Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
October 19, 2023	A-1

Title

Recognition of Cherokee County School District High School Seniors Named 2024 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Cherokee County School District High School Seniors Named 2024 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Summary Explanation and Background

Seven Cherokee County School District high school seniors were recently named 2024 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists!

They are: of Creekview HS, Peter Greenwell, Laura Hand and Kinley Sikes; of River Ridge HS, Rylan Radziewicz; of Sequoyah HS, Livana Lekas and Valor Lekas; and of Woodstock HS, Xavier Olsen. Less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors earn National Merit Semifinalist recognition.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation oversees the prestigious competition, and today named 16,000 semi-finalists, who were chosen from 1.5 Million students based on exceptional 2022 PSAT scores.

For the next level of competition, the students will complete an application detailing academic achievements, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors; an endorsement and recommendation from a high school official; and an essay. Students must additionally have earned SAT scores that confirm their PSAT performance.

CCSD also learned that Kinley Sikes of Creekview HS has earned a perfect score on the SAT - a rare feat!

National Merit then will announce the 15,000 finalists, who will compete for 7,500 scholarships worth about $30 million to be awarded in the spring.

Priority Area

Student Achievement: Access and Opportunity

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

N/A

Source of Additional Information

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