Fulfilling our Promise

Sarah Johnson and her son Jackson found a home at Hill-Murray.
Dear Hill-Murray Community,

I write to you as Hill-Murray’s President throughout another school year of change and growth.

Hill-Murray has persevered through each new challenge with passion, faith, and agility. I am humbled by the opportunity to serve with such a wonderful and committed group of trustees, donors, alumni, faculty, and staff at Hill-Murray. The collective dedication of our community to H-M and our students is unmatched anywhere else and always positions us for success.

I’m proud to say we are now poised and ready to head into 2022 with a new strategic direction and a newfound faith in what we can accomplish with the generous support of our community. As a Catholic school, we are always striving to fulfill our promise to our students through their academic and spiritual journey. On the cover of this report and on page 28, you will see and read about how our collective efforts can make a difference in people’s lives. Sarah Johnson and her son Jackson found a home in our community, and she shares her family’s inspirational story.

Over the past year and a half, members of the Hill-Murray community came together to consider the school’s priorities for the next five years. The result is Go Boldly: The Hill-Murray Strategic Plan.

The plan’s five strategic pillars draw on the latest educational research and are grounded in our Benedictine and Lasallian Catholic traditions. Our goal is ambitious: Hill-Murray will be one of the finest independent Catholic schools in the country.

In an era of unprecedented change, our graduates need new skills, experiences, and perspectives—and so Hill-Murray must embrace innovative ideas and practices. Go Boldly: The Hill-Murray Strategic Plan is a blueprint for a modern Catholic school. We will foster a love of learning in our students, deepen their faith, and give them the tools and support to fulfill their God-given potential and make a difference in our world.

The details of the new plan will unfold in the weeks and months ahead, but I can say I’m very excited about where we are going and proud of what we’ve overcome in the last few years.

Thank you for continuing to support the mission of our special Catholic school. The Annual Report is an Honor Roll of everyone who played a part in our success. Your support is as critical as ever.

On behalf of our school community, I am grateful for all that you have done to support our students in the past and hope you’ll join us as we go boldly into a promising future.

Melissa Dan, Ed.S.
President

MELISSA DAN  |  PRESIDENT

Proud Past Bright Future
We will foster a love of learning in our students, deepen their faith, and give them the tools and support to fulfill their God-given potential.
You’ve likely heard the accusation that Hill-Murray and other Catholic schools recruit. And normally, if you’re like me, you’re quick to set the record straight. But this year, with our new administrative “super team,” it’s really hard to deny. The school has seen great growth over the past five years and finds itself in the unique position of adding several new leaders that will further enhance the experience for Hill-Murray students and families in and out of the classroom.

First, Hill-Murray is excited to welcome Melissa Dan as its new president. She spent the past year working with former president Jim Hansen to ensure a smooth transition. She brings a depth of academic experience and a passion for Catholic education. She is well-poised to chart her own course while building on the strong legacy and traditions of Hill-Murray.

It is no secret that all good leaders surround themselves with great talent, and that is exactly what Melissa has done. One of her first hires was Dr. Susan Skinner. After serving as the principal at Benilde-St. Margaret’s for the past 14 years, Dr. Skinner is happy to return to Hill-Murray where she began her career and where her two daughters attended school. Dr. Skinner will serve as the Vice President for Mission, a role that will help align our Hill-Murray values within all departments and activities. Her history with the school as a teacher, administrator and parent provides a valuable perspective that will enhance this administration and make her a great sounding board for our new leadership.

Also new to the team is Kelly Harrington. She replaces long-time Upper School Principal Erin Herman, who retired this past year. We all owe Erin a debt of gratitude for her more than 30 years of service to Hill-Murray. We wish her and Jim Hansen all the best in their retirements. Kelly comes to us from Providence Academy where she served as principal for the past 17 years. She brings a wonderful level of energy and enthusiasm. She is a firm but kind leader who can deliver tough messages with a smile. Kelly will be great at shaping young hearts and minds.

Building on our growth, Hill-Murray also added a new Dean of Students position this year. President Dan found an excellent
candidate in Aaron Benner, who joins us from Cretin-Derham Hall where he held the same title for the past five years. We’re excited for the character and discipline he will instill in Hill-Murray students. He brings a strong faith and 21 years of teaching experience in the St. Paul Public Schools.

Our strong team of leaders extends beyond the administration to our activities and athletics. With 20 varsity sports and more than 30 clubs and activities to choose from, Hill-Murray has something for everyone. We believe being involved outside of the classroom is a critical piece of the student experience. It builds self-esteem and a sense of belonging while forging new friendships and strengthening our students’ God-given talents.

