



Issaquah High Student Profile

Eli McCalmont
IHS Class of 2024

What classes at school do you love and why?

I love geometry and English. I love English because I love writing and sharing stories. I love to just sit down and come up with stories. It is easy for me to come up with stories because I think of life experiences or think about what other lessons that you are taught and try and come up with a plot. I love English because I love to learn even more ways to utilize ideas and write them down. Or to even take a story and analyze it. I love geometry because I have always been attracted to it and I believe that I catch on to concepts decently quickly, but there is sometimes when I do not understand. I love when I don't understand a concept and, finally, understand and can solve the problem or whatever the concept would be.



What are some of your favorite high school memories?

Because this is my first year, the best thing so far is one the first day, seeing what the classes are like and how this year will happen remotely.

Do you play sports and if so, how has sports made an impact on your life? Any highlights you would like to share?

I have played a game that is called Goalball. Because I am visually impaired, I cannot play regular sports like baseball and football (which are my favorite sports by the way). Goalball is where you have three people on both sides of a basketball sized court. On each side, there is a big goal that is like 10 feet long. One side rolls a ball as hard as you can on the floor and the other sides will dive to one side to block it rolling into a goal. Each of the players are blindfolded and you have to hear for the bells in the ball and judge if it is coming to the zone that you are located in. I have played this on all blind or visually impaired sports camp.

Are you in a club and if so, what are the best parts of being in that club?

I am in drama club and I love how relaxed it is when we play some theater games. Everybody is really welcoming and chill.

Is volunteering part of your life?

I have volunteered at the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library and helped them unpack audio book cartridges from people who have used them. It was a grind, but it felt good to help the community and it was very satisfying at the end.

Any plans yet after high school?

I really aspire to become a sports journalist, a play-by-play announcer, or a color-commentator. I really want to try and get into Syracuse. My plans could change, obviously as I try and get as many experiences as possible.

Do you have any cool hobbies?

I love baseball. I have always loved watching, looking at stats, at standings, and look for trade and free-agent rumors. I have always loved the Mariners and I follow them a lot and follow all the news. I also love the Seahawks. I am not as big of a football fan than baseball, but I still love them. I still keep up with the news and watch every game with my family.

What do you do for fun?

I love playing video games such as MLB the Show and Jedi Fallen Order. I play MLB the Show most often and have been playing for 5 to 6 years. I also love to swim at my grandpa rents house in the summer and go tubing on my grandpa's boat.

Is there anything else special about you that you would like to share?

I am visually impaired and besides that fact, if you want to talk to me, treat me the same, even though of my disability. Just treat me like any other person.