



## **GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM** **AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

---

**DATE OF MEETING:** December 9, 2025

**TITLE:** **Recognition of National Merit Scholarship Commended Students and Semifinalists**

---

**BACKGROUND:**

Each year, roughly 1.5 million high school students across the United States complete the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test ([PSAT/NMSQT®](#)). Of the participating students, 34,000 students achieve a score high enough to be recognized as Commended students and nearly 16,000 students, or less than one percent, are recognized as Semifinalists.

These extraordinary students have a chance to compete for nearly \$31 million in scholarship money for college.

To become a finalist, the students and their schools must submit a detailed scholarship application providing information about their academic achievements, community projects, leadership experience, employment, and honors they have received.

We are proud to recognize the following students for being National Merit Scholarship Commended Students and Semifinalists:

**National Merit Scholarship Commended Students:**

**Elijah Bartruff**, Canyon del Oro High School

**Isidoro Castillo**, Canyon del Oro High School

**Jacob Petersen**, Canyon del Oro High School

**Sebastian Smith**, Canyon del Oro High School

**Shawn Hesse**, Ironwood Ridge High School

**National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists:**

**Chad Butterbrodt**, Canyon del Oro High School

**Cian Kelly**, Canyon del Oro High School

**Christopher Morril**, Canyon del Oro High School

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

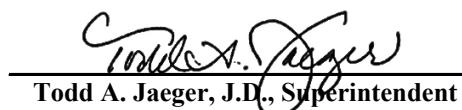
This item is presented for the Governing Board's recognition.

---

**INITIATED BY:**

  
**Matt P. Munger**  
Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education

Date: December 2, 2025

  
**Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent**