

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2019

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**COVINGTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
ANNOUNCES TWO NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALISTS
AND TWO "PERFECT" ACT SCORES**

Covington Catholic, a Blue Ribbon School, is proud to announce that two seniors have been recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as Semi Finalists in the 65th annual National Merit[®] Scholarship Program: Joseph Kiely and Christopher Stegman.

Last fall, roughly 1.5 million juniors in more than 21,000 high schools across the country entered the 2020 program by taking the PSAT/NMSQT Qualifying Test. Of those juniors, only 16,000, less than 1%, are named National Merit Semifinalists, based on their scores on this exam. These academically talented students are now eligible to seek Finalist standing, moving one step further in the competition for some 7,600 scholarships worth about \$32 million that will be offered in the Spring of 2020. Nationwide, about half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar[®] title.

"The Covington Catholic Community is very proud of our two students that have been named National Merit Semifinalists," says Principal Bob Rowe, "these young men are not only excellent students, but they are also active participants in their faith and in extracurricular activities that take place in school and in their communities. This National Merit recognition underscores our academic commitment to excellence as noted by our comprehensive curriculum, strong ACT scores, Blue Ribbon status and other educational accolades. We are very proud of the well-rounded community leaders that we continue to produce."

Joseph Kiely is the son of Christopher and Laura Kiely. He is a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish.

Christopher Stegman is the son of Gary and Traci Stegman. He is a member of Blessed Sacrament Parish.

In addition, two students have also earned the highest possible composite score of 36 (a "perfect" score) on the ACT: Peter Maier and Pete Williams.

Peter Maier is a 12th grader and the son of Christopher and Natalie Maier. He is a member of St. Agnes Parish.

Pete Williams is an 11th grader and the son of Matt and Jeanette Williams. He is a member of St. Joseph Parish in Cold Spring.

Covington Catholic High School is a 2016 Blue Ribbon of Excellence award winning college preparatory high school located in Park Hills, Kentucky, and operates within the Catholic Diocese of Covington. It is an all-male school of 585 whose mission is to embrace the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in order to educate students spiritually, academically, physically and socially.



National Merit Semi-Finalist Christopher Stegman with Principal Bob Rowe

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