

Madeira Board of Education, 7465 Loannes Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45243 Kenji Matsudo, Superintendent Dave Bergan, Assistant Superintendent Diane Nichols, Public Relations FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 16, 2021

## MADEIRA SENIORS NAMED AS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

Four members of the Madeira High School (MHS) Class of 2022 have been named as National Merit Semifinalists in the 67<sup>th</sup> annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Henry Manning, Niklas Polanco, Rene' Polanco, and Steven Schwallie will continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$30 million that will be offered in the spring of 2022.

The National Merit<sup>®</sup> Scholarship Program (NMSC), is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®)—which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements. Semifinalists must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by the school, write an essay, and earn scores that confirm the students' performance on an earlier test.

From the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists, about 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group and announced in nationwide news releases beginning in April. Those scholarship recipients will join more than 362,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the National Merit Scholar title.

Henry, Niklas, Rene' and Steven will be recognized at an upcoming Madeira football game.

Madeira's newest National Merit Semifinalists are (L to R): Henry Manning, Niklas Polanco, Rene' Polanco, and Steven Schwallie.

