

# *Opening Doors*

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

## **Coming Soon**

New Student  
Union Set  
To Welcome  
Students  
In Early 2026

LIONEERS



## Dear Hill-Murray Community,



**Melissa Dan**

President, Hill-Murray School



Thank you for helping Hill-Murray shine as a beacon of hope for our 1,100 students each day.”



**Bill Simpson**

Chair, Hill-Murray Board of Trustees

As we look back on the 2024–2025 school year, our hearts are filled with deep gratitude to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon the Hill-Murray community. We take great pride in all that this remarkable community has accomplished. Hill-Murray has always been more than a school - it's a family bound by faith, purpose, and love for our students. This year reminded us again how strong we are when we come together with a shared vision and hope.

Across every part of campus, there was energy, joy, and growth. Our students reached new heights in academics, the arts, and athletics, earning honors, championships, and accolades that made us proud. But even more inspiring were the ways they lived out our Catholic mission every day. They volunteered in their local community, led retreats, mentored younger students, and supported one another through both challenges and triumphs. Their faith in action has been the heartbeat of this year.

Our faculty and staff have continued to guide our students with dedication and compassion. They show up each day not just to teach, but to form hearts and minds, helping each young person discover their gifts and God-given calling. Their commitment is a living example of the Hill-Murray spirit.

We are also profoundly grateful for the generosity and leadership of so many in our community. This year, one of the most meaningful areas of growth has been in the safety and security of our campus. Through the vision and dedication of our Board of Trustees and the incredible response from donors, Hill-Murray made significant enhancements to ensure that our school remains a place of peace and protection for every student and staff member. These improvements, ranging from upgraded systems and infrastructure to advanced training and preparedness, represent something far greater than physical upgrades. They are a visible expression of our shared care for one another. In the wake of the heartbreaking tragedy at Annunciation, this work feels deeply personal and profoundly important. We know that a school can only thrive when every member of its community feels safe, seen, and supported. Thanks to this collective effort, we've strengthened not only our facilities but also our sense of unity and purpose.

As we reflect on the year, we are reminded that Hill-Murray's greatest strength lies in its people - in the way our families, alumni, faculty, and students show up for one another. Whether it's cheering in the stands, volunteering at Mass, mentoring a student, or giving generously to support our mission, every act of love and service weaves together the fabric of who we are.

We end this year with full hearts, thankful for the blessings of the past and filled with hope for what's ahead. Together, we are shaping a future rooted in faith, excellence, and compassion - a place where our students can learn and grow with confidence and hope. Thank you for believing in Hill-Murray and for walking this journey with us. Your prayers, your partnership, and your belief in our mission make all the difference.

With gratitude,

Melissa Dan, Hill-Murray School President

Bill Simpson, Chair, Board of Trustees

**SAFETY IN ACTION:  
BILL BEAUDETTE**

Thanks to generous donors, Bill Beaudette leads as Hill-Murray's Director of Security and Safety, keeping our campus secure and welcoming. From a Side-By-Side security vehicle and upgraded radios to expanded cameras and locked doors campus-wide, Bill has strengthened every corner of our school. He's also established clear protocols for events, ensuring students, staff, and visitors are safe. His leadership, made possible through donor support, creates a protected environment where the Hill-Murray community can learn, grow, and thrive with confidence.



## Mission

Hill-Murray empowers 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.

## Vision

Hill-Murray will become the preeminent school that partners with families to develop transformational leaders grounded in the teachings of Christ.

# Dear Hill-Murray Community,



**OJ Rinehart**

Chair, Hill-Murray Foundation Board



When a community comes together with shared purpose, faith, and gratitude, there is no limit to what can be accomplished.”



**Chris Zupfer**

Executive Director, Hill-Murray Foundation

As we reflect on this extraordinary year for the Hill-Murray Foundation, we are filled with profound gratitude, pride, and excitement for what lies ahead. The 2024–2025 school year has been marked by remarkable milestones, inspiring collaborations, and a renewed sense of energy throughout our community. In the pages that follow, you’ll read about the long-awaited opening of the new Student Union—a space designed to bring students together, foster connection, and create lasting memories. You’ll also learn about the launch of the Weights & Wellness Campaign, which aims to modernize and enhance our fitness and wellness spaces for the benefit of all students.

We are equally proud of the debut of the Rooted Philanthropic Leadership Institute, a program designed to cultivate the next generation of leaders grounded in service, faith, and social responsibility. And, of course, we celebrate the phenomenal success of our record-breaking Pioneer Premier Auction, an event that not only exceeded fundraising expectations but also exemplified the generosity and spirit of the Hill-Murray community. Each of these milestones reflects the unwavering commitment, talent, and passion of students, alumni, parents, faculty, and friends alike.

This year also marks the second year of our ambitious five-year Believe, Belong, Be Bold Campaign, which has now raised over \$15 million toward our \$40 million goal. Your continued support ensures that Hill-Murray remains a thriving institution, empowering students while staying firmly rooted in our Catholic Benedictine values. Your gifts help us provide exceptional programs, enrich student experiences, and strengthen the foundation for generations to come.

A particularly meaningful highlight this year has been our deepening partnership with the Sisters of St. Paul’s Monastery through the formation of the Mutual Blessings Partnership—one of the most transformational initiatives in Hill-Murray’s history. To honor this enduring collaboration, we will present The Saint John’s Bible, commissioned in 1999, as a lasting symbol of faith, shared mission, and intellectual curiosity. The Heritage Edition of this sacred work will be permanently displayed at both Hill-Murray and St. Paul’s Monastery, serving as a reminder of our shared values and collective commitment to excellence and service.

Finally, we offer our heartfelt thanks to our outgoing Foundation Board members—Mark Lambert, Marni Bond, Julie Andrich, and Pat Regan. Your exceptional leadership, guidance, and dedication have strengthened the Foundation’s impact, nurtured meaningful relationships, and secured a bright future for Hill-Murray. Your legacy will be felt for years to come, and we are deeply grateful for your service.

