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**Press Release**

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## **DCSD Home to 41 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists**

Douglas County School District (DCSD) is pleased to announce the names of 41 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists, making them part of an elite group representing less than 1 percent of U.S. high school seniors. These academically talented students advance in the competition, which awards 7,250 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million.

The goal of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation is to honor the nation's scholastic champions and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence. Three types of National Merit Scholarships will be awarded in the spring and summer of 2023:

- 2,500 National Merit Scholarships
- 950 Corporate-Sponsored Merit Scholarships
- 3,800 College-Sponsored Merit Scholarships

Finalists will be announced in February, with National Merit Scholarship winners announced in the months to follow. Congratulations to these outstanding DCSD students!

1. Saira Ali, Castle View High
2. Aaditya Bahl, ThunderRidge High
3. Sharan Bhargav, ThunderRidge High
4. Jacob Billings, Chaparral High
5. Jake Bridge, Mountain Vista High
6. Brynne Casto, Rock Canyon High
7. Joy Chao, Rock Canyon High
8. Deven Chen, Highlands Ranch High
9. Anthony Chui, Rock Canyon High
10. Jack Comfort, Highlands Ranch High
11. Riley Cullinan, Highlands Ranch High
12. William Drobish, Rock Canyon High
13. Aakash Gupta, Rock Canyon High
14. Catherine Hensley, Ponderosa High
15. Gabrielle Hooper, Castle View High
16. Susan James, Rock Canyon High
17. Nanako Keney, Mountain Vista High
18. Dawson Kern, Legend High
19. Advait Khanna, Rock Canyon High
20. Jamie Kim, Rock Canyon High
21. Kai Kingman, STEM School
22. Alexander McGowan, Rock Canyon High
23. Benjamin Morris, Chaparral High
24. Diya Nair, Douglas County High
25. Shruti Narwaney, Mountain Vista High
26. Samantha Neufeld, Rock Canyon High
27. Sabrina Ng, Highlands Ranch High
28. Aryaman Purohit, Chaparral High
29. Andrew Roark, Ponderosa High
30. Derek Roper, ThunderRidge High
31. Sanjana Sankholkar, Mountain Vista High
32. Sadie Sheets, Castle View High
33. Julie Song, Mountain Vista High
34. Bhavya Surapaneni, Rock Canyon High
35. Jerry Wang, Rock Canyon High
36. Jessica Wang, Rock Canyon High
37. Anna Wilding, Rock Canyon High
38. Brenna Wendell, Castle View High
39. Lucas Witte, Highlands Ranch High
40. Taylor Witte, Mountain Vista High
41. Max Xu, Rock Canyon High

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*About DCSD*

Douglas County School District is Colorado's third largest school district and serves 64,000 students. Learn more at [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org).