

PRINCIPAL'S MINUTE  
OCTOBER 13, 2009

Good Morning Cougars,

I hope you enjoyed your extended weekend. This morning I want to make a special acknowledgment about thirty of our outstanding Cypress Creek High School seniors. Each year over 1.5 million students take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (also known as the PSAT). From that number, the top 34,000 students are designated as *Commended* students based on their index scores. This places these students into a very elite group nationally, scoring in the top five percent of all students who took the exam. I am proud to announce that Cypress Creek has 18 *Commended* students this year.

Congratulations to the following Cougars:

Avery Addison  
Andrew Armour  
Eric Chin  
Parker George  
Alan Greenwade  
Kimberly Guyton  
Emily Harvey  
Hannah James  
Jeffrey Miller  
Patrick Noe  
Nathan Petryk  
Richard Renteria  
Andrew Sharp  
Joseph Sheehan  
Jameson Stamps  
Kirby Williams  
Zhimeng Zhang

Furthering the accolades for our student body, we were notified recently that we also have seven semi-finalists, ranking these students among the top 16,000 in the country out of the original 1.5 million. These seven students will continue in the competition, competing for National Merit *Finalist* designation. Finalists will be announced later in the year in February. Congratulations and good luck to the following Cypress Creek National Merit Semi-Finalists:

Alejandro Azocar  
Daniel Bankus  
Kirsten Flint  
Taylor Jellison  
Zachary Leonard  
Mitchell Ludden  
Frank Weise

Additionally, we have two Cougars who have been selected as 2009-10 National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholars. They represent a group of 5000 Hispanic/Latino students out of 200,000 nationally based on their PSAT performance. They were also chosen on the basis of their GPAs. Congratulations to Alejandro Azocar and Melanie Guzman.

Rounding out the National Merit honors, we had four African American students selected as National Achievement Scholars, placing them in the top 3,100 black students out of 160,000 who took the PSAT in 2008. The National Achievement Scholarship Program was initiated in 1964 specifically to honor academically promising black American high school students. Congratulations to the following National Achievement Scholars:

Sean Simmons  
Ashley Barnes  
Shoshauna Harrison  
Brian Helaire

And finally, huge congratulations to Michelle Williamson for being selected as a USA Swimming Scholastic All American for the second straight year. This is quite an accomplishment!!

We are proud of all of these Cougars who represent an outstanding Cypress Creek student body and community.

Have a great week full of SMART BEHAVIORS!