

16 year old junior at Poland Spring Academy

When I moved here to Maine in the fall of 2001, I was a shy, quiet, anxiety ridden nine year old girl. I had just finished third grade in Massachusetts and was not looking forward to starting school at all.

Before third grade I enjoyed school a lot. Once I started my third year, however, I was too rough and impatient and the work load was more than I could handle. I was so worked up after school with my homework I would cry every night. I thought I didn't do my work right. My parents helped me a lot, though, and I made it through the year.

After my experience in public school my parents (who had been furious with my previous schools behavior) wanted very much for me to go to a school where I could be happy. That's when we discovered Poland Spring Academy.

At PSA I discovered teacher who were willing and happy to help me. I made friends easily and quickly (several of which I am still friends with. I found a wonderful new faith in god and I was in a casual, loving place where I was free to be who I really was. I've been here ever since, and things have gotten even better.

PSA is not made up merely of faculty and students; we are a wonderfully thrown together family. There is always someone to laugh and cry with, to study with, to confide in, whether it is a teacher or a student. The teachers, I might add, are more like aunts, uncles and parents than just educators. They are always happy to talk and joke with us, and they are always, always, always willing to help us with anything we need.

This school has made me a better and stronger person, and I feel equipped to go out into the world on my own. I have had incredible support given to me by my parents and teacher, and with their love and belief in me, I have decided to attend college to pursue a career in crime scene investigation. I'm actually excited about college!

I will be graduating next year and moving on to college, but I am not leaving for good. My future children will come here, because I want the best for them, and Poland Spring Academy is the best.

Michael A. Bond