



# LEE COUNTY

## SCHOOL SYSTEM

### Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **LEE COUNTY SCHOOLS CELEBRATES STUDENTS AWARDED WITH ACADEMIC HONORS FROM COLLEGE BOARD NATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAMS**

**Leesburg, GA** -- Students at Lee County High School earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. These programs celebrate students' scholastic achievement in high school and showcase their strong academic performance. The academic honors for rural area, Black, Indigenous and/or Latino students are an opportunity for students to share their strong academic achievements with colleges and scholarship programs that are seeking to recruit diverse talent.

At Lee County High School, 28 students received this academic honor:

**National African American Recognition Award (NAARA)**

Mariam Nicolas  
Danica Stewart  
Christina Tillis

**National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA)**

Joseph Alonso

**National Rural and Small Town Award  
(NRSTA)**

Melina Becherair  
Elizabeth Chaffin  
Brooks Chatman  
Christopher Dowling  
Jackson Duke  
Ava Fuller  
Sadie Gilmore  
Evie Graham  
Ella Hamsley  
Annemarie Harlow  
Kylie Henderson  
Sophie Henderson  
Brady Huebsch  
Madeline Keaton  
Kendall Millsaps  
Annalee Rayment  
Carley Reese  
Joshua Stokes  
Kalyn Taczy  
Christina Tillis  
Alyssa Twedt  
Olivia Vanderwalt  
Katie Williams  
Seolyi Yoon

**National Indigenous Award (NIA)**

Madeline Keaton

“We’re thrilled to celebrate our students and recognize them for the great work they and their teachers have been doing. We’re proud of their strong academic performance in the classroom and on College Board assessments like the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) and Advanced Placement (AP) exams,” said Dr. Kathleen E.K. Truitt, superintendent of schools. “There’s so much that makes our students unique, and receiving this honor reinforces this as an asset for their future.”

The criteria for eligible students include:

- GPA of 3.5 or higher
- PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10 assessment scores that are within the top 10% of assessment takers in each state for each award program or earned a score of 3 or higher on 2 or more AP Exams in 9th and 10th grade.
- Attend school in a rural area or small town, or identify as African American/Black, Hispanic American/Latino, or Indigenous/Native.

Eligible students are invited to apply on BigFuture during their sophomore or junior year and are awarded at the start of the next school year in time to share their achievements in high school as they plan for the future. At the same time, colleges and organizations using College Board's Student Search Service can connect directly with awardees during the recruitment process.

**###**

***About Lee County Schools:***

*The Lee County School System is a GA public Pre-K - 12 school district that fosters relationships through diverse, challenging & quality educational experiences that cultivate successful citizens. For more information about LCSS, go to [www.lee.k12.ga.us](http://www.lee.k12.ga.us) or become a follower on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/leecountyschoolsystem](https://www.facebook.com/leecountyschoolsystem) or on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/leecountyschool](https://www.twitter.com/leecountyschool) or on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/leecountyschools](https://www.instagram.com/leecountyschools).*