



Board Meeting Date: 11/13/2023

Title: Commendation of National Merit Scholarship Program Honorees

Type: Consent

Description: The National Merit program honors individual students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. These students took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) as juniors in the 2022-23 school year. The 13 Edina Semifinalists are among approximately 16,000 Semifinalists, representing the top half of one percent of the nation's most academically talented young people. Edina High School has had National Merit Finalists and Semifinalists each year since the National Merit Foundation's inception.

In addition, there are 16 Edina Commended Students who, though they will not continue in the competition for the 2024 National Merit Scholarship awards, are among the highest scorers, and in the top five percent of students who enter the competition by completing the PSAT/NMSQT. These students are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise.

Semifinalists and Commended students are announced in the fall when test takers are seniors. Finalists are announced in the spring before their graduation. Semifinalists proceed to the Finalist stage if they have a consistently strong academic record, write an essay, are endorsed and recommended by a school official, and take the SAT® or ACT® and earn a score that confirms the PSAT/NMSQT performance.

These students will be honored at a reception that will take place as part of tonight's Board meeting.

Recommendation: Congratulate these Edina seniors as National Merit Scholarship Program honorees.

Attachments:

1. List of Honorees (next page)

National Merit Scholar Semifinalists

Celeste Eckstein
Jonathan Hou
Stephen Kanti Mahanty
Mandy Kao
Nikhil Konkimalla
Elena Loucks
Isaac Lower
Keerthik Muruganandam
Abir Rawal
Jay Shapiro
Derrick Siu
Isaiah Sweeney
Henry Zheng

National Merit Scholar Commended Students

Michael Arndorfer
Raja Chinnakotla
Katerina Duda
Rowan Eggum
Nora Hart
Sonja Holtey
Luka Jacobi-Krohn
Armaan Jain
Maria Kim
Brian Lo
Leo Mellum
Zachary Morton
Tate Olson
Benjamin
Sanderson
Prema Suthaharan
Bradley Yonke