

## School District of New Berlin Expands Recognition Programs, Thanks Community for Support

New Berlin, Wis. – Last month, more than one-third of the students in the School District of New Berlin’s Class of 2016 were recognized for achieving excellence in a manner that reflects their personal, social, academic and/or career goals.

The SDNB Class of 2016 has collectively earned more than \$3.5 million in scholarship money from local community organizations, corporate scholarship programs, national scholarship programs and/or post-secondary education scholarship programs. The word “scholarship” indicates a level of achievement regarding what a student has learned. In some cases, these accomplishments are not tied to financial awards and are not always academic in nature. Scholarships and awards let students know that others see something in them they may not yet see in themselves.

Many factors go into the design and implementation of student recognition programs. Some are developed in partnership with the community and implemented district-wide. Others are implemented at the building level to support the shared objectives of an individual school community. Students are recognized in many different ways throughout the school year.

“Our graduating seniors are to be commended for exhibiting the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that directly support our ‘Vision for the SDNB Graduate’,” Superintendent Joe Garza said. “We continue to work with our community and our schools to purposefully align and expand our recognition programs to support both district- and building-level objectives.”

The following are just a few of the categories of awards highlighted at the recent SDNB Senior Honors Nights. It demonstrates the District’s commitment to recognizing a broad range of talents in support of its overarching objectives for what a student has the opportunity to experience during their time in SDNB.

**Wisconsin Higher Education Aid Board Scholarships** (buildings nominate top performers in each category):

- Academic Excellence: Zachary Sienkiewicz and Elena Hausmann, New Berlin West; Pranav Kalicheti and Pranay Vadapally, New Berlin Eisenhower
- Technical Excellence: Andy Wachholz, New Berlin West; Marissa Stewart and Jacqueline Knoll, New Berlin Eisenhower

**Global Achievement Certificates** are provided to students who demonstrate a significant commitment to learning about our diverse, change-oriented, global society:

- Madison Seeley, New Berlin Eisenhower

Success in the 21st century requires students not only be well educated but also technically capable within their chosen field. The following students were recognized for demonstrating excellence in technical coursework aligned to a specific area of interest and received **Technical Honors**:

### **New Berlin West:**

- Henry Adkison (Engineering)
- Naomi Bhagat (Computer Science/IT)

### **New Berlin Eisenhower:**

- Alexa Batson (Engineering)
- Kyle Berther (Engineering)

- Steven Chopp (Engineering)
- Justice Dodd (Engineering)
- Noah Evans (Engineering)
- Jack Fuellemann (Engineering)
- Jacob Kohanowski (Engineering)
- Felipe Marquez (Engineering)
- Andrew Moy (Computer Science/IT)
- Shamim Pourdasthi (Engineering)
- Alex Schneider (Engineering)
- Andy Wachholz (Engineering)
- Marshall Ward (Engineering)
- Dylan Wiese (Engineering)
- Nathaniel Zabel (Engineering)
- Jessica Kutschenreuter (Health Science)
- Brandon Buchta (Engineering, CS/IT)
- Samuel Carey (Business Management)
- Emalie Hahn (Business Management)
- Ashley Hofmeister (Business Management)
- Joseph Kuhnz (Engineering)
- Jessica Lee (Business Management)
- Ian Luck (Computer Science/IT)
- Jacob Schroeder (Engineering)
- Saketh Yarlagadda (Business Management)
- Stephen Zaborowski (Business Management)

Additionally, our local chapter of the **Society of Women Engineers** honors young women who have demonstrated an aptitude for success in STEM careers. The 2016 recipients are listed below. Naomi Bhagat, New Berlin West, was also chosen as recipient of the National Center of Women in IT Aspirations Award for her demonstrated passion for computer science.