While it is impossible to name all of our coaches and program successes individually, I’d like to call out Rob Reeves, Andy Woessner and Shawn Reid.

Entering his second year as head coach, Rob has created a renewed interest in Hill-Murray football. As a former Division I college player and assistant coach, he brings a high-level of knowledge and passion for the game and is a great example of the type of talent we seek to attract to our school.

Led by 1991 alum Andy Woessner, our trap team is a wonderful example of the inclusivity we strive to achieve at Hill-Murray. Under his direction, our program has grown 400% over the past six years.

And lastly, when you are hiring a coach to lead a team that has reached the state tournament four times in the past six years, you know you have your work cut out for you. But we feel confident we found a person who will not only continue that success, but build on it. We are excited to welcome Shawn Reid as the new girls hockey coach. He comes to us from Blake where he coached their girls’ team to four state titles in five years.

With a strong team of leaders who bring a depth of experience from our administration to our athletics, Hill-Murray is positioned to thrive as we emerge from this pandemic. It is a great time to be a Pioneer!
While many of you relaxed and unwound during the summer of 2020, construction crews moved at a brisk pace to make major changes to the school in time for the students’ return this Fall. They did an amazing job. Here are several projects that were completed:

- 12 remodeled classrooms with new active learning furniture
- New floor and stalls in the Middle School girls bathroom
- Existing air conditioning units were replaced
- New ceiling tiles, lights and paint in the entrance and hallway around the theater
- New theater lights
- New front desk

We are also excited to see the glorious exterior transformation of our main entrance. “The Spirit of Hill-Murray,” our new stained glass window above the doorway, was installed in September. The window was designed as a reflection of the Charisms of the school’s founders as a daily reminder for students, staff and alumni of our enduring mission. It is in honor of the Regan family, who exemplify the true spirit of our school.

The designer is Michael Pilla, a noted stained glass artist, who originally trained to become a Catholic priest. According to Pilla, this piece represents the Holy Spirit presiding over the merger of the Lasallian principles of Mary T Hill High School and the Benedictine values from Archbishop Memorial High School that became Hill-Murray School in 1971.

We hope that our entire community will look up each time they walk through the front doors, see the vibrant colors and be inspired to live out the values and principles of our founders.
At a time when COVID–19 was hitting the economy and individuals hard, the Hill–Murray family stepped up and continued to invest in our students and in our school’s future. The pandemic has exposed the educational system which now stands at an inflection point. Schools that were able to adjust rapidly and innovate, such as Hill–Murray, were able to grow and thrive.

With your help, the Known, Loved and Respected capital campaign not only met, but exceeded our original goal of $20 million. As a result, the goal was raised to $35 million halfway through the campaign. I am happy to report that as of the time of this writing, we are less than $5 million away from reaching that ambitious goal. The generosity of this community makes me extremely proud to be a Hill–Murray alumnus, parent and supporter.

As part of the Known Loved and Respected campaign, donors had the opportunity to designate their investment into one of three areas: the endowment, the annual fund or the capital campaign. All three areas provide opportunities to help Hill–Murray grow and fulfill its commitment to making a Hill Murray education more accessible and ensuring every student is known, loved and respected.

The endowment, which provides a long-term revenue stream for the school, was the biggest component of the campaign. Until now, the school’s endowment had trailed local independent schools. The hope is by building up the endowment, we can continue to make the Hill–Murray experience possible for all students through scholarships and financial assistance for many years to come.

Today, Hill–Murray has more financial aid and scholarship avenues than ever. As proof, an extremely generous St. Paul family gave Hill–Murray a $3.2 million gift to form the Future Leader Scholarship. This investment will be life-changing for 80 students who will each receive a $10,000 scholarship each of their four years at Hill–Murray.

Contributions to the campaign also allowed us to invest in our infrastructure and programs. The pandemic forced a rapid evolution in the ways we utilize technology and Hill–Murray is keeping pace and continues to invest in technology and upgrade the classrooms.

The Nicholas Center is another area Hill Murray is innovating and investing in. The center provides support services such as counseling, tutoring, study strategies, a reading lab and more. At Hill–Murray, we know kids learn differently, and we are investing in reaching all kids where they are. That includes creating forums for students to get involved, whether it is one of our 20 varsity sports programs or our more than 30 co-curriculars and clubs. We will continue to invest in programming and have a full–time psychologist on staff to help students with the increased anxiety they are facing during these trying times. And, as part of Hill–Murray’s new strategic plan, we are launching a new capital campaign.