With deepest appreciation,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'OJ Rinehart'.

OJ Rinehart, Chair, Hill-Murray Foundation Board

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Chris Zupfer'.

Chris Zupfer, Executive Director, Hill-Murray Foundation



The Hill-Murray Foundation will acquire the Heritage Edition of *The Saint John's Bible*, a stunning, hand-crafted work of faith and art. It will be permanently displayed at Hill-Murray and St. Paul's Monastery, symbolizing our shared mission, Benedictine values, and commitment to inspiring students, staff, and visitors through its timeless beauty and meaning.

PICTURED: *The Saint John's Bible* Heritage Edition courtesy of Saint John's University



THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

# A Bold New Chapter



**OPENING EARLY 2026!**

**The Hill-Murray Student Union is nearing completion and will open its doors in early 2026! This transformational space will enrich the daily experience for students while providing a welcoming environment for alumni and the greater Hill-Murray community. With over 4,000 square feet of versatile indoor space and an adjacent patio for seasonal gatherings and collaborative projects, this vibrant gathering space is set to become the center of student life.**

## **A Place Designed for Every Pioneer**

At its core, the Student Union was created to meet the needs of a growing student body while fostering connection, creativity, and community. With enrollment exceeding 1,000 students, the new space ensures that students can enjoy meals comfortably, collaborate on projects, engage in innovative learning, and build meaningful social connections in a supportive, dynamic environment. This thoughtful design brings together spaces for work, play, and connection, so every student has the opportunity to thrive.

**\$5.5 Million raised**  
from 36 donors

**7,500 sq ft.**  
of indoor and outdoor space added



PICTURED ABOVE: Interior construction progress with rendering of completed space.

BELOW: Students gather outside Student Union on the patio.



## Spaces to Learn, Connect, and Grow

Thoughtfully designed to inspire curiosity and collaboration, the Student Union sets the stage for Pioneers to grow. It offers flexible areas for group work, independent study, and creative learning. Teachers can transform the space for non-traditional lessons, creating a center of energy, innovation, and engagement. Whether working on projects, enjoying casual gatherings, or participating in clubs, every Pioneer will find a space that supports both academic growth and social connection.

## Celebrating the Pioneer Community

More than just a building, the Student Union unites the Pioneer community, serving as a gathering place for students, alumni, families, and friends. A grand opening celebration in early 2026 will welcome the entire community to explore and enjoy this vibrant new space, honoring the generosity of the 36 donors whose support made it possible.

For current students, the Student Union is a place to learn, collaborate, and grow. For alumni and the broader community, it is a space to reconnect, celebrate, and witness the lasting impact of their support. Get ready to make memories in this extraordinary new heart of the school!

# LIFT US UP: *Weights & Wellness*

Imagine a space where every Pioneer—athlete or not—has room to grow their strength, resiliency, and balance. A place where teams can schedule dedicated training sessions, students can establish healthy lifestyle habits, intentional cross-training decreases injury and helps students reach new personal bests, and Physical Education classes can thrive in a dynamic, multi-use environment. This is the vision for Hill-Murray's renovated weight room, athletic training area, and flexible wellness space—a hub for growth, balance, and opportunity.

To make this vision a reality, Hill-Murray is moving boldly into the next phase of the Believe. Belong. Be Bold. Comprehensive Campaign with Phase Two: Lift Us Up: Weights & Wellness. Building on the success of Phase One, Phase Two aims to raise \$2 million to transform over 7,800 square feet into a state-of-the-art facility that serves every student, supports both physical and mental well-being, and advances the continued growth of the Pioneer Institute for Health & Wellness.

## STRENGTH AND WELLNESS FOR ALL

The renovated weight room will provide modern equipment, expanded floor space, and a flexible layout, giving student-athletes and non-athletes alike the tools to grow stronger and healthier. Teams will be able to schedule dedicated weight training sessions, while off-season athletes can engage in cross-training to improve performance, prevent injuries, and reach new personal goals. All Pioneers will also have access to the space to explore strength training, build fitness, and develop healthy habits in a supportive, structured environment.



**It's more important now than ever before that we have facilities that support the whole student, including their physical and mental well-being.**

