

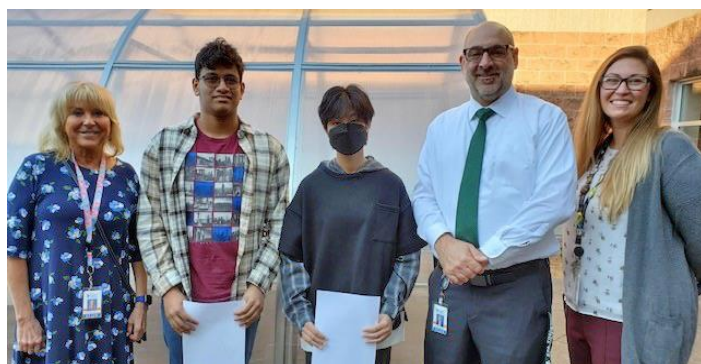


News release

September 21, 2022

Jackson High students named National Merit semifinalists

Semifinalists can further compete for finalist recognition and college scholarships



Picture left to right: Assistant Principal Michelle Renee, Semifinalist Abhinandan Basak, Semifinalist Jasmine Jumpawong, Principal Lance Balla and Assistant Principal Bethany Stoddard.

Mill Creek, WA--Two Everett Public Schools seniors have been named as National Merit Scholarship semifinalists. Abhinandan Basak and Jasmine Jumpawong of Henry M. Jackson High School join over 16,000 semifinalists nationwide who qualified for this prestigious honor.

Semifinalists represent less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors who achieved the highest scores on the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT).

To become a finalist, the semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application that includes information about the semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, honors and awards received. A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official and write an essay.

About 15,000 students are expected to advance to the finalist level, and in the spring, they will be notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected based on their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

Those students will compete for one of three merit scholarships:

- \$2,500 National Merit Scholarship (2,500 awarded nationally)
- Corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship Award (about 950 awarded by about 220 corporations and businesses nationally)
- College-sponsored Merit Scholarship (3,800 awarded by about 160 colleges and universities)

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