t want to do something you need to do. It always ends up being worth doing, the idea of pushing or following through with what you do is something that I value heavily
3. My final take away from this year is take the good with the bad, I don’t really know how else to say it. this year I found myself really liking certain classes and having a sour opinion on others. But when push came to shove I realized that trying to be mad at a class for whatever reason wasn’t really worth my time. by the end of the year, it became easier to do the class because my mentality towards the class had changed.