*Melissa Dan, Hill-Murray School President*

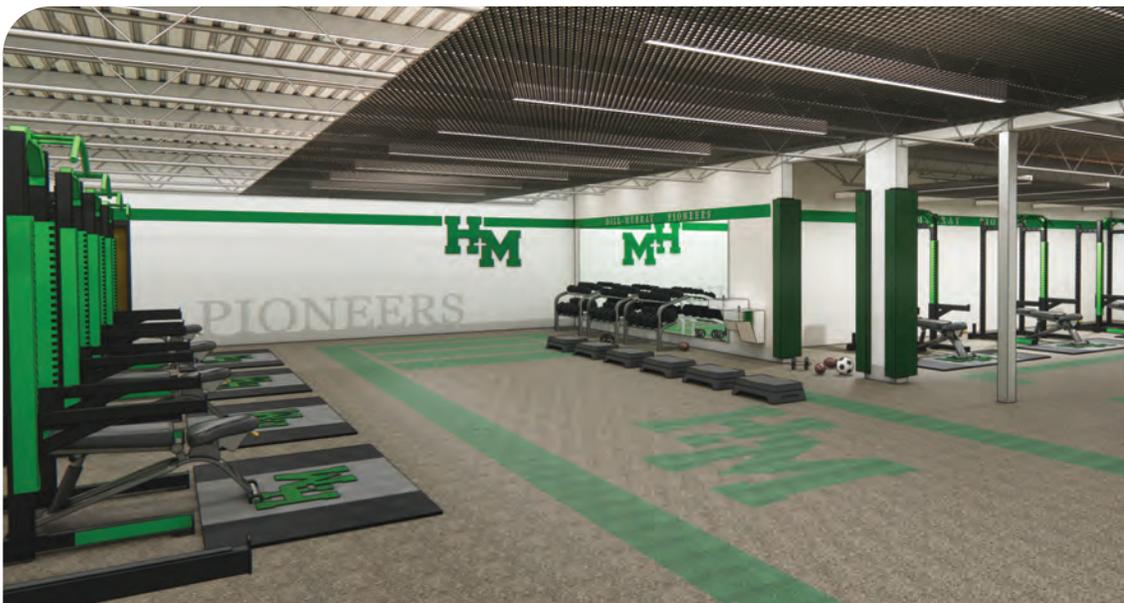
**Over 7,800 sq ft.**

of renovated spaces

**\$2M**

estimated project costs

Supporting this effort is the upgraded trainer and recovery space, which provides injury prevention, rehabilitation, and educational resources, helping students learn the skills to care for their bodies while building mental resilience and focus. By integrating movement, recovery, and mindfulness into daily routines, Phase Two strengthens mental focus, resilience, and confidence alongside physical health. The facility will serve as a hub for team and individual training, structured PE classes, and student-led wellness initiatives, reinforcing a culture of health for all Pioneers.





Completing the transformation is the flexible wellness room, a multi-use space for yoga, stretching, mindfulness, group fitness, and Physical Education classes. Together, these spaces ensure that every student has opportunities to move, recharge, and build lifelong healthy habits.

### BE PART OF THE MOMENTUM

**The Lift Us Up: Weights & Wellness** project is more than a renovation. It is a legacy of opportunity and care for generations of Pioneers. Every gift brings this vision closer to reality, helping Hill-Murray cultivate a space where all students thrive physically, mentally, and socially.

Naming opportunities are available for equipment, the trainer area, or the flexible wellness room, offering alumni and parents a chance to leave a lasting impact. Together, we can lift up every student, helping them grow stronger, healthier, and more confident in all aspects of their lives.

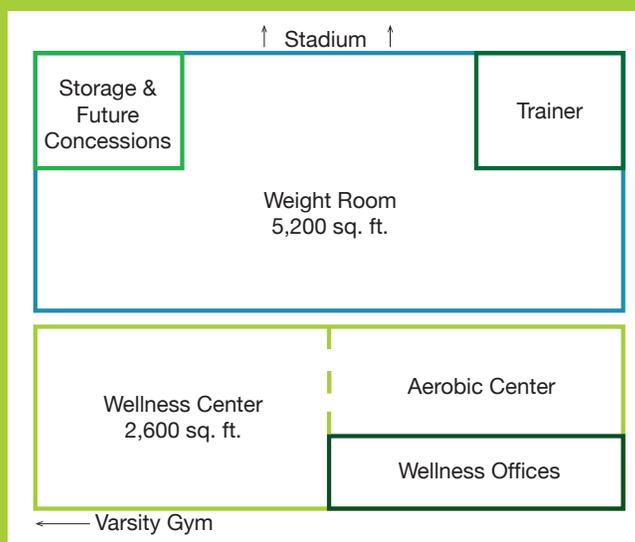
PICTURED ABOVE: Students participate in a wellness class in the current weight room.

BELOW: Renderings of the new weights and wellness rooms



## Stronger Together: OUR NEW WELLNESS SPACES

-  Expanded weight training center including weight room, treadmills and open fitness space accessible for all students
-  New fitness area for specialized classes, including stretching, breathing, yoga, mindfulness, and strength conditioning
-  Dedicated trainer space



**70%**

Students participate in athletics

**16**

Wellness classes per week

**2**

Dedicated staff for Pioneer Institute for Health and Wellness



To learn more, visit:  
[hill-murray.org/campaign](https://hill-murray.org/campaign)

To make a charitable donation or a legacy, please contact: **Molly Faber**, [mfaber@hill-murray.org](mailto:mfaber@hill-murray.org)  
Advancement Officer with Hill-Murray Foundation

# INVESTING *in the leaders of* TOMORROW



ROOTED PHILANTHROPIC  
**LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**  
at Hill-Murray School

## THE ROOTED PHILANTHROPIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE - Inspiring a passion for leadership

Through a generous \$3.675 million gift from Rooted Philanthropic, Hill-Murray is proud to introduce the Rooted Philanthropic Leadership Institute (RPLI). The mission of RPLI is to expand access to comprehensive leadership education for all Hill-Murray students while being firmly rooted in our Catholic identity and Pioneer spirit. RPLI is led by Denise Bates, the architect of our nationally recognized Future Leader Program, which was named “2024 Program of the Year” by MINNDEPENDENT.

**\$3.675 million gift**  
from Rooted Philanthropic

By inspiring a passion for leadership, RPLI empowers our students in three key ways:

### **BOLD IDEAS**

Bold ideas encourage action. RPLI delivers on leadership development through the encouragement to think beyond the norms to create change.

### **TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCES**

Leaders thrive through transformative experiences that explore and enhance their core strengths.

### **INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES**

By creating inclusive communities that lead through service and integrity, our students feel empowered to explore possibilities and gain independence in their leadership journey.

## Leadership Programs

RPLI gives Hill-Murray students the opportunity to accelerate their leadership journey in three unique ways:

### **1. Future Leader Scholarship**

Awarded to 20 students, this scholarship provides tuition support to incoming 9th graders each year and forming a tight-knit cohort that stays together the entire four years of high school.

### **2. RPLI Leadership Pathway**

Open to all students, this series of elective courses will help to develop, build and strengthen essential leadership skills. Launching Fall 2026.

### **3. Leadership Certificate**

Available to all grade 10 students who complete the designated leadership experiences and service projects over the course of the year.