We are so grateful for every one of you and your continued support to help Hill–Murray create an environment that allows all students to maximize their potential to lead in whatever path they choose after graduation. Whether you are volunteering your time and talents, contributing to a capital campaign or naming Hill–Murray in your will and estate, there are opportunities to support our great school at all stages of life. Through your generosity, we are helping the next generation of leaders reach their God–given potential and make a difference in the world. Thank you for making a difference.
1969 was a year full of historic, life-changing events that included the moon landing, Woodstock, and the Vietnam War. But at Hill-Murray that year has added significance. It is when the then all-boy’s Hill High School, and the all-girl’s Murray High School graduated what has become one of the most philanthropic classes to date, or as they like to call themselves, “The Best Class Ever.” And now they are putting that title on the line in a challenge to other classes.

“The gauntlet’s been thrown,” says John Shields ’69.

The Class of 1969 has always been close knit. While the schools did not officially merge until 1971, buses frequently ran between the two schools.

“I have quite a few friends from high school that I still keep in touch with and get together with,” said Barb Valenty Bicha ’69. “We knew when we graduated that didn’t mean that was it.”

“There were 4 or 5 of us that played football that are going golfing in Florida in a week,” said Shields, who was interviewed with several classmates for this article in mid-October.

So it is no surprise when 30 members of the class show up for a Christmas party, or more than one hundred turn out for a pre-reunion BBQ in 2018, a year before the group’s well-attended 50th reunion. During that BBQ, an idea was sparked that has and will continue to change the lives of Hill-Murray students for years to come.

“John mentioned something his dad’s class did for his high school 50-year reunion, and that planted the seed,” said Dave Zarembinski ‘69. The conversation and enthusiasm grew from there as they quickly decided they needed to do something to be remembered as the “Best Class Ever.” And that they did. Thanks to the generosity of many, the Class of 1969 has collectively contributed more than $250,000 in support of scholarship funds for current Hill-Murray students.

That money will make a Hill-Murray education possible for students who may otherwise not be able to attend. It’s an experience that meant so much to the members of this class and proves that even small donations can have a big impact when classes band together and give.

The group still laughs and reminisces about the sock hops and the glory of beating Cretin in football, but their high school years were so much more than events.

“When you get old, you look back on your life, and the Hill experience, the high school experience, had far more of a profound impact than college or anything else,” says Shields.

“It was our formative years here,” says Bicha. “I think someone told me one time ‘You must have gone to a Catholic school because you are polite and you have manners’. It was built into you at the time. It carries with you through life.”

Members of the class of 1969 hope their collective generosity inspires and challenges other classes.

“We’d like other classes to think of their reunion and try to do something special,” says Shields. “Whatever bar we set, have at it, beat it, and, if they do beat us, and want to borrow the title of the Best Class Ever for a year, we’ll let them do that."

“I had no idea what we were getting into but I hope we started something,” says Zarembinski.

You can find out more about giving to your class endowment or starting a scholarship by contacting Denise Bates, Executive Director of Advancement at DBates@Hill-Murray.org or (651) 748-2440.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Name</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Gott Scholarship</td>
<td>Lilli Mackley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber C. Godfrey Memorial Scholarship</td>
<td>Maxwell Yanz</td>
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<td>Ancient Order of Hibernians Scholarship</td>
<td>Samuel Lehner</td>
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<td>Bob Karr Education Fund</td>
<td>Grayson Crummy</td>
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<td>Brothers Francis Carr Scholarship</td>
<td>Jack Schoenecker</td>
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<td>Celski Family Scholarship</td>
<td>Jack Senden</td>
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<td>Class of 1962/1963</td>
<td>Andrew Nimis</td>
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<td>Class of 1969</td>
<td>Mae Lindemer</td>
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<td>Class of 1974</td>
<td>Lorelai VanGuilder</td>
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<td>Dolores Rigali Barret Scholarship</td>
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<td>Dr. Susan Paul Education Fund</td>
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<td>Eleanor Beckley Scholarship</td>
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<td>Eugene and Lucille Schiltgen Memorial Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>Finding Waldo Scholarship</td>
<td>Claire Huss</td>
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<td>Flaherty Family Foundation</td>
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<td>Green and White Scholarship</td>
<td>Olivia Mertes</td>
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<td>Helen and Mac Faust Catholic Education Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>Carolyn Johnson</td>
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<td>Hill-Murray Diversity Scholarship</td>
<td>John &quot;Jack&quot; Nelson</td>
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<td>Hill-Murray Mothers Club Scholarship</td>
<td>Payton Cahill</td>
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<td>John and Linda Shields Scholarship</td>
<td>George Cave</td>
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<td>John and Mary Wren Scholarship</td>
<td>Sophia Andrews</td>
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<td>Johnson Family Scholarship</td>
<td>Samara LaPonte</td>
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<td>Marge and Lee DuFrense Education Fund</td>
<td>Connor Barott</td>
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<td>Maria Chelberg Memorial Fund</td>
<td>Mia Rich</td>
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<td>Marie and Dennis Green Scholarship</td>
<td>James (Tre) Montague</td>
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<td>Mark Andrew Westerhaus Scholarship</td>
<td>Cassidy Reeves</td>
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<td>Mary Jo Ruub Scholarship</td>
<td>Katherine McGrath</td>
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<td>Mary Morelli Scholarship</td>
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<td>Mazur/O'Malley Scholarship</td>
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<td>Pierce Family Scholarship</td>
<td>Adam Rausch</td>
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<td>Pioneer Partners Fund</td>
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<td>Mary Jo Ruub Scholarship</td>
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Despite the long and successful history of Hill-Murray sports, the true "pioneer spirit" was perhaps never more evident than during the 2020-2021 high school athletics season.

