



NEWS RELEASE

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BCPS celebrates 38 AP Capstone Diploma recipients, 11 AP Seminar and Research Certificate recipients

Towson, MD – Thirty-eight Baltimore County Public Schools students earned the AP Capstone Diploma™ and 11 earned the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™ during the 2020-21 school year.

The AP Capstone Diploma program is designed to help students develop critical thinking, research, collaboration, and presentation skills that are critical to academic success.

“We proudly recognize the achievements of students who participated in the AP Capstone Diploma program,” said BCPS Superintendent Dr. Darryl L. Williams. “Our AP Capstone students and teachers showed extraordinary commitment while facing historic challenges. This is a meaningful college readiness program that will serve our students well after high school.”

To receive the AP Capstone Diploma, students must earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar, AP Research, and on four additional AP Exams. To receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate, students must earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research. Students are increasingly participating in the AP Capstone program. More than 2,000 schools participated in the AP Capstone program worldwide during the 2020-21 school year, when approximately 11,900 students earned the AP Capstone Diploma and 7,700 earned the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.

Unlike traditional AP subject exams with a single end-of-year assessment, AP Seminar and AP Research assessments are project-based and evaluate skills mastery through group projects, presentations, and individual essays completed throughout the year. Instead of focusing on one specific academic

discipline, AP Seminar and AP Research are interdisciplinary: students are empowered to create research projects based on topics of personal interest and they are assessed on the critical thinking, research, collaboration, time management, and presentation skills needed to complete their projects.

“Congratulations to the AP Capstone award winners, who conduct, present, and defend academic research on topics they are passionate about,” said Trevor Packer, College Board senior vice president of AP and Instruction. “Their ability to manage long-term projects, collaborate with teams, and deliver effective presentations will accelerate both their academic and professional careers.”

The following BCPS students were awarded the AP Capstone Diploma:

Dulaney High School

Laila N. Ghabrial
Ian T. Gould
Vinay K. Khosla
Maura C. MacLaren
Courtney E. May
Austin J. Morris
Julia A. Nicoll
Saimadhav N. Sakhamuri
Cynthia X. Wang

Eastern Technical High School

Shazeeb Cheema
Nkechi Duruji
Allen Jin
Julia Johnson
Christian Lawson
Alan Lin
Nicholas Marks
Reagan McCafferty
Annie Ni
Sheldon Padgett
Nikita Paudel
Ariel Smith
Zuzanna Szylow
Amman Vahora
Rhys Wexler

Hereford High School

Erin Barbakoff
Sarah Earp
Elizabeth George
Anthony Karoly

Alee Marschke
Alena Sagalovsky
Alexander Seidts
Neha Tripathi

Pikesville High School

Julie E. Elover
Shannon M. Elover
Jessica Millman

Towson High School

Daniel J. Melia
Nicolas O. Oke
Maclan S. Roberts

The following BCPS students were awarded the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.

Dulaney High School

Ian T. Frain
Natalie M. Taylor

Eastern Technical High School

Keera Booker
Ayooluwakita E. Dada
Meghan Faberlle
Asia Lee
Ashley Payton
Josh Bradley M. Ventura

Pikesville High School

Kammaljit Basara
Jamica Elija H. David
Nicole D. Koman

The College Board Advanced Placement® Program gives students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school. A 3 or higher on an AP Exam has multiple benefits for students, including earning college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on AP Exams, saving them time and money. Research shows AP students are better prepared for and more likely to enroll and remain in college, do well in classes, and earn their degrees on time. Each exam is developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, ensuring that AP Exams align with their high standards.

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation's 25th largest school system, is focused on raising the bar and closing gaps to prepare our students for the future. Thanks to innovative and talented leaders, teachers, staff, and students, BCPS celebrates [many honors](#).