NEWS RELEASE

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

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For Immediate Release

David Cittadino
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Wayne Board of Education Recognizes National Merit and AP Scholars



Photo Credit: Jon Ferris Meredith from TapIntoWayne.net

(Wayne, NJ) – On Thursday, November 12, the Wayne Board of Education recognized 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. Mr. David Cittadino opened up the program by congratulating the students, their families, and staff members.

The majority of scholarships awarded through the National Merit Scholarship Program are supported by about 260 corporate organizations and higher education institutions. Each year, educators in about 19,000 high schools provide the opportunity for their students to participate in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Typically, over 1.2 million students in about 19,000 high schools enter the National Merit® Scholarship Program each year. Some 50,000 entrants qualify for program recognition, and approximately 7,320 outstanding students receive scholarships for college undergraduate study. The total awards are valued at about $29 million.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMENDED STUDENT
In late September, approximately 34,000 of the 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 FIRST-GENERATION RECOGNITION PROGRAM

- The National First-Generation Recognition Program is a College Board program that recognizes high school students whose parents do not have a bachelor's degree

Superintendent David Cittadino, stated, "Congratulations to all of our students for receiving this recognition and thank you for being such shining examples of the educational opportunities that we all know are WAY better in WAYne! Congratulations to your families for all of the work they have done to support you in your studies! Congratulations to all of your teachers and administrators for their contributions and for helping to place you in a position to receive this recognition. It is a pleasure for the Board of Education, administration, and the entire community to recognize you for your amazing academic achievements and for receiving one of the most significant academic awards that high school students can achieve."

President, Don Pavlak, stated, "I have to tell you this is always one of the best events for a board member to sit here and look at each and every one of you and your families. You represent the very best of Wayne Hills and Wayne Valley. You set the standards for academic achievement in our schools, and we can't be prouder of each and every one of you".

Of course, you don't get here by yourself. Your parents, your teachers, your counselors, the administration, everyone in this room tonight, thank you for nurturing these minds and bringing them and encouraging their ambitions and supporting them every step of the way.

On behalf of the entire board, we congratulate each and every one of you and your parents on this honor. Thank you.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS / AP SCHOLARS
CLASS OF 2027
WAYNE HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Michael Rewick, Principal

NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALIST
Rayan Asaad

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMENDED STUDENTS
Rayan Asaad, Vibhor Bhati, Simon Cheng, John Cisowski, Natalia Fronc, Thomas He, Lois Kim, Avni Lende, Aayush Mukundappanavar, Prajna Prakash, Aishwarya Sundar Murthy, Daniel Tuchman

AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION
Rayan Asaad, Vibhor Bhati, Jacob Blitzer, Simon Cheng, John Cisowski, Duru Cosgun, Natalia Fronc, Zainab Ghalyan, Jake Goodman, Thomas He, Olivia Kaplan, Benjamin Karras, Baani Kohli, Avni Lende, Devin Martens, Aayush Mukundappanavar, Srinidhin Nagarajan, Sarah Park, Prajna Prakash, Gia Shah, Aishwarya Sundar Murthy, Anirudh Tanguturu, Daniel Tuchman, Isabelle Walec, Toleen Weldali

AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR
Charlie Byrne, Alyssa Harms, Lois Kim, Dylan Knapp, Donald Marston, Rebecca Minevich, Carlee Mirko, Sophia Pavey, Mia Raghavan, Logan Ross, Jeremy Sorkin

AP SCHOLARS
Jenna Alrifai, Heidi Choi, Jasmine Clemente, Alexandra De Blieck, Naia Fernandez, Canyon Flower, Emma Grealy, Chloe Hanna, Sawyer Hinds, Eugenia Kwawukume, Marco Manzo, Alannah Raghavan, Nikalina Roitbourd, Hetvi Sodagar

NATIONAL FIRST GENERATION RECOGNITION PROGRAM SCHOLARS
Cameron Perez-Alcalde, Sarah Park, Jacob Blitzer, Isabella Pose, Jessie Huynh, Simon Cheng, Nikalina Roitbourd, Sophia Vargas

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS / AP SCHOLARS
CLASS OF 2027
WAYNE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Jennifer Grimbilas, Principal

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP COMMENDED STUDENTS

Tayyibah Akther, Radhika Dave, Colin Krawczak, Tyler Leu,
Isabella Monteiro, Vansh Parmar

AP SCHOLARS WITH DISTINCTION

Tayyibah Akther, Betul Arslan, Radhika Dave, William DeMio, Marwan Elsanaa,
Scott Frankel, Sabrina King, Colin Krawczak, Tyler Leu, Yuva Parikh,
Vansh Parmar, David Rosario

AP SCHOLARS WITH HONOR

Kelly Cazenave, Alexander McSorley, Akshara Srivastava, Michaela Toussas

AP SCHOLARS

Jasmine Alvarez, Jack Bennett, Taylor Burke, Zain Chabayta,
Andrea Cmiljanovic, Jeremiah Cuba, Maddie D'Alessandro,
Matthew Daniel, Pervin Erdem, Riley Gerstenschlager,
Benson Jiang, Colin Kern, Ibrahim Khouli, Dina Kojakali,
Isabella, Monteiro, Ethan Park, Soha Shah, Justin Sirot,
Madeline Smith, Avery Voinov

NATIONAL FIRST GENERATION RECOGNITION PROGRAM SCHOLARS

Kelly Cazenave, Andrea Cmiljanovic, Benson Jiang,
Brandon Khemraj, Francesco Pietropaolo

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