Our athletes had to overcome a myriad of challenges, including disruptive and discouraging pauses in their seasons, unparalleled restrictions that prevented them from typical team bonding activities and, in some cases, heart wrenching decisions that took away opportunities to compete for titles.

Despite the challenges, we should be incredibly proud of their collective accomplishments, which included several conference and section championships as well as a run or two at state titles.

Here are several highlights from the Pioneers 2020–21 varsity sports season:

**Girls Soccer**
- Section 4A Champions

**Boys Soccer**
- Metro East Conference Champions and Section 4A runners-up

**Football**
- Section 3AAAA #1 Seed

**Girls Basketball**
- State semi-finalists

**Girls Hockey**
- Metro East Conference Champions, Section 4A runners-up

**Boys Hockey**
- Metro East and Section 4AA Champions

**Boys Alpine Ski**
- 8th place finishers at State

**Girls Alpine Ski**
- 3rd Place finishers at State

**Girls Lacrosse**
- Section 4A Champions

The Pioneer football team had advanced to the Secton 3AAAA Championship when COVID-19 restrictions abruptly ended the season.
Girls Alpine Ski, Girls Lacrosse and Boys Alpine Ski all had breakthrough seasons, the latter two making it to the state tournament for the first time in school history. Girls Lacrosse knocked off lacrosse powers Mahtomedi and Stillwater enroute to their inaugural state tournament appearance.

And we can’t forget the record-setting performances by members of our Boys Track and Field team. The 4 x 100 relay team of Rashad McKinley, Sawyer Seidl, Simon Seidl and Gianni Hurley set a school and section meet record of 47.29 seconds. The same team also qualified for state in the 4 x 200.

Congratulations to all our athletes and coaches who met the obstacles presented by COVID-19 head on and represented our school with grace, dignity, and respect.

Roll Pios!

H-M athletes, like Pioneer tennis player Emma Vaske (pictured above), had to remain super focused during seasons of uncertainty.
Class of 2021 Scholarship Awards

Andrews, Sophia
- Sustainable Futures Scholarship/University of Vermont
- Presidential Scholarship/University of Vermont
- Regents’ Scholarship/Concordia University
- Music Scholarship/Concordia University
- Bishop Hamline Award/Hamline University
- Honors Scholarship/Hamline University
- Science Scholarship/Hamline University
- Academic Scholarship/University of Wisconsin River Falls

Audette, Grace
- Academic Achievement Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
- Benedictine Scholarship/College of St. Scholastica
- Founders Award/Creighton University
- TripliKate Scholarship/St. Catherine University
- Presidential Scholarship/St. Catherine University
- University Scholarship/Saint Louis University
- Catholic High School Award/Saint Louis University

Ball, Sadie
- Founders Award/Creighton University
- Roman Shaffel, S.J. Award/Creighton University
- Achievement Award/Montana State University
- Dean’s Scholarship/Lewis and Clark College
- Presidential Scholarship/Loyola University Chicago
- Fordham Dean’s Scholarship/Fordham University
- Fordham Tuition Award/Fordham University

Barrientes, Kirsten
- Murphy Scholarship/University of St. Thomas
- St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas

