

William Krenz – GPLHS Class of 2026

What led up to your enrollment at GPL? Was it a simple decision? Or complicated? Were you in favor? Or reluctant?

*My family and I spent a lot of time deciding whether we should go here to GPL or not. It was kind of a complicated decision because we live an hour and a half away. In the beginning I was extremely opposed to it because it is far from the farm and I would have to live in the dorm, and Marshall had a lot of more options for elective classes. As we deciphered where we would be going and looked more into GPL it became clear to me that this was the high school that would serve me and my faith the best. The money was also something that had to be thought through because it cost a lot more money to come here than to go to the public school.*

Describe what you were thinking and feeling in the days leading up to and on the day you moved into the dorm for the first time.

*In the days leading up to moving into the dorm it became clear to me I was extremely nervous and worried to live away from home at such a young age and I wouldn't even have my older brother coming with me since he wasn't going to be in football. I wanted to push off coming to high school because I love being home and being on our family farm and was not excited. I was also trying to get a ton of activities in the little bit of summer since football started much earlier than school.*

Were those thoughts and feelings different a month or two later? If so, how?

*During the couple of weeks of just football before school started I became kind of comfortable living in the dorm and I found many friends to be around in the dormitory that made it quite fun. As school started the homesickness went away and I got into the routine of how life would be. Now most of the way through my second year it's easy to see that it takes a little time to adjust, but as long as you can find some friends it's a very enjoyable place to be.*

Talk about some of your classes and the activities you've been involved in.

*I've been involved in lots of sports including football, basketball and track. In all three of these sports I have found a brotherhood in these programs unlike any other place. You have people to rely on and people that are always encouraging. You also build good friendships by being in sports here. Classes are extremely fun. The teachers are extremely good at helping whenever you need the help. One of the best options by coming here to GPL is to have a religion class and a chapel every day to always be growing our faith.*

Talk about some of the challenges and blessings you have faced during your time at GPL.

*During my time here at GPL, as you would anywhere, I have dealt with some challenges that were dealt my way. The biggest challenge I have faced was being an hour and half away from home. The reason this was such a challenge for me was because I work a lot with my dad on our farm. I'm also not able to complete many of the projects my Dad and me would do together. Another challenge is adapting to living in a dormitory and not being able to see my family every night and every morning. This has also been a blessing to me because I have been able to mature and have become more responsible because I don't have my parents to do everything, like laundry. Another blessing is that by living in the dorm I'm able to be around and make friends that will be around me a lot so it works on social skills. The biggest*

*blessing that I gain from coming here is I get a strong Christian based education to help strengthen my faith and push me on the right path to the most important thing – heaven and eternal life with God.*

If you had to choose just one, what one thing do you want people to know about GPL?

*It's a great school that will prepare teenagers to live a God pleasing life and strengthen their faith. It's a place where students are around many other people that have the same faith as them.*