



**CARROLL**  
Independent School District

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Carroll ISD Sets Record Number of National Merit Semifinalists**

Southlake — Carroll ISD is pleased to announce it has assembled its largest-ever class of National Merit semifinalists.

CISD's class includes 41 honorees, who scored in the top one percent (1%) of PSAT/NMSQT® scores for the class of 2023 in the entire state of Texas.

An estimated 1.5 million high school students across the U.S. enter the National Merit program each year. Among the 1.5 million entrants, approximately 50,000 students across America with the highest PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores — calculated by doubling the sum of the reading, writing and language, and math test scores — qualify for recognition in the National Merit Scholarship Program. For the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program in the state of Texas, 1,571 students from 287 different schools qualified as semifinalists. These 1,571 students have a selection index qualifying score of 219, which translates to a total score of 1460 or higher out of a possible 1520.

In early September, more than 16,000 students — approximately one-third of the 50,000 highest scorers nationally — were notified that they had qualified as National Merit semifinalists.

This year's class of 41 National Merit semifinalists represents the **highest** number of students ever selected from Carroll ISD.

“We are so proud of our National Merit semifinalists,” said Superintendent Dr. Lane Ledbetter. “Throughout the year our teachers, staff and school board members focus diligently on employing the best practices to inspire excellence and provide the greatest learning environment for our students. I am so pleased to see our students excelling in this stellar program that will serve them well for many years, even after they graduate from CISD.”

To ensure that academically-driven students from all parts of the United States are included in the selection pool, semifinalists are designated on a state-representational basis. Semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants from each state.

Qualifying scores vary from state to state and from year to year, but the scores of all of the semifinalists are extremely high.

“As educators in Carroll ISD, it’s our absolute honor to be part of the educational journey with these students,” said Carroll Senior High Principal Ryan Wilson. “Their achievement in this scholarship competition thus far is nothing short of exceptional. We look forward to supporting them as they now apply for the position of finalist.”

The next step for the students to be considered for a National Merit Scholarship is to advance to finalist standing by meeting high academic standards and other requirements as established by the National Merit Scholarship program.