

Dear School Board Members,

This month we are recognizing 20 amazing students. First, I would like to ask Madi Watts to come up to the table.

Madi Watts, who recently graduated from Denfeld High School earlier this month, was on the Speech Team at Denfeld this year.

She advanced to the Minnesota State High School League **State Speech Tournament** in April after taking first place in the **7AA section championships** where she performed a monologue from the 2016 movie “Jackie,” which is about the life of Jackie Kennedy after the assassination of her husband John F. Kennedy.

After 6 grueling rounds at State, Madi took 3rd place out of 45 competitors, advancing her to the National Speech and Debate Tournament in Phoenix, Arizona, which took place over the weekend.

Congratulations to Madi and all her accomplishments. We wish her well in her next adventure!

Now I would like to invite the **History Day students** up to the table.

Board members and members of the public, tonight we would like to also recognize 19 students from East High School and Ordean Middle School, all of which placed at the **State History Day tournament** with 8 students advancing to nationals.

Of those who competed at Nationals, I would like to specifically acknowledge **Ola Okoro** for taking 2nd place **in the nation** in **Senior Individual Performance** for her project titled “Madam CJ Walker: Braving Frontiers in African American Hair Care, Business and Philanthropy.”

I would also like to acknowledge **Garin Hackbarth** and **Samuel Philips**, who took 4th place in the nation for Senior Group Exhibit and received the Outstanding Affiliate Entry in the Senior Division Award for their project titled “FDR’s Fireside Chats: A Frontier in Presidential Communication.”

Congratulations to all the students and thank you for representing your school and our district on a national level!