Berkeley, Alexandra
- Journey Award/Iowa State University
- Peak Scholarship/University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
- Achievement Award/Regis University
- Catholic High School Award/Regis University
- Père Marquette Scholarship/Regis University

Black, Lucas
- Academic Achievement Scholarship/Saint John’s University
- Merit Scholarship/Creighton University
- Roman Shaffel, S.J. Award/Creighton University
- Vikings Community Captain Award

Blaney, Bridget
- Academic Scholarship/University of Notre Dame
- Academic Achievement Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
- Merit Scholarship/Creighton University

Cahill, Payton
- Athletic Scholarship/Wake Forest University

Chambers, Andrew
- Founders Award/Creighton University
- Wisconsin Access Award/University of Iowa
- National Scholars Award/University of Iowa
- LAS Dean’s Academic Excellence Scholarship/Iowa State University
- Adventure Award/Iowa State University

Dan, Aidan
- Academic Achievement Award/Saint John’s University
- St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas
- Academic Scholarship/Indiana University
- Loyola/Northwestern NROTC Scholarship
- Military Institute
- Père Marquette Scholarship/University of St. Thomas
- Academic Scholarship/DePaul University
- Academic Scholarship/Michigan State University
- Academic Scholarship/University of Dayton
- Academic Scholarship/Butler University

DaRosa, Josephine
- Delaware Scholar Award/University of Delaware

Drayna, Megan
- Presidential Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
- Cardinal Visit Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University
- Catholic High School Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
- Alumni Legacy Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
- Excellence Scholarship/Concordia College
- BREW Scholarship/Concordia College
- UMD Scholarship/University of Minnesota Duluth
- Presidential Scholarship/University of North Dakota
- Honors Scholarship/University of North Dakota
- Benedictine Scholarship/College of St. Scholastica
- Catholic Clergy Referral Scholarship/College of St. Scholastica

Fabian, Delaney
- Arizona Distinction Award/University of Arizona
- Chancellor’s Achievement Scholarship/University of Colorado Boulder
- Provost Scholarship/University of Denver
- Damen Scholarship/Loyola University Chicago
- TCU Scholarship/Texas Christian University
- Provost Scholarship/Arizona State University

Fleischhacker, Matthew
- Athletic Scholarship/University of Minnesota State University Mankato

Ford, Lauren
- St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas

Forrest, Matthew
- Benedictine Scholarship/College of St. Scholastica

Frattalone, Greta
- Academic Achievement Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
- St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas

Gaida, Margaret
- Academic Achievement Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
- Music Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
- Dean’s Scholarship/Loyola University Chicago
- Founders Award/Creighton University
- Excellence Scholarship/Concordia College
- Benedictine Scholarship/College of St. Scholastica
- Green and Yellow Award/North Dakota State University

Gallivan, Maureen
- Green and Gold Scholarship/Colorado State University
- Non-Resident Merit Scholarship/Utah State University
- Service Scholarship/Utah State University
- George Beadle Scholarship/University of Nebraska–Lincoln
- New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award/University of Arkansas
- Volunteer Scholarship/University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Presidential Scholarship/Middle Tennessee State University
- University Scholarship/University of Oklahoma

Garibay, Amy
- Dean’s Scholarship/Loyola University Maryland
- Legacy Award/Loyola University Maryland
- SFM Foundation Scholarship

Garrett, Nathan
- Academic Scholarship/Creighton University
- Academic Scholarship/Pepperdine University
- Academic Scholarship/Loyola Marymount University
- Academic Scholarship/University of Denver

Geelhoed, Mia
- Benedictine Scholarship/College of St. Scholastica
- Legacy Scholarship/College of St. Scholastica
- Dean’s Scholarship/St. Catherine University

Gist, Nathan
- Freshman Scholarship Award/University of North Dakota
- Academic Achievement Scholarship/University of North Dakota
- St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas
• Founders Scholarship/University of St. Thomas
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/Saint John’s University
• Alum Referral Scholarship/Saint John’s University
• Hill–Murray C.L.A.S.S. Scholarship

Gockowski, Justin
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/Saint John’s University

Gozum, Kathryn
• Presidential Scholarship/Drake University
• Green and Gold Scholarship/Colorado State University

Grannis, Kelly
• Regents Scholarship/Loyola University Chicago

Greene, Chloe
• Presidential Merit Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
• Presidential Scholarship/University of Minnesota Twin Cities
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
• Roman Shaffel, S.J. Award/Creighton University
• Magis Award/Creighton University
• Buntrock Scholarship/St. Olaf College
• Residence Hall Scholarship/St. Olaf College
• Hill–Murray C.L.A.S.S. Scholarship

