

Mountain Lakes  
High School  
National Merit  
Recognition

# Qualifying for National Merit Recognition

In order to be eligible for the National Merit Scholarship Program, a student must:

- take the PSAT/NMSQT during his or her 3rd year (junior year) of high school
- be enrolled as a high school student (traditional or homeschooled) and plan to enroll in college full time by the fall after his or her high school graduation and
- attend high school in the U.S., the District of Columbia, or U.S. commonwealth and territory

# National Merit Scholarship Corporation

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation conducts an annual competition for recognition and scholarship, known as the National Merit Scholarship Program.

The highest achieving students are identified by the program as National Merit Scholars.

# Selection of National Merit Qualifiers

- Approximately 1.6 million students enter the competition by taking the PSAT/NMSQT.
- This test assesses student ability in Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing.
- Students receive scores for each section of this test. These scores range from 8-38.

# National Merit Selection Index

In order to calculate a student's Selection Index, these three scores are added, then that sum is doubled.

As an example, a student who earns scores of 34, 35, and 36 would use the formula to find that  $34+35+36=105$ . Again, this is doubled to give this student a Selection Index of 210.

# National Merit Commended Students

- Commended Students are named on the basis of a nationally applied Selection Index score, which may vary from year to year.
- This year, NMSC communicated that, in order to earn Commended status, students must earn a score of at least a score of 208.
- Only 34,000 of the 1.6 million testers nationwide earned this distinction. This means only 2% are identified this way.

# Mountain Lakes High School Commended Scholars

This year, eight (8) members of our senior class have earned the remarkable distinction of Commended Students.

We are extraordinarily proud of the hard work and focus that has led to this prestigious honor.

# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



Meaghan Donnelly



# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



Harry Joelsson

# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



Max Kahn

# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



William Murphy

# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



Kaylin Oey

# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



Arya Shah

# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



Rohan Sheth

# MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS



Dennis Xiong

# National Merit Semi-Finalists

In early September, about 16,000 students, or approximately one-third of the 50,000 high scorers, are notified that they have qualified as Semifinalists. To ensure that academically talented young people from all parts of the United States are included in this talent pool, Semifinalists are designated on a state-representational basis. Semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants in each state. Qualifying scores vary from state to state and from year to year, but the scores of all Semifinalists are extremely high.

This year, New Jersey's qualifying score for Semi-Finalists was 223, tied with Massachusetts for the highest cutoff of any state in the nation.



# Mountain Lakes High School Semi-Finalists

This year, Mountain Lakes has three (3) students who have earned scores in the top 0.5% in the nation and have moved forward in the Scholarship application process as Semi-Finalists.

It brings me great pleasure to introduce these three accomplished students.

# MLHS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS



Andreana Lee

# MLHS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS



Eddie Lin

# MLHS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS



Gabriela Ramirez

The Mountain Lakes School District and our  
entire community are so proud of your  
accomplishments!

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**