FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Amanda Beeman, Assistant Direction of Communications, (740) 657-5080

TWENTY-SEVEN OLENTANGY SENIORS ELIGIBLE FOR NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Olentangy Schools is proud to announce 27 academically talented students have earned the distinguished honor of National Merit Semifinalist. The scholars join an elite group representing the top one percent of U.S. high school seniors.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation announced the names of the 2026 Semifinalists in the 71ST annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Below are the Olentangy Schools National Merit Semifinalists, in alphabetical order by last name:

Bae, Danielle (Olentangy High School)
Balamurugan, Bhavana (Olentangy High School)
Beal, Eden (Olentangy Orange High School)
Bhimireddy, Nikhil (Olentangy Orange High School)
Brinkmann, Alden (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Burton Boone, Philip (Olentangy Berlin High School)
Davies, Aidan (Olentangy Berlin High School)
Doshi, Dhruv (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Godha, Ojas (Olentangy Orange High School)
Hatch, Timothy (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Julian, Neil (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Koth, Jordan (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Liu, Ryan (Olentangy Berlin High School)
Majmudar, Savya (Olentangy Orange High School)
McFarlane, Luke (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Mishra, Shaurya (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Paul Nesaraja, Harshith (Olentangy Orange High School)
Pochiraju, Satvik (Olentangy High School)
Sivakumar, Siddharth (Olentangy Orange High School)
Tang, Aiden (Olentangy Orange High School)
Upadrasta, Akhil (Olentangy Berlin High School)
Wang, William (Olentangy Liberty High School)*
Wang, William (Olentangy Liberty High School)*
Whitehead, Benjamin (Olentangy Orange High School)
Wu, Thomas (Olentangy Liberty High School)
Wylie, Allison (Olentangy High School)
Zhao, Devin (Olentangy Orange High School)

**There are two William Wang students at OLHS that were named National Merit Semifinalists.*

“We are incredibly proud of these 27 outstanding scholars for earning the distinguished honor of National Merit Semifinalist,” said Olentangy Schools Superintendent Todd Meyer. “Their accomplishment reflects the educational excellence, dedication, and the personal achievement that drive our Olentangy student experience.”

Over 1.3 million juniors in approximately 20,000 high schools entered the 2026 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2024 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. Approximately 16,000 high school seniors were selected based on the 2024 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT). Semifinalists can continue in the competition to become National Merit Finalists and become eligible for 6,930 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly $26 million.

Olentangy Schools is the fourth largest school district in the state of Ohio with 28 schools, located predominately in Delaware County. Olentangy’s mission is to facilitate maximum learning for every student.

OLENTANGY SCHOOLS℠

Olentangy Schools will recognize the National Merit Semifinalists, along with Commended Scholars, at the October 16 Olentangy Schools Board of Education meeting at Olentangy Liberty High School.

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