## RPLI IS ROOTED IN OUR Four Core Pillars

These four pillars foster our passion for developing leaders through RPLI. By recognizing that each of our students has immense potential, we empower them to act with courage, demonstrate integrity and make a positive impact on the world.



### PEOPLE

Leaders invest in relationships by listening to better understand others and by speaking to express their ideas.

### PLAY

Leaders cultivate playfulness by embracing creativity, curiosity and joy, and take on challenges with innovative strategies.



### PURPOSE

Leaders discover their purpose, articulate their values, and develop their personal leadership philosophy.

### PERFORMANCE

Leaders apply the skills they've built over the past three years to create positive change in the communities they serve.



PICTURED: Future Leaders Class of 2025

*“We believe in nurturing the leaders of tomorrow by investing in their development today. The Rooted Philanthropic Leadership Institute embodies our commitment to empowering students to lead with integrity and purpose.”*

**CHUCK AND SHANNON RUNYON,  
FOUNDING PARTNERS,  
ROOTED PHILANTHROPIC**



**Be the leader  
you were meant to be.**

For more information on Hill-Murray, RPLI and our investment in student leadership, contact:

Denise Bates 651-748-2440 or [dbates@hill-murray.org](mailto:dbates@hill-murray.org)

# Opening Doors at The Nicholas Center: James D. and Joan F. Hardy Scholarship

**The Nicholas Center (TNC), established in 2012, at Hill-Murray continues to be one of the most transformative and fast-growing programs in our community. Today, more than 300 students are served in TNC through personalized academic and executive-functioning services.**

Under Brent Johnson, Vice President of The Nicholas Center, and Sara Johnson, Director of Literacy, TNC has become a nationally regarded model for how schools can support students with learning differences in a way that is rigorous, compassionate, and deeply individualized.

Today, the Center includes more than 30 expert coaches and tutors, along with a clinical psychologist, literacy specialists, and teachers trained in research-based interventions such as the Wilson Reading System, IMSE OG+, and other interventions based on the Orton-Gillingham method, as well as significant executive-functioning support. TNC now serves students with a wide range of learning differences, including dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, ASD, expressive language disorder, low processing speed, anxiety, working-memory challenges, and auditory-processing differences. Each student receives support tailored to their unique strengths and needs, often informed by assessments completed in partnership with Hill-Murray's own Dr. Julie Robinson. Ph.D, L.P.

As TNC has expanded, so has Hill-Murray's commitment to ensuring every student has access to the support that can change the course of their education. In 2022, the James D. and Joan F. Hardy Scholarship for The Nicholas Center marked a profound milestone in accessibility. The scholarship provides financial assistance for families seeking Level II and Level III services, ensuring that cost is never a barrier to a child's potential.

In gratitude for this life-changing support, Brent Johnson shared:

**“We are deeply grateful to the Hardy family for opening a pathway for students who may not otherwise have access to The Nicholas Center. Their generosity ensures that more young people receive the expert guidance and care that can transform their confidence, their learning, and their future.”**

The Nicholas Center continues to embody Hill-Murray's mission at its very best: meeting students where they are, believing in who they can become, and walking alongside them every step of the way.





## 2024–2025 Hill-Murray Scholarships

The Adam Gott Scholarship

Archbishop Murray Memorial High School  
Classes of 62-63

Ancient Order of Hibernians Scholarship

Bob Karr Scholarship

\*Brother Arnold McMullen Scholarship  
Class of 1973

Brother Francis Carr Scholarship

Cecilea Runyon Scholarship

Class of 1964

Class of 1965

Class of 1969

\*Class of 1972

Class of 1974

The Dinzeo Family

Dolores Rigali Barrett Scholarship

Don Blake History Scholarship

Dr. Susan Paul Education Fund

Eleanor Beckley Scholarship

Eugene And Lucille Schiltgen  
Memorial Scholarship Fund

Evan Myers Memorial Fund

Faust Family Scholarship

Fellrath Family Scholarship Fund

The Finding Waldo Scholarship

Flaherty Family Foundation Scholarship

Frank & Margaret Asenbrenner  
Endowment Education Fund

Frank & Margaret Asenbrenner  
Scholarship

The Future Leader Scholarship

Green and White

The Green Family Scholarship

\*Gunderson Family Scholarship

Helen & Mac Faust Family Fund  
for Catholic Education

Hill-Murray Diversity Scholarship

Hill-Murray Mothers Club Scholarship

James D. and Joan F. Hardy Scholarship

James and Molly Jungbauer Family  
Scholarship

John and Linda Shields  
Scholarship Fund

John and Mary Wren Scholarship

Johnson Family Scholarship

Klein Family Endowment

Kris Eiden Scholarship

Lavine Family Scholarship

Marcia and Gerry Kraut Scholarship

Marcia Chelberg

Marge and Lee DuFrense  
Education Fund

Mark Andrew Westerhaus

Mary Jo Rueb Memorial Fund

Mary M. Morelli Scholarship

MaryEllen (Dufresne) and Jim Weber  
Scholarship

Mazur/O'Malley Scholarship

Murphy Family Scholarship Fund

\*Nath Family Scholarship

Pierce Family Scholarship

Pioneer Partners Fund

Radford-Lawrence Scholarship

Regan Family Scholarship Fund

Ron Ryan Memorial Fund

Roy T. Rueb Scholarship

Sara Edel and Dee Reinking Scholarship

Scott E Carlson Scholarship

Sisters of St. Paul's Monastery Scholarship

St. Columbia Scholarship  
(Monica Hilger)

St. Joseph Scholarship

The Scott Richards Memorial Fund

Sullivan Family Scholarship

Tolaas Memorial Scholarship

Tyler Berqual Memorial Scholarship

William Schram Memorial Scholarship

*\*New scholarships for 2025–2026 school year*

### Tuition Assistance

Learn more about starting a scholarship for current and future Pioneers by contacting:

**Melissa Gruber, Gift Officer  
Scholarships, 651-210-3627 or  
mgruber@hill-murray.org**



# Be Bold, Win Big with a Hill-Murray Education

A Night at the Cosmopolitan was truly an evening of elegance, excitement and possibility. The energy and generosity of the Hill-Murray Community sparkled throughout the room as stories were shared, paddles raised, and the amazing talents of our Hill-Murray theater and choir students entertained the audience.

