

Senior Speech - by Tai

at The Hiland Hall Graduation on June 7, 2024

Hello everyone, I've only been at the Hiland Hall school for 3 years so I may not have as much to talk about as some of my fellow seniors, who have been here for the full nine years but I still have made some great memories.

First off, I would like to thank my mom and dad for helping me balance school and sports for my whole life, but especially the last three years. I also want to thank Brennan for the positive influence throughout all three years and the competition in the stretching and big games (which I believe has pushed me to become a better all around athlete). I want to thank Quena, for not assigning too much math homework yet teaching us in a way to make us feel prepared for high school, for her support in Spanish, senior stuff, and all around basic stuff from when I first joined the Hiland Hall school. And I want to thank Jessica, for always giving me better inspiration or ideas, and for the help with my senior cooking project, which was cinnamon rolls. I would also like to thank Marlo, Weslyn, and Mathew for welcoming me into the school after I joined at the start of middle school. Even though I wasn't here growing up with the rest of the students through north and south group, they still made me feel welcomed. I also want to thank Camden for being a great friend and talking me out of doing some things that might have been a little stupid.

I can't believe how fast the last three years felt. But I do feel prepared for high school academically and also socially. Thanks to times like lunch, activity time, and outside time I have learned how to get along with and start conversations with just about anyone. I have also learned and gained the ability to play games like soccer, at one level with other middle schoolers at

stretching and at a different level during the big game with Youngers. That is why for my senior project I took apart the old soccer goals. And built new ones so that the students here can keep playing one of the most played big games, soccer, which is also my personal favorite. But also other big games that use the nets like Stones and Flag Football (which I also really like).

Some advice that I have for younger students is, always play the big game even if it isn't soccer or a game you love, because it means a lot to the other students playing the game and makes the game overall more fun.

One of my favorite classes at the Hiland Hall school was Jessica's history/civics class because it almost always turned into a whole group conversation about the topic of the day which I found to be a very fun way to learn. Throughout that class Jessica called me a wretched child numerous times. And I can't honestly say that I wasn't being a wretched child but I also always knew that she cared about me and all the other students too. So that's why, at the end of the day no matter if I'm in highschool, college, or living my life as an adult, I will always be Jessica's number 1 wretched child.