

Hello,

My name is Ashley Jones and I am a sophomore student at GHS. As an attending student as well as a member of the Names Team, I am well aware of the issues of bullying and the lack of personal social integrity which sometimes shows existence within the student body. I, who have been personally targeted by bullies, can confidently confess to feel extremely safe in Greenwich High School.

For the majority of my life, going to school was a burden because I knew that I would be targeted sometime throughout that day. I had no self confidence and found it difficult to take pride in anything I produced because I knew that if I did, my happiness would quickly be shot down.

Since attending Greenwich High School, I look forward to coming to school because I know that I am welcomed by students as well as faculty. The simple gestures hold so much power; Holding the door open for someone and the small smiles received when walking in the hallway make our community the strong one that it is. People going out of their way to help one another is a beautiful thing but the little things hold just as much power.

I would like to personally thank you for emphasizing the difference that the small things make. I remember after that assembly earlier in the year, I saw the student body make individual efforts to face the challenge given to us. Once weeks and months pass, the inspiration to make such exchanges is expected to die down to a forgotten cause. This has not happened within The Greenwich High School community. To this day, the same passion and inspiration to sustain a safe and welcoming environment thrives in our school.

I found myself frantically looking for new ways to let Names Day live past the fall season and survive throughout all years. In my search, I reflected on what progress has already been made. New to the town of Greenwich as a Freshman, I, for the very first time found my voice and my place in my community. I have only become stronger as a sophomore. The student body as a whole contributed to my welcome and safety. I've seen a transformation in our school. Students and faculty have shown individual determination to improve current conditions. Yes, there is much room for improvement, but I am extremely proud of Greenwich High School for the steps it has already taken to become a safe, bully free environment.

Thank you,
Ashley Jones