



NEWS RELEASE

Wayne Township Board of Education
50 Nellis, Drive, Wayne, N.J. 07470

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For Immediate Release

Mark Toback, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
(973) 633-3000
mtoback@wayneschools.com

Wayne Board of Education Recognizes National Merit and AP Scholars

(Wayne, NJ) – On Thursday, November 17, the Wayne Board of Education recognized 64 students for their academic achievements with the National Merit and Advanced Placement Scholarship Program. The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition to recognize student achievement and to award undergraduate scholarships. Established in 1955, the program is open to all U.S. high school students who meet participation requirements.

The majority of scholarships awarded in the National Merit Program are sponsored by about 400 corporate organizations and higher education institutions. Each year, educators in about 21,000 high schools provide the opportunity for their students to participate in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Typically, over 1.5 million students in about 21,000 high schools enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program each year. Some 50,000 entrants qualify for program recognition, and approximately 8,500 outstanding students receive scholarships for college undergraduate study. The total awards are valued at about \$39 million.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMIFINALIST

In early September, more than 16,000 students, or approximately one-third of the 50,000 high scorers, are notified that they have qualified as Semifinalists. To ensure that academically talented young people from all parts of the United States are included in this talent pool, Semifinalists are designated on a state-representational basis. Semifinalists are selected from among the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMENDED STUDENT

In late September, more than two-thirds (about 34,000) of the approximately 50,000 high scorers on the PSAT/NMSQT receive Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. Commended Students are named based on a nationally applied standard. Although Commended Students do not continue in the competition for National Merit Scholarships, many of these students become candidates for special scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) SCHOLARS

The AP Scholars Program recognizes high school students who have demonstrated outstanding college-level achievement through their performance on multiple AP Exams. AP Scholar Awards come in different levels and types.

AP Scholar-Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

AP Scholar with Honor-Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

AP Scholar with Distinction-Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

NATIONAL HISPANIC RECOGNITION PROGRAM SCHOLAR

A student must meet the requirements to become eligible for the National Hispanic Recognition Program, including:

- Take the PSAT in October of their junior year
- Achieve a minimum qualifying PSAT Score
- Possess a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher by the middle of their junior year
- Identify as Hispanic
- Be a permanent resident of the U.S. or a U.S. territory

COLLEGE BOARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The College Board's National Recognition Programs create pathways to college for students from underserved communities by awarding them academic honors and connecting them with universities across the country.

Additional specific requirements include:

- Take the PSAT in October of their junior year.
- Achieve the minimum requested PSAT scores (qualifying level may vary by state each year).
- Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher by the middle of their junior year.

Superintendent Dr. Mark Toback, congratulated all of the students and their families for receiving this recognition and thanked them for being such outstanding role models.

President, Suzanne Pudup, stated, "It's always exciting for the Board of Education to honor our students' accomplishments, and I would like to thank them for being here this evening. A special thanks to their parents for their ongoing support through their educational years, as parental support makes such a big difference. We are so very proud of our students and congratulate them on all of their hard work."

**NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS / AP SCHOLARS
CLASS OF 2023
WAYNE HILLS HIGH SCHOOL**

Michael Rewick, Principal

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMIFINALIST

Nadir A. Ghani, Daniel J. Goz

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMENDED STUDENTS

Sahil Chatiwala, Eunice E. Chi, Kalyani Karmaker, Sophia H. Kim, Luke M. Kornhaber,
Olivia Lam, Manojavan Nagarajan, Benjamin Prusakowski,
Artem Torubarov, Nicholas Trbovich

AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION

Sahil Chatiwala, Alex N. Ferreira, Nadir A. Ghani, Daniel J. Goz, Sophia H. Kim,
Luke M. Kornhaber, Olivia Lam, Manojavan Nagarajan, Jordan M. Praissman,
Benjamin J. Prusakowski, Dominic M. Rojek, Daphne Saatcioglu,
Monishwar Sampath, Artem Torubarov, Wenrui Zhang

AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR

Amy B. Hecht, Kalyani R. Karmaker, Harman S. Kohli,
Sahil K. Mehta, Vijay Shah, Trisha Vyas

AP SCHOLARS

Mohammad Asaad, Kenneth S. Chang, Eunice E. Chi, Deanna M. Gaber,
Madeline R. Galesi, Jonathan M. Goldberg, Irene H. Hwang, Jame Jiajie Liu,
Graydon K. Nguyen, Emily M. Nolan, Nicholas S. Pepple, Wajiha H. Rizvi,
Milena M. Taibl, Nicholas Trbovich, Winni Wang

NATIONAL HISPANIC RECOGNITION PROGRAM SCHOLARS

Ioannis Anagnostos, Samantha Huerta,
Michael Montano

**NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS / AP SCHOLARS
CLASS OF 2023
WAYNE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

Kenneth J. Palczewski, Principal

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMIFINALIST

Erik P. Scheuplein

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMENDED STUDENTS

Andrew T. Barbera, Andrew J. Christian, Connor Fauerbach,
Andrew Graf, Christopher Jun, Isabelle R. Mailman,
Bret J. Mandler, Nicholas P. Mikhail, Aryan A. Patel

AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION

Nicole P. Antonio, Allison M. Bernstein, Winston Calvo, Jaclyn R. Ellis,
Isabelle R. Mailman, Bret J. Mandler, Nicholas P. Mikhail, Aryan A. Patel,
Erik P. Scheuplein, Matthew Shapiro, Ryan A. Shechtman, Robert T. Westerberg

AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR

Andrew T. Barbera, Nicholas J. Cremona, Cole A. Farulla,
Christopher K. Jun, Angelina Pietropaolo, Joseph D. Scarpulla

AP SCHOLARS

Andrew J. Christian, Andrew P. Graf, Ian A. Harmon,
Amira N. Nejad, Alex M. Scheuplein

NATIONAL HISPANIC RECOGNITION PROGRAM SCHOLAR

Terin Kuttamperoor

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