

Brendan Bonin

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Good Morning everybody, for those of you that don't know me, my name is Brendan Bonin. I'm a senior here at hill Murray. I thought I would start off by telling you all a little about myself. I came to hill Murray as a freshman, I've been here all four years, I am a 3 sport varsity athlete, hockey soccer and tennis, and a team captain for soccer and tennis. I am also a member of the National Honors Society and have participated in many clubs such as deca and care here at hill murray.

As an underclassman, I always used to see the seniors give speeches after mass and always thought that if I got the chance I could kill it up here on the podium. I especially wanted to give a to be a pioneer speech because I really thought that after almost four years of experience, had something important to say and that you should all hear it. And after the to be a pioneer speech from my friend Leo a while ago, I knew I really had to bring my A-game. As I started writing, I started thinking about the phrase "what it means to be a pioneer" and realized that I think that a lot of people are probably proud of where they go to high school no matter which one it is, and they could probably say some good things about it. So the question came to me " what makes hill Murray so different".? What does hill murray give that makes me so proud to be a pioneer. Although its towards the top of my list, let's be honest, there are a lot more things than just the tourney. So as I actually started to count on my hands all the things that hill Murray has to offer, I realized quickly ran out of fingers.

When Leo gave his speech a while, he talked about sandwiches. How making a sandwich is a lot like life and especially high school and how we should try to make our own unique sandwich, try new things and be our own person. This comparison stuck with me. As funny as the sandwich thing is, I think leos analogy is very good one. But the truth is, you can't make your own unique sandwich if in your kitchen you don't have all the different ingredients. That is what makes hill murray a great place. Hill murray is the kitchen that has all of those different ingredients and they are available to anyone. Whether your an actor, on the robotics team, a hockey player, or your parents sent you here for a good education, hill murray is the right place for you. It s the right place for anyone. Hill murray has different clubs and activities that fit everyones interests, and if there is something you want that hill murray doesnt have, like how leo gruba and jp yocum made the pioneer investor club last year, hill murray is the kind of place that lets you do that. Even I have the chance to get up here and tell you what I think today. If I wasn't at hill murray, who knows if I would have the opportunity to do what I am doing right now.

I truly believe that going to school here is a total privilege and I honestly think that people don't appreciate it enough. Especially since a lot of my peers are graduating this year, and second semester is well on its way, I'm asking everyone to take a step back and appreciate what we have here. Now I'm not pointing fingers or upset but I hope that I can open some eyes to what is sitting right in front of you. Of course hill murray is not perfect and there can always be improvements but none of us are perfect either. I often hear complaints like oh I hate the uniforms or why cant win time be at the end of the day so we can leave like last year. When in

reality uniforms are not a big deal, they're just not, frankly i like them better so I don't have to decide what to wear everyday. As for the win time thing, Im gonna be honest leaving early was awesome so im all for that. But even if we don't change win time and get to leave early, which im gonna say again im all for that, the fact that our staff has decided to give us win time in the first place, is amazing. That means students get over 4 hours a week to work on what WE NEED during school hours. Instead, we could be in class but, no, hill Murray decided it's more important that students get help and study time when they need it. That's just one of the many things that make hill Murray so different than the rest.

I know I haven't been to other high schools or know what they have, but I do know what I have and what we all have here at hill Murray. I have a school with classes not too big to where I don't know anyone, but not too small where I know everyone way too well. It's the perfect in between. I have friends and acquaintances that care about me and have similar interests and values. I have staff that cares about my schooling and my development as a person. I have coaches that care about my athletic development but also my character. I have a community that tries its best to make everybody belong. I have a school that gives me a great education and prepares me for adulthood. Most importantly I have a place where I don't have to be afraid to say that I love Jesus Christ. And as we all know the list goes on.

You got the chance to build a sandwich as Leo said. And my sandwich isn't finished yet because I think it needs a little more taste. I have a couple more ingredients I want to add, and I hope you all do too. But it's thanks to this kitchen here at hill Murray, that the list of ingredients for my sandwich and all of your sandwiches is as big as our imaginations. All you have to do is put the two together. I know that hill Murray is a huge part of who I am today and I definitely owe some people here more than just a thank you. So I think I figured it out. For me, To be a pioneer means to be a part of something very special, something that not a lot of people have. So no I'm not just proud to be a part of the National Honors Society, I'm proud to be a part of the hill Murray national honors society. No, I'm not just proud to be a hockey player, I'm proud to be a hill Murray hockey player. No im not proud to be a soccer and tennis captain, im proud to be a hill murray soccer and tennis captain. And no I'm not just proud to be part of a high school, I'm proud to be a pioneer. Thank You