PRESS RELEASE

Prince George’s County Public Schools • www.pgcps.org
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PGCPS STUDENTS NAMED 2010 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP SEMIFINALISTS

Ten students from Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Prince George’s County have been named semifinalists in the 55th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These talented high school students have an opportunity to continue in the competition for 8,200 Merit Scholarships, valued at more than $36 million, to be awarded next spring.

“Our students are continuing to excel academically through scholarship programs and in the classroom,” said Verjeana M. Jacobs, Esq., Chair, Prince George’s County Board of Education. “Being chosen as a semifinalist is a great testament to the efforts of our students and teachers. We are very proud of them.”

PGCPS 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists are:

Alice Chang - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Laura Jones - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Andy Li - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Marika Nell - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Wesley Rian - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Thomas Senecal - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Blossom Tewelde - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Ursula Tooley - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Jeffrey Wang - Eleanor Roosevelt HS
Maia Werbos - Eleanor Roosevelt HS

The National Merit Scholarship Program is a non-profit organization that began conducting this program in 1955. More than 1.5 million entrants in nearly 22,000 high schools entered the 2010 National Merit Program by taking the 2008 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screening of program entrants.

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To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, semifinalists must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school. In addition, students must receive a letter of recommendation by their principal, and earn SAT scores that confirm the student’s earlier qualifying test performance. The students must also submit a detailed scholarship application to include a self-descriptive essay and information about their participation and leadership in school and community activities.

Approximately 15,000 semifinalists will advance to the finalist level. From this group, the Merit Scholarship winners will be selected.

Merit Scholarship winners will be announced beginning in April and will join more than 250,000 other distinguished students who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

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