

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 16, 2020

As you know, we postponed the notifications of the application status to the student nominees until Thursday or Friday, April 16/17. In the past, we have always sent the information to you prior to our mailing to the students and this year we will honor your expectations by sending the report, once again. Our plan is this:

Thursday, April 16: mail notifications to Superintendents, Principals, School Counselors and Coordinators responsible for the nomination of Governor's Scholar Applicants to the State level.

Friday, April 17: mail letters to student applicants letting them know whether they have been selected as a 2020 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, 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 to accept a few more. Not this year.

How You Can Help Us:

1. Reports Mailed to High Schools

In the event a School Principal, Counselor or Coordinator 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 within 24 hours after your reports. In the past, we have always requested confidentiality until the applicants receive their own official notification (a hard-to-follow recommendation in some cases!). In principle, we would like to keep it that way. Knowing that some mailings may arrive earlier than others and with our staff currently working from home, we may not be able to answer questions from students or parents/legal guardians who have not received the mailing within the same timeframe as others. In those few cases, please help us by letting them know, but our advice is to wait a few days after receiving your own reports.

Thank you: All of us associated with the Governor's Scholars Program sincerely hope that you and your family are both safe and well during these uncertain times. Like you, we have been following the current situation since its inception, not only as individuals concerned for our families, friends and co-workers, but with an eye on its potential impact to GSP 2020. Please know that our first area of concern every year is with the safety and well-being of our scholars. We thank you for your commitment to excellence, your patience as we navigate new and uncharted waters, and your unwavering support of the GSP.