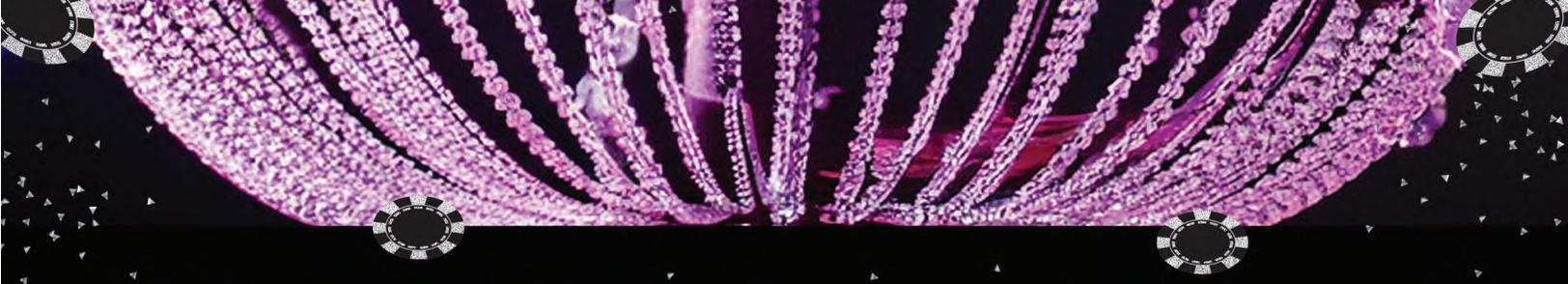
The evening's program was highlighted with the presentation of the esteemed President's award to Jim Hansen. Melissa Dan spoke of the impact Jim has made on Hill-Murray through his time as school president and thereafter. After accepting the award, Jim shared the projects and aspirations he continues to work on for the Hill-Murray community.

Auction guests were reminded of the profound impact of their support with a heartfelt video of the Banderas Family. Daniel, Emanuel, and Anthony have made great strides in their life with the support and education they received at Hill-Murray. Cesar and Maria, their parents, ended the video with an emotional "Thank You" to the Hill-Murray community for helping their sons achieve their dreams.

The evening would not have been possible without the incredible efforts of the Auction Chair, Jill King, and Auction Co-Chair, Bridget Regan. Their vision and leadership guided the work and dedication of all the Auction Committee Members into this wonderfully successful event.

Thanks to those who attended, donated, and supported the 2025 Pioneer Premier Auction! The event raised \$1.24 million for Hill-Murray students and programs ensuring our tradition of excellence in Catholic education continues to thrive.





## Thank you

Jill King, Bridget Regan,  
and the entire Auction  
Committee for making this  
amazing event possible!

# Singing, Smiling, and Giving Back:

## Dr. Jake and Denise Koller's Hill-Murray Legacy

**At any Hill-Murray Boys' Home hockey game, you'll likely hear the unmistakable voice of Dr. Jake Koller, DDS, leading the National Anthem before the puck drops. Always ready with a song or a cheer, Jake brings energy, spirit, and a big smile wherever he goes.**

Beside him through it all is his wife, Denise, whose warmth and dedication have helped shape both their family and their deep connection to Hill-Murray. Denise has played a central role in nurturing that Pioneer spirit, volunteering at school events, supporting their daughters' activities, and celebrating every milestone with genuine joy. Together, Jake and Denise have built their family life around faith, education, and giving back to the community that means so much to them.



A 1981 Hill-Murray graduate, Jake grew up in North St. Paul, carrying forward the values and traditions of his hometown. After earning his dental degree from the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry, he built a career grounded in excellence, continually enhancing his expertise through continuing education and innovative techniques.

The Kollers' ties to Hill-Murray run deep. Jake's parents, Paul and Philomene Koller, were dedicated supporters of Hill-Murray and Catholic education. They believed deeply in the school's mission and, through decades of volunteer service, helped strengthen the community that shaped their family. Paul and Phil put Jake and his siblings, Paul (1969), Mary (1972), Karen (1974), Peter (1976), Joseph (1978), and Karl (1983), through Hill-Murray, setting in motion a family tradition of faith, service, and lifelong connection to the school.



Through a legacy gift via the Koller Family Estate, Jake and Denise are ensuring that future Pioneers will benefit from the same strong foundation that shaped their own family.

Whether leading the anthem, cheering from the stands, or caring for patients in his practice, Jake continues to embody the joy, compassion, and spirit that define a true Pioneer.

Jake and Denise have continued that legacy as proud parents of three Hill-Murray graduates, Nina (2007), Emma (2013), and Grace (2015), extending the family's Pioneer roots across generations. It's a story of enduring commitment to community, faith, and the shared belief in nurturing future generations.

Through a legacy gift via the Koller Family Estate, Jake and Denise are ensuring that future Pioneers will benefit from the same strong foundation that shaped their own family. Their generosity reflects a lifelong dedication to giving back and a commitment to the enduring mission of Hill-Murray.

Whether leading the anthem, cheering from the stands, or caring for patients in his practice, Jake continues to embody the joy, compassion, and spirit that define a true Pioneer. And alongside him, Denise's warmth, faith, and steadfast support complete a legacy built on love, family, and the belief that giving back can transform lives for generations to come.

