



January 23, 2017

To: Dr. Riggle, Superintendent
Board of Education

Fr: Karen Geddeis

Re: Glenbrook Stories - February 12, 2017

MEMO

For our Glenbrook Stories segment on February 12, we will share in the journey of two GBN students who applied their personal stories to that of the winter play, "Tribes."

Erin Rosenfeld, a junior, was born with hearing difficulty. Max Rollins, a sophomore, is deaf in his left ear and has moderate hearing loss in his right ear. Both students can read lips and sign. The play is about a boy named Billy (played by Max) who is deaf growing up in a hearing family. He later meets Sylvia (played by Erin) who teaches Billy sign language despite his family's opposition.

"The play explores advantages and disadvantages of different languages," theatre director Julie Ann Robinson said. "There is a lot about agency. Billy has a lot to say but his family ignores him until he starts to sign. It is dramatic for the family when they have to confront those issues and their own prejudice."

Erin and Max said they hope their performance helped raise awareness of hearing difficulty. They want people to know a person with a disability can accomplish and achieve as much as anyone else.