#### New Berlin West

- Naomi Bhagat
- Natalie Feider
- Elena Hausman
- Jessica Kutschenreuter
- Sheida Pourdasthi
- Danielle Sipos

#### New Berlin Eisenhower

- Alexa Batson
- Sivani Manchur
- Jamie Schara
- Imar Tovar-Rodriguez
- Manisha Vootkur
- Leah Ziolkowski

**Fine Arts Scholarships/Awards** recognize students with outstanding creativity, which is a cornerstone for innovation:

- Catherine Qiu, New Berlin West Fine Arts Scholarship
- Jessica Ferguson, New Berlin West Theatre Arts Thespian of the Year Award
- Isabelle Seifert, Jacob Bernaden and Owen Johnson, National Scholastic Art & Writing Award (New Berlin Eisenhower)

**Student Government Scholarships/Awards** recognize students with outstanding leadership, community engagement and service throughout their four years of high school:

- Natalie Sims, New Berlin West Leadership Award
- Morgan Brzank, New Berlin West Spirit Award
- Olivia Dineen, New Berlin West Involvement Award
- Nicole Dorshorst and Leah Ziolkowski, New Berlin Eisenhower Student Union Scholarship

SDNB's **athletics programs** provide opportunities for students to work toward common goals and compete both as a team and individually to continually improve skills while developing a strong work ethic, leadership capabilities and perseverance. This year's WIAA scholar athletes of the year were:

- Courtney Stephens and Daniel Western at New Berlin West
- Rachel Beilfuss and Matthew Cavanaugh at New Berlin Eisenhower

The District's **service programs** provide an opportunity to demonstrate compassion and a level of concern and regard for the well-being of others. These students have demonstrated an aptitude to become true change makers in their communities:

- New Berlin West Humanitarian Awards: Hannah Giammarco, Natalie Sims
- New Berlin Eisenhower National Honor Society: Adam Campbell
- American Red Cross Blood Drive Scholarship: Eisenhower's Bailey Fischer and Carolyn Bonnema and West's Morgan Brzank and Xavier Rodriguez

Our extended SDNB community plays an important role in helping to support and recognize the accomplishments of our students. The following lists some of those that support our recognition programs today.

**School District of New Berlin alumni** provide mentorship, internships, volunteer hours, etc. Some of our graduating classes have developed and administer a scholarship fund in their class name:

- New Berlin West Class of 1983 Scholarship Fund
- New Berlin West Class of 2011 Scholarship Fund

SDNB students are also supported by those who remember their loved ones through a **memorial scholarship fund/program**. Sponsors have the opportunity to set the selection criteria that is meaningful to them (i.e. merit and/or need, school involvement, post-secondary plans, overcoming challenges, etc.)

- Mike Dillett Memorial Scholarship Fund (West)
- Lila Draper Burton Memorial Scholarship
- April Chesny Memorial Scholarship Fund (New Berlin West)
- Emily Brooks Memorial Scholarship Fund (New Berlin West)
- Eric C. Metz Memorial Band Scholarship (New Berlin Eisenhower)

Lastly, we would like to thank the local **community organizations and families** who support our efforts to expect and recognize excellence each and every year through their own award and/or scholarship programs. Each organization is able to identify the criteria that supports their organization's objectives and values. SDNB students are especially lucky to live in such a supportive community.

- New Berlin Community Scholarship Fund
- Prospect Lions of New Berlin
- New Berlin Lions Club
- New Berlin Lioness Club
- New Berlin Junior Woman's Club
- Waukesha State Bank Scholarship Program
- Malone Family Scholarship Fund (West)
- Waterstone Bank Scholarship Program
- Educators Credit Union Scholarship Program
- Bruce J. White Scholarship Program (Eisenhower)
- Dale J. Bigus Scholarship Program (Eisenhower)
- Garrett Becker Scholarship Program
- Glenn R. Davis Charitable Foundation Scholarship

"Our vision for the School District of New Berlin is to foster a learning environment in which our public schools, families, post-secondary partners, public officials, businesses, community organizations and other citizens work collaboratively to prepare all students to succeed in a diverse, change-oriented, global society," Garza added. "This is clearly evident by the way in which we work together to support and recognize the excellence of our students through events such as these."

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