Gundersen, Elise
• President’s Scholarship/Gustavus Adolphus College
• Merit Scholarship/DePaul University
• Damen Scholarship/Loyola University of Chicago
• St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas
• Trustee Scholarship/Xavier University
• Founders Award/Creighton University
• Roman Shaffel, S.J. Award/Creighton University
• Presidential Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
• Catholic High School Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
• Cardinal Visit Scholarship/Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota

Hanggi, Madeline
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
• Academic Scholarship/Baylor University
• Advantage Scholarship/University of Nebraska Omaha

Hara, Taylor
• Early Auggies Scholarship/Augsburg University
• Freshman Regents’ Scholarship/Augsburg University

Hartzel, Isabella
• Magis Award/Creighton University
• Roman Shaffel, S.J. Award/Creighton University
• Fr. Joseph Labaj Award/Creighton University
• Père Marquette Scholarship/Marquette University
• President Scholarship/Loyola University Chicago
• Academic Scholarship/Butler University
• Chancellor’s Achievement Scholarship/University of Colorado Boulder
• St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas

Hauge, Olivia
• Presidential Scholarship/University of Minnesota Twin Cities
• Gold Level of the National Scholars Award/Michigan Technological University
• Leading Scholar Award/Michigan Technological University
• Miner Scholarship/South Dakota School of Mines and Technology

Heinrichs, Elliot
• Minnesota Access Award/University of Iowa
• National Scholars Award/University of Iowa
• Achievement Award/Montana State University
• Journey Award/Montana State University
• St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas

Heinz, Joelle
• St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas

Herold, Nathaniel
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/Saint John’s University
• Legacy Scholarship/Saint John’s University

Heymans, Shannon
• UMD Scholarship/University of Minnesota Duluth
• Dean’s Scholarship/Viterbo University

Hodgins, Megan
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/Collage of Saint Benedict
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/University of North Dakota

Holm, Grace
• Academic Achievement Scholarship/College of Saint Benedict
• Saint Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas

Husnik, Henry
• Academic Scholarship/Elon University
• St. Vincent DePaul Scholarship/DePaul University
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  • St. Thomas Scholarship/University of St. Thomas
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• Heritage Scholarship/Hamline University
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Vlaasvijevich, Anna
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• Academic Achievement Scholarship/Marquette University

Zupfer, Maxwell
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The 31st Annual Pioneer Premier Auction took place on April 24, 2021 under the big top at Hill-Murray. While the pandemic limited the number of people who could come together in person, it did not stop the generous community of Hill-Murray supporters from rallying virtually. Nearly 250 guests stepped right up to gather in person while more than 5,000 people across the country watched a live broadcast of the event.

The Friends of Hill-Murray Tuition Assistance Fund is at the heart of what makes the auction such an amazing night. The money raised ensures Hill-Murray is accessible to any family seeking a transformative Catholic education for their children. The 2021 Pioneer Premier Auction raised a record-breaking $1,148,000, providing vital tuition assistance funds for hundreds of current students.

Thank you to the auction leadership of Ann Langer, Molly Schaffer and Jean Schreier, a dedicated team of committee members, and the generous sponsors and donors for making the 2021 auction a dazzling success!
More Ways to Invest in Hill-Murray’s Present and Future

Your support of Hill-Murray makes a difference today and helps the next generation of leaders reach their God-given potential to change the world. Here are some ways you can support Hill-Murray’s work and mission:

**Hill-Murray Give Day 2021**

Families, alumni and friends supported the school with gifts to the Annual Fund. H-M Give Day combined with the fall appeal to build excitement around fund-raising for athletics and student activities, visual and performing arts, campus ministry, tuition assistance, and day-to-day school operations. The generosity of the Hill-Murray community was made clear as you came together to give $185,000 for the Annual Fund.

**Annual Fund**

A cornerstone of our everyday operations, the Annual Fund gives our educators and staff the resources to provide a rich, transformative education that’s accessible to all students.

**Capital Improvements**

Capital Improvements make it possible to extend our reach to a growing community as the needs and opportunities for students evolve.

**Endowment**

The legacy of our values and the continued health of our institution are secured through the Endowment Fund.

**Additional Giving**

Donors are venerable members of our community, and we’re happy to work with you to craft a meaningful contribution that will have a lasting effect on the lives of Hill-Murray students.

