EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Meeting Date:	October 2, 2025
Agenda Item:	Recognitions
Item Type:	Board Recognitions
Administrator:	Board Vice Chair
Objective:	Recognition of National Merit Scholars and AP Scholars

Background: There are many outstanding students and staff in the Medford School District, and the Medford School District Board of Directors takes time in each regularly scheduled Board meeting to celebrate many of them. Students may be recognized for a variety of areas, including academics, athletics, arts, career and technical education, and music, or as nominated by school district staff. Staff members may also be nominated for exemplary contributions to the district.

At the Board Work Session, we will recognize:

National Merit Scholarship Award Semifinalists

Seniors whose score placed them in the top 16,000 of all students to take the PSAT last year, representing less than 1% of the nation's high school graduating seniors, qualify as Semifinalists. They have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 6,870 National Merit Scholarships to be offered next spring by completing an application to move forward as a finalist in the winter.

National Merit Commended Scholar

A National Merit Commended Scholar is a student who scored in the top 3-4% of all test-takers on the PSAT but did not meet the required score cutoff to advance to the Semifinalist stage. Being named a commended scholar is a significant academic achievement and is often recognized by colleges and universities in their admissions decisions.

AP Scholars

The Board will recognize district students who have earned the distinction of AP Scholar from College Board. This national honor is awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding achievement on Advanced Placement (AP) exams, reflecting college-level mastery across multiple subject areas. The recognition highlights both the dedication of our students and the district's commitment to providing rigorous academic opportunities that prepare learners for success beyond high school.