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## Student and Staff Achievements

### November 2020

#### **The College Board 2020-2021 National Recognition Programs**

The College Board selected **Academy of Information Technology & Engineering Senior Carlee Reid** and **Westhill High School Seniors Morgan McDonald** and **Jackson Williams** as 2020-2021 National African American Scholars. The organization also named **Westhill High School Seniors Priscilla Tehrani** and **Brandon Perez** as 2020-2021 National Hispanic Scholars. The students are among 34,000 receiving national recognition from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, out of the 1.6 million eligible students who took the PSAT in 2019. According to the College Board, in order to earn the awards, these students reached a target PSAT score (which varies by state), earned a minimum 3.5 GPA by the middle of their junior year and identify as either African American or Hispanic or Latinx.

#### **AITE Senior Self Publishes Second Children's Book**

Congratulations to **AITE Senior Carlee Reid**, who recently authored and illustrated "Oscar Wears Pink Clothes," a children's book about learning to appreciate your uniqueness and accepting who you are. This is Carlee's second children's book. She illustrated, "I Love My Kinky Hair" (2016) when she was 12 years old, which was written by her mother. She dedicated her most recent work, which she wrote and illustrated, to her family and middle school principal, Dolan Principal Charmaine Tourse.

#### **Perfect SAT Score**

**Academy of Information Technology and Engineering (AITE) Senior Claire Paolini** earned the highest possible composite score of 1600 on the SAT standardized test used for college admissions, which she took in September. According to the College Board, the organization that administers the SAT, Claire's score places her in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of test takers. Of the nearly 2.2 million students who take the test every year, only about 500 get the highest possible SAT score.

#### **Boys and Girls Club 2020 Champion of Youth Award**

The Boys and Girls Club selected **Westover Social Worker Mitch West** as a winner of the 2020 Champion of Youth Award. Mr. West is recognized for his willingness to go the extra mile for students and parents. According to the school, he has been a tremendous social-emotional support system to all during their move out and back into the Westover building during the pandemic.

## 2020 Fall Exemplary Scholar-Athlete

Stamford Public Schools has many high-performing individual athletes, teams and coaches. In the fall of 2020, the following student-athletes were named as Fall Exemplary Scholar-Athletes. These students were chosen for their demonstrated leadership qualities and academic achievement.

- **Stamford High School (SHS)** Student **Zachary Tusa** is the two-year captain of the boys' soccer team while taking AP and Honors classes, as well as an IB class. Zachary has earned High Honor Roll and Honors with Distinction. Zachary was also among the teens featured in Moffly Media's "Teens to Watch" feature in Stamford Magazine, is a member of SHS Leadership Academy, and store manager of the school's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA).
- **SHS** Student **Shaina Bond** is a member of the girls' volleyball team and is a two-year captain of the ski team. Shaina received honorable mention for her research at the Globe Student Research Symposium at Boston University, is a two-time finalist in the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program, and is among the first group of students to graduate from the SHS Early College Studies program.
- **Westhill High School (WHS)** Student **Samantha Fischer** is senior captain of the varsity girls' soccer team, a member of WHS Academy of Finance, Best Buddies, Land Crew and Future Business Leaders of America. Samantha volunteers as an ESL tutor for local adults through Stamford Family Centers, and she also tutors elementary students through Stamford Teen Outreach Partners.
- **WHS** Student **Timothy Silkowitz** is a member of the varsity boys' soccer team the past two years, and he also plays basketball. Timothy is a member of Future Business Leaders of America, the Stocks and Investments Club and is president of the Robotics Club. He also volunteers at the Stamford Hospital.