

## Superintendent's Highlight

October 5, 2018

**We are starting the year off on a high note as we celebrate the accomplishments of four graduating seniors at Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School who were recently named semifinalists in the 64th Annual National Merit Scholarship Program. The**



**students— Saurav Bhasin, Gabrielle Calderon, Avery Girsky, and Mitchell Indek —are among just 16,000 students in the nation being considered for approximately 7,500 awards worth a total of more than \$32 million.**

**The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an academic program for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. Approximately 1.6 million juniors, from more than 22,000 high schools, entered the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) – which serves as the initial screening process of the program. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than one percent of high school seniors in the U.S., are chosen on a state-representational basis, dependent upon the state's proportion of total graduating seniors in the nation.**

**This year the PSAT will be administered on October 13<sup>th</sup>, so juniors mark your calendars!!!**

**All finalists of the National Merit Scholarship Program will be selected based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments. We have no doubt that these students will be among the finalists as they have already demonstrated being holders of Keys to Success. We look forward to confirming this in June when the winners of the scholarship awards are announced.**