

## **Austin Rubendall – GPLHS Class of 2025**

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

*Originally my family wasn't planning on coming to Great Plains, because we never saved up for it, and the distance from home was a major factor as well. I told my parents I wanted to come to GPL after the grade school basketball tournament, because sports are a big part of my life, and I would get opportunities to play here at GPL.*

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

*When I found out I was going to GPL, I was very excited, but also nervous because I didn't know many people, and I had never lived away from home before. After I moved into the dorms, I soon realized that it isn't quite like living at home, but it's pretty close. Constantly being surrounded by friends and people that care about you is very comfortable.*

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

*Over the three years I've been at GPL, I've been in football, basketball, golf, and track and field. Our football team really feels like a family. All of the coaches care about us, and we all help each other get better, occasionally being silly and making the coaches laugh. Basketball is similar, but in basketball it is more spread out across the different levels for practices.*

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

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