

MEMO TO: Superintendents, Principals, School Counselors and Coordinators responsible for the Nomination of Governor's Scholar Applicants to the State level

FROM: Aristofanes Cedeño, Executive Director

DATE: April 12, 2021

All of us associated with the Governor's Scholars Program sincerely hope that this message finds you and your family both safe and well during these uncertain times. Like all of you, we continue monitoring the COVID-19 situation and the vaccination process, not only as individuals concerned for our families, friends, and coworkers, but with an eye on its potential impact to GSP 2021.

Please know that our first area of concern each and every year is with the safety, health, and well-being of our students. While we have no way of knowing what the coming weeks will hold, the fact that our program is not scheduled to begin until mid-June does provide us with time to evaluate options. In short, we feel very positive about the on-site summer program and have not made any decision to cancel this summer's program.

As you know, last week we postponed the mailing of the letter notifying you of the status of the applications. Originally, in our Important Dates Calendar, we had announced April 9th, 2021 as the last day for the Governor's Scholars Program to mail notification letters. The following is the plan to mail letters this week:

Late Monday, April 12: mail notifications to Superintendents, Principals, School Counselors and Coordinators responsible for the nomination of Governor's Scholar Applicants to the State level.

No later than Late Thursday, April 15: mail letters to student applicants letting them know whether they have been selected as a 2021 Governor's Scholar, placed as alternates, or they have not been selected. The letters will go to the home address of the applicant as it appears on the personal information page of the application.

What is or may look differently from prior years:

Selection Process: Unlike prior years, but much like last year, the selection process has been approached in a much more conservative way as we have only selected the originally announced 1020 students. In the past, knowing in advance that applicants have other choices, we have risked accepting a few more. Not this year, but unlike last year, we plan to invite alternates following any notice of non-attendance received in our office.

How You Can Help Us:

1. Reports Mailed to High Schools

In the event a School Principal, Counselor or Coordinator does not receive the mailing as expected or is unable to check mail at the high school, we are asking that you first communicate with the designated person in the Superintendent's Office for a list of the students from your high school and their GSP status.

2. Letters Mailed to Student Applicant's Home

The letters to student applicants will be mailed no later than late Thursday, April 15. In the past, we have always requested confidentiality until the applicants receive their own official notification (a hard-to-follow recommendation in some cases as we hear!). We would like to keep it that way and therefore our advice is to wait a few days after receiving your own reports to make any official announcement.

Thank you for your support.

The GSP Office will place another message on this website to confirm the specific time of the mailing of letters to student applicants.