For more information on how you can invest in Hill-Murray School, visit hill-murray.org or contact Chris Zupfer, Executive Director of the Hill-Murray Foundation at (651) 748–2402.
What do STEM education and choosing a cell phone plan have to do with each other? It’s a connection and new perspective Aran Glancy, Hill-Murray’s new Director of STEM Education, hopes to share with Hill-Murray students and staff.

In the past several years, a lot of focus has been put on the importance of science, technology, engineering, and math, better known as STEM, in education. As technology and society continue to evolve, the need for those trained in these areas continues to grow leaps and bounds. But Dr. Glancy’s passion for STEM transcends career paths. After earning his Ph.D. in STEM Education he realized offering STEM classes was just the first step in developing tomorrow’s leaders.

“Outside of the classroom, the problems we face are interdisciplinary, open-ended, and require collaboration. Whether it’s a big societal issue like global warming or a more personal decision like what cell phone plan to choose, it’s not just a question of science or math, but also a matter of ethics, civics and sociology”, he said. “Problem solving, design, inquiry, and discovery are all skills that bind these subjects together and outside the classroom have multiple applications.”

Dr. Glancy hopes forming these connections across the curriculum will give students a deeper understanding of the subject matter and a clearer lens to the world around them. He hopes this will better prepare them to be good global stewards who think in integrated and innovative ways.

“We want students to graduate with the courage and confidence to tackle problems that they’ve never seen before as well as problems that we haven’t even imagined yet. And we want them to do it with compassion and an understanding of how their solutions will impact others and the world,” he said.

Throughout the school year, Dr. Glancy will be working with teachers to find lessons, activities, and new techniques to help integrate their course with other subjects. The integration methods will vary to fit each teacher’s goals and objectives for their course. He has started working with teachers in the core STEM programs and hopes to expands his work to include all subjects in the future.
Hill-Murray is blessed with the ongoing financial support of so many. Because of this generosity, a strong tradition of excellence continues in the classroom and in our community. The following donations cover fiscal year July 1, 2020—June 30, 2021.

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Annette Maggi and Daniel
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2021 Annual Report

and Dan Pohl

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Steven Sabraski
Jennifer and Steven Potvin
Janet Prodoehl and
Steven Sabraski

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Andrea and Kyle Kangas
Irene Katras and Viktor Vasileiadis
The Impact

- **49%** Endowment
- **31%** Annual Fund
- **8%** Capital Improvements
- **12%** Scholarships

**Gifts Raised**
- **$5.8 million**
  - Planned Gifts 25%
  - Cash 75%
- Number of Gifts **3,737**

**Operating Expenses**

- **73%** Student Expenses: $11,025,569
- **10%** Building & Custodial Expenses: $1,499,230
- **8%** Administrative Expenses: $1,185,163
- **6%** Development Expenses: $955,573
- **3%** Admissions & Marketing Expenses: $518,584

**Operating Revenues**

- **63%** Student Revenue: $11,866,455
- **29%** Development Revenue: $5,518,558
- **8%** Other Revenue: $1,596,798
Catholic schools have long been known for their faith-based approach to education, spiritual support, strong sense of community and academic rigor. But for parents of students with learning differences, Catholic education has not always been an option. The academic rigor was too much, and the resources were not there to support them. That is until Hill-Murray opened The Nicholas Center in 2012 with help from a $5.5 million gift. Since that time, The Nicholas Center has made Catholic education a reality for many students and their families who may not have otherwise had that opportunity—families like the Johnsons.

Sara Johnson knows what it is like to have children with different academic needs. Learning and social interactions have always come easy for her daughter, Ava, who prides herself on being independent. Her son, Jackson, on the other hand, struggled early with reading, writing and sound identification. By the end of second grade, he was identified as a dyslexic learner with moderate dysgraphia. Sara says the impact stretched far beyond the classroom.

"Here was a kid who once was a confident, happy-go-lucky kid, and had quite rapidly become disenfranchised with school because he noticed that his peers were able to read much sooner and easier than he was and his confidence took a severe nose-dive," she said. "It was heart-wrenching to watch as it permeated his entire life." It is an experience echoed by many parents of children with learning differences.

As a teacher herself, Sara understood the importance of providing new pathways to learning for her son. She enrolled him in specialized tutoring sessions and got certified herself as an Orton-Gillingham tutor. She said it was physically and emotionally exhausting for both to add two hours onto his school day between drive time and each hour-long session.

"As he approached middle school, I knew what he needed from an educational standpoint, and as we looked into different schooling options, it became clear that because of The Nicholas Center at Hill-Murray, this was the right place for him," she said. "He was able to get exactly what he needed within the confines of his school day. It was..."
a great fit for him, and almost immediately his attitude toward school improved.”

