

Germantown School District

**GERMANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GERMANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SELECTED AS A SEMI-FINALIST FOR THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Mr. Joel R. Farren, Germantown High School Principal, received correspondence from the United States Department of Education-The Commission on Presidential Scholars, informing him that Derek Fairburn, a senior at Germantown High School, has been selected as one of only 630 semi-finalists for the United States Presidential Scholars Program. From nearly 3.5 million graduating high school seniors, over 5,300 students were identified as candidates in the program, and 630 semifinalists have been selected from across the country. These semifinalists form the pool from which the 2018 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be chosen. For a list of the 2018 semifinalists, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/psp> and click on "2018 Semifinalists."

This program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize some of our nation's most distinguished graduating seniors of their accomplishments in many areas: academic, success, leadership, and service to school and community. In 1979 it was expanded to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative, and performing arts. In 2015, the program was expanded once again to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical fields. Annually, up to 161 U.S. Presidential Scholars are chosen from among each year's senior class, representing excellence in education and the promise of greatness in America's youth. All Scholars are invited to Washington, DC in June for their National Recognition Program, featuring various events and enrichment activities and culminating in the presentation of the Presidential Scholars Medallion during the White House-sponsored ceremony.

We wish Derek the best of luck as he continues on within the selection process and look forward to learning the final outcome of his efforts.