PICTURED, OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP:  
Dr. Jake Koller sings the National Anthem at Hill-Murray boys' hockey game.

OPPOSITE PAGE, BOTTOM:  
Grace (Koller) Kinsella '15 and husband Jesse Kinsella Denise with their first granddaughter, Mabel (hopefully H-M class of 2042). Emma Koller '13 and Nina Koller '07 and her husband Peter Anderson.

## LEGACY GIVING

### Demonstrate your passion by investing in Hill-Murray students through planned gifts.

Create a plan for your gift that fulfills your personal intentions and objectives to designate Hill-Murray as a sole or partial beneficiary of your will, trust, bequest, retirement account, life insurance, appreciated securities, charitable annuity, or other financial instruments.

### Have you already included Hill-Murray in your estate plan?

Contact the Hill-Murray Advancement office to share your plans so that together we fulfill your personal intentions and objectives to:

1. Designate Hill-Murray's use of your gift
2. Maximize the impact of your gift
3. Honor your benefaction during your lifetime



Learn more about Legacy Giving by contacting [Chris Zupfer](#), Executive Director of Hill-Murray Foundation, 651-600-1197 or [czupfer@hill-murray.org](mailto:czupfer@hill-murray.org)

## LEGACY SOCIETY

Jody Montpetit Anderly '72 and Steven Anderly

Barbara Asenbrenner Atkinson '87 and Robert Atkinson

Kathleen Callahan Baker '62 and Douglas\* Baker

Donald Blake

John (Jack) Cichy '13

Lisa and Steve Cichy

Rochelle Cichy Navin '09

Tessa Cichy Jenson '12

Margaret Leko Colombo '64

Michael D. Conroy '68 and Sandra A. Conroy

Patrick '64 and Joan Crowley

Sara Edel '79 and Dee Reinking

Barbara Flasch '80

Steve\* and Karen\* Frickey

Richard Ginnaty '64

Gerald and Mary Glomb

James Hansen '73

Colleen Okoneski Horeish '72 and

Richard Horeish '72

Bruce\* Huber '65 and Patricia Huber

Gregory Jacobs '64

Michael and Janet Johnson

Linda and Klint Klaas

Dr. James '81 and Denise Koller

James and Charlotte Kouri

Linda Radford Lawrence '65 and Robert Lawrence III '63

Maureen McDonough '74

Mark\* Nyman '69

Donald\* and Jean\* Regan

Michael Rowan '64 and Delores\* Rowan

Kathleen Buzicky Saladino '64

Molly Lawrence Schaffer '91 and Jacob Schaffer

Rita Cresback Shor '65 and Steve Shor

Frank Wald '64

James and Rochelle Westerhaus

Father Thomas Wilson '82

James Wold '64 and Mary Weber Wold '73

Sara Joynson Yocum '93 and

Anthony Yocum V '88

Dave Zarembinski '69

John Zesbaugh '63 and Mary Zesbaugh

\* Deceased

# Mutual Blessings:

## A Legacy of Faith and Partnership



**For nearly a century, the Sisters of St. Paul's Monastery have been a guiding presence in the Twin Cities, dedicating their lives to education, service, and hospitality.**

**From founding Archbishop Murray High School—now Hill-Murray School—to nurturing generations of students and serving the broader community, the Sisters have built a legacy rooted in faith, compassion, and a commitment to seeing Christ in every guest. Their mission, grounded in Benedictine values of community, stewardship, and service, has inspired countless lives and strengthened the Twin Cities in profound ways.**

This year, that enduring legacy is secured for generations to come through the formation of the Mutual Blessings Partnership, a transformative collaboration between the Sisters and the Hill-Murray Foundation. Together, they are ensuring that the Sisters' vision will continue to flourish in perpetuity, preserving their mission while providing sustainable support for programs that extend their impact across the school and community.

Through this partnership, students at Hill-Murray will continue to explore Benedictine traditions, service, and spiritual growth through programs like the Benedictine Certificate, led by Sue Skinner. Maple Tree Childcare also benefits from the Foundation's support, allowing young children to grow in an environment shaped by the Sisters' values of compassion, community, and hospitality. The partnership enables the Foundation to provide long-term resources, ensuring these programs and initiatives thrive well into the future.

The Monastery itself remains a living symbol of the Sisters' dedication. Its sacred spaces, gardens, and welcoming atmosphere reflect a lifelong commitment to hospitality, inviting all who visit to feel seen, valued, and inspired. The Mutual Blessings Partnership ensures that these values are not only preserved but strengthened, becoming a living legacy for generations of students, families, and community members.

Through this collaboration, the Sisters and the Hill-Murray Foundation honor nearly a century of service while looking boldly to the future. Their shared mission of faith, education, and community will continue to guide and inspire, keeping the spirit of the Sisters of St. Paul's Monastery vibrant and flourishing for years to come.

The Mutual Blessings Partnership ensures that these values are not only preserved but strengthened, becoming a living legacy for generations of students, families, and community members.



PICTURED ABOVE: Sisters of St. Paul Monastery gather outside the chapel.

BELOW: Dr. Sue Skinner and Camille Larson discuss the certificate program.

RIGHT: Mutual Blessings prayer.

## MUTUAL Blessings

### Prayer

Loving God, the sacred bond between St. Paul's Monastery and Hill-Murray School is an enduring gift that seeks to glorify You in all things.

Ground us in the Benedictine values of prayer, community, hospitality, and reverence for all creation, and make our relationship a living witness to Your grace at work in the world.

Help us to listen with the ear of our heart, seek peace in all we do, and uplift one another in faith. As we continue the journey of Mutual Blessings, we ask that You keep us united in love and guided by wisdom.

Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

***Saint Scholastica and Saint Benedict:  
Pray for Us!***



## Benedictine Formation Certificate

The Certificate in Benedictine Formation program, in its second year, began with a full cohort of students. Led by Dr. Sue Skinner, Vice President for Mission, the program is designed to immerse students in the spirituality, values, and practices of the Rule of St. Benedict through retreats, coursework, prayer experiences, and service. Participants begin with an overnight retreat at St. Paul's Monastery and then complete five themed formation sessions throughout the year, focusing on topics such as humility, contemplative prayer, leadership, and Benedictine spirituality. Students also join the sisters for morning prayer on occasion, complete the Spiritual Awakening course, engage in service experiences supporting the monastery or its ministries, and at the end of the year, they write a reflective statement on how Benedictine spirituality has shaped them. Upon completing all requirements, students receive a formal certificate, which is noted on the transcript as well as recognition at the spring awards ceremony.

Hill-Murray is blessed with the financial support of so many. Because of this generosity, a strong tradition of excellence continues in the classroom and in our community. The following donor list covers fiscal year July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025.

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Archbishop Murray High School, founded in 1968, and Hill High School, founded in 1969, each brought strong traditions of faith, education, and community. In 1971, the schools combined to form Hill-Murray School, uniting their legacies and continuing a shared mission of academic excellence and Benedictine values for generations.

## 2025 Distinguished Alumni & Community Awards

*Pictured left to right:*

The Lasallian Award

**Bill Holland '77**

The Young Alumni Award

**Julia Schliesing Coleman '10**

The Benedictine Award

**Linda Radford Lawrence '65**

The Ron Ryan Jr '85

Community Leadership Award

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*Sandy Blockey LeBlanc '64 accepting award*

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## 2025 Athletic Hall of Fame

*Pictured left to right:*

**Tony Curella '84**

Football, Hockey, Baseball

**Sara Edel '79**

Basketball, Softball, Track

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Assistant Baseball Coach

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**Gina Zech '04**

Volleyball, Basketball, Softball

**Dave Zarembinski '69**

Football, Wrestling, Baseball





Archbishop Murray Memorial High School 60th Reunion (1965)



Hill High School 60th Reunion (1965)



Hill-Murray High School 50th Reunion (1975)



Football Alumni at Homecoming



## Hill-Murray FOUNDATION

### Ways to Give

Your gift to Hill-Murray changes students' lives. It has never been easier to support today's Pioneers. Gifts can be made in a variety of ways:

- 1. Give online** at [www.hill-murray.org/donate](http://www.hill-murray.org/donate)
- 2. One-time or recurring gifts** made via cash, check, credit card, or Electronic Fund Transfer.
- 3. Stocks** or other appreciated securities, please contact:  
**Molly Faber, Advancement Officer,**  
[mfaber@hill-murray.org](mailto:mfaber@hill-murray.org) or 612-669-3365
- 4. Gifts-in-kind:** Consider contributing to Hill-Murray with non-financial resources.
- 5. Planned Giving:** A perfect way to ensure long-term financial security for you and your family and at the same time support Hill-Murray students through the use of your financial assets. For more detailed information about how you can make your estate work for both purposes, please contact:  
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Hill-Murray School  
The Catholic Benedictine Prep School

### Stay Connected

We want you to hear all the great news Hill-Murray has to share throughout the year. Check your email for the bi-monthly President's Perspective email, event and reunion information, alumni e-news, and other important ways to connect with the school. If you are currently NOT receiving emails from Hill-Murray and would like to resubscribe, please contact: **Noah Hackman, Data and New Business Manager,** [nhackman@hill-murray.org](mailto:nhackman@hill-murray.org) or 651-748-2406.

   [HILL-MURRAY.ORG](http://HILL-MURRAY.ORG)

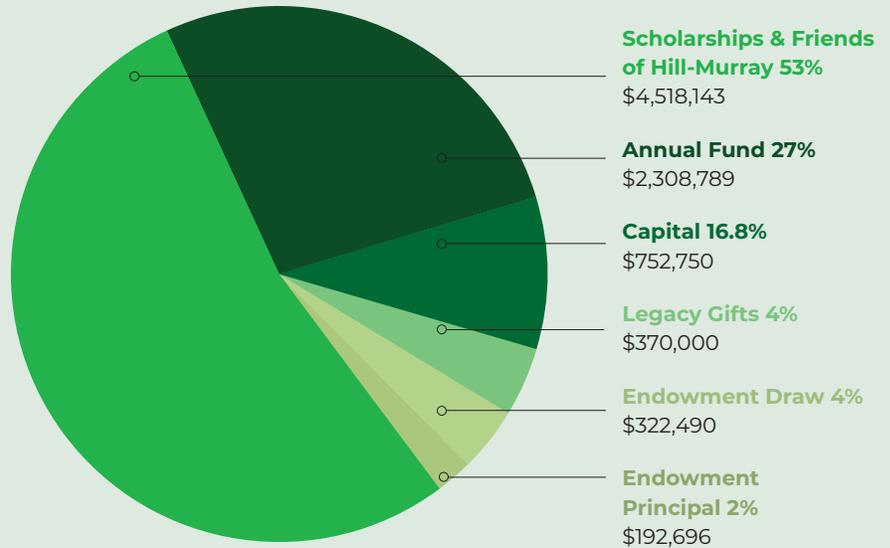
# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

## GIFTS RAISED

**\$8,464,868**

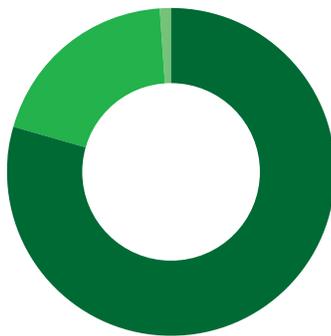
## NUMBER OF GIFTS

**4,960**



## OPERATING REVENUES

- Student **91.8%**  
\$18,807,492
  - Development Revenue \* **22.3%**  
*not including Legacy Gifts*  
\$4,561,728
  - Other **1.1%**  
\$229,203
- Scholarships & Financial Aid  
(\$3,101,459)



## TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE

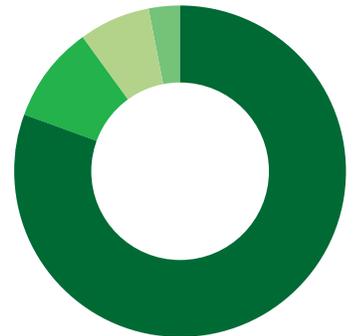
**\$20,496,964**

## INVESTMENT GAIN/(LOSS)

**\$1,273,921**

## OPERATING EXPENSES

- Student **80.6%**  
\$16,320,243
- Administrative **9.4%**  
\$1,898,079
- Development **7%**  
\$1,415,475
- Admissions & Marketing **3%**  
\$610,859



## TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

**\$20,244,656**

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### Jennifer Moll

Partner  
PwC



#### Jim Tonrey

Senior Wealth  
Advisor, Principal  
Dakota Wealth  
Management



### FOUNDATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

#### Dave Faust '86

President/Chief  
Executive Officer  
Platinum Bank



#### Bill Gaumond

Chief Financial  
Officer  
Allianz Life,  
North America



#### Monica Hilger '78

VP of Business  
Development  
UNRL



#### Katie Nath '85

Chair  
PB Bancshares, Inc.  
Vice President,  
Legal Counsel  
Premier Banks

## HILL-MURRAY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### Bill Simpson – Chair

Vice President,  
GM Textile Care Division  
Ecolab

#### Angela Brandt – Vice Chair

Partner  
Larson · King

#### Steve Dyer – Treasurer

Chief Executive Officer  
Craig-Hallum Capital Group

#### Cesar Banderas

Property Manager  
Crown Builder, Inc.

#### Ben Cirillo '00

Site Manager  
AVEKA

#### Tony Ciro '02

President/Chief Executive Officer  
Tony Ciro Agency,  
American Family Insurance

#### Erik Drange

Assistant General  
Counsel, Director  
3M

#### Kristi Fox

EVP, Chief Administrative Officer  
Securian Financial

#### Carrie Hackman

Principal (Past)  
St. Jude of the Lake  
Catholic School

#### Jami Hegrenes '05

Director, Global Upstream  
& Clinical Marketing  
Boston Scientific

#### Greg Peelman

SVP & General Manager  
Commercial Digital,  
Global Pest Elimination  
Ecolab

#### Casey Regan '00

Chief Executive Officer  
Premier Bank Minnesota

#### Marna Ricker

Global Vice Chair - Tax  
Ernst & Young LLP

#### Lynnett Voshage-Stahl

Vice President  
Clinical Research  
Medtronic

#### Sister Linda Soler

Sub-Prioress  
St. Paul's Monastery

#### Father John Utecht

Hill-Murray Chaplain  
Associate Pastor  
St. Jude of the Lake

#### Melissa Dan

President  
Hill-Murray School

#### Chris Zupfer

Executive Director  
Hill-Murray Foundation

#### Danielle Draack

Chief Administrative Officer  
Hill-Murray School

#### Brent Johnson

Vice President for Operations  
Hill-Murray School

#### Sue Skinner

Vice President of Mission  
Hill-Murray School



## FOUNDATION BOARD OF GOVERNORS

### **OJ Rinehart – Chair**

Chief Executive Officer  
& Founder  
Interstate Companies

### **Margaret LeClair '88 – Treasurer**

Chief Executive Officer (Past)  
Benafica/LeClair Group  
Artist, Atelier

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### **Pat Bollom**

Co-Founder (Past)  
Smart Data Solutions, Inc.

### **Brad Hanggi '87**

Group Vice President, US  
Cloudera

### **Brian Hazelton**

Chief Executive Officer  
Standard Iron & Wire Works, LLC

### **Gerald Kraut '69**

Senior Vice President & Director  
Midcountry Acquisition Corporation

### **John Simmet**

President/  
Chief Executive Officer (Past)  
Simcote, Inc.

### **Melissa Dan**

President  
Hill-Murray School

### **Chris Zupfer**

Executive Director  
Hill-Murray Foundation

### **Danielle Draack**

Chief Administrative Officer  
Hill-Murray School

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

### **Jack Ness '69 – Chair**

### **Brother Francis Carr, FSC – Chair Emeritus**

### **Jim Hansen '73 – Vice Chair**

### **Mary Morelli '65 – Vice President**

### **Mary Gaertner '74 – Secretary**

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### **Gordy Lennartson '79**

### **Peg Asenbrenner Sutherland '91**

### **Jim Donnelly '73**

### **Rita Gresback Shor '65**

### **Rita Horwath '72**

### **Colleen Jamieson, Past Staff**

### **Jake Kranz '18**

### **Kaitlin Langer Simmet '13**

### **Molly Lawrence Schaffer '91**

### **Steve Romanchuk '67**

### **Gina Santella Woolfrey '13**

### **Patrick Sauer '82**

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### **Melissa Dan**

President, Hill-Murray School

### **Judy Hajlo Schwartz '79**

Director of Alumni, Hill-Murray School





**Hill-Murray  
FOUNDATION**

2625 Larpenteur Ave E | Maplewood, MN 55109

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## SAVE THE DATE

Hill-Murray Pioneer Premier Auction

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026

"Welcome Home" is a celebration of all who make Hill-Murray what it is – the alumni whose legacy still echoes through our halls, the current families living the mission each day, and the future families who are just beginning to hear the call: this is where we belong.

This year's auction is more than a fundraiser – it's a reunion, a gathering, and an invitation.

Whether you're returning, residing, or arriving, you belong here. Welcome home!

**PIONEER.GIVESMART.COM**



*Scan for more information on this event*