The Nicholas Center, which currently serves close to 180 students with varied needs, offers everything from one-on-one tutoring with staff and peers to elective courses that meet students where they are in order to help them achieve academic success. The Nicholas Center supports students with strategic study, reading labs and counseling services. What’s more, Hill-Murray is currently the only Catholic school in Minnesota with a full-time Clinical Psychologist on staff who can provide medical diagnoses for children with learning differences.

Sara sees the difference The Nicholas Center is making, not only as a parent but also as a staff member. She currently works as a Wilson/Orton-Gillingham tutor and a Reading Enrichment Instructor at The Nicholas Center.

“On a daily basis, I get to guide students down a path to better literacy skills, and more importantly, watch as their confidence in themselves and their abilities grow, sometimes exponentially,” she said. “I get to teach them self-advocacy skills and watch them use them, first-hand, as they take the reins of their own educational journey.”

With the help of The Nicholas Center, Hill-Murray can live out its mission of empowering ALL students to reach their fullest potential by inspiring them to utilize their God-given strengths to become leaders who will make a positive difference in the world.

“It became clear that because of The Nicholas Center at Hill-Murray, this was the right place for him.”
Homecoming 2021
On September 24, 2021, the true spirit of the Hill-Murray community was evident as students, staff, alumni, current and past families – all reunited on campus.

Traditional Homecoming festivities returned after a one year hiatus, allowing old friends to reconnect and reminisce in-person. We held an all school, outdoor Mass to kick-off the day.

Reuniting and Reconnecting Once Again
50th Anniversary of a Championship
We honored members of the 1971 Hill High School CCC State Championship football team during the Homecoming football game.

Jim Wold, head coach of the 1971 team said that night, "It’s all about the tightness of the H-M community, and that’s what I see here. Some of these kids I haven’t seen in 50 years, but it doesn’t matter. It was a special time. It was a special team."
On October 11, 2021, family and friends gathered to honor the recipients of the 2021 Distinguished Alumni & Community Awards. They are:

**Archbishop Murray Memorial High School Heritage Award**
Dr. Constance Beutel, Ed. D. ’64
Honored for her commitment to the advancement of women and the preservation of the environment.

**Benedictine Award**
Sister Catherine Schoenecker, OSB
Honored for a lifetime of humble service to others and her dedication to her Benedictine values.

**Father Greg Tolaas ’74 Distinguished Service Award**
Father Greg Skrypek
Honored for his life as a true servant leader, especially his work with inmates in prison.

**Hill High School Heritage Award**
Tom Yechout ’64
Honored for outstanding work in aerospace engineering at the Air Force Academy and for his work with NASA.

**Hill-Murray Heritage Award**
Jean Busch
Honored for being the consummate Pioneer throughout her long and storied teaching career at HM.

**Lasallian Award**
Elizabeth O’Mara ’66
Honored for a lifetime of volunteerism, community leadership and service to others.

**Legacy Teacher Award**
Mike Ackerson
Honored for his outstanding dedication to his students at Hill High School, many of whom still call him a friend.

**Legacy Teacher Award**
Colleen Jamieson
Honored for her long and impactful career in teaching and for launching a highly successful peer listening and tutoring program at Hill-Murray.

**Ron Ryan, Jr. ’85 Community Service Award**
Dr. Cyndy Whitney ’82
Honored for her work and dedication to battling infectious disease with the CDC and Emory University.

Recognizing Distinguished Alumni

Hill-Murray Distinguished Alumni & Community Award winners are pictured left to right: Mike Ackerson, Elizabeth O’Mara ’66, Colleen Jamieson, Constance Beutel ’64, Jean Busch, and Tom Yechout ’64. Not pictured are Father Greg Skrypek, Cyndy Whitney ’82, and Sister Catherine Schoenecker, OSB.
On September 26, 2021, Hill–Murray inducted six alums into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Family, friends and former inductees all gathered to celebrate the newest inductees.

The Hill–Murray Hall of Fame honors those who help maintain the spirit, pride and sense of community Hill–Murray athletics represents.

The purpose of the Hill–Murray Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor those athletes and coaches who excelled in their respective sports or coaching/support roles and who helped to bring honor, recognition, distinction and excellence to Hill–Murray.

2021 Hill–Murray Hall of Fame Inductees pictured left to right: Paul Thurmes ’82, Greg Langevin ’68, Rod Romanchuck ’75, Vince Conway ’71, Tessa Cichy ’12 and Bethany Doolittle ’11.
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