Calvin Mader-Clark  
Class of 2018

Current occupation: Student, Bard College

Other schools attended: Hillsdale High School

Activities: Basketball, volleyball

Favorite Woodland memory: The Nicaragua Service Learning trip will stick with me forever. It truly made a big impact on my life. In fact, that experience helped inform the final paper I wrote for my economics class last semester.

Another favorite memory was playing Sacred Heart Prep in the basketball finals my eighth grade year. It was the first year that we competed in the new gym and it meant so much to me to help grow the basketball program and to play for Coach Schneider. He was really caring and it was clear how much he loved his job and working with students. My basketball experience at Woodland laid the foundation for a sport I continue to play here at Bard.

Fun facts and updates: I also play volleyball for Bard, a sport I first got into at Woodland, playing in physical education and at recess.

Although I went to a pretty big high school, the small school experience at Woodland played an important role when it came to choosing a college. The close relationships with teachers, the accepting environment, and the guidance around self advocacy were key Woodland takeaways that I also enjoy here at Bard.

Woodland Alumni Association Induction Brunch

On graduation morning, Woodland hosted an Alumni Association Induction Brunch for eighth grade students and their parents. A new tradition launched last year, the gathering was both a festive send-off before the formal ceremonies and an opportunity to welcome our newest class of graduates to our alumni community.

In addition to providing their best advice to the Class of 2024 (be prepared to do lots of public speaking, be open to challenge/help/failure, don’t be afraid to stand up for yourself, enjoy eighth grade - time flies), students received special swag only available to alumni. They were also invited to take their first action as alumni: provide their contact information so Woodland can keep in touch, build our alumni program—and send them Roots Magazine every year!

Parents of the graduates received a small memento to remind them where their child’s Woodland journey began, and both parents and graduates received Woodland’s best wishes for the next chapter and a warm welcome to our alumni association.