

MEMO TO: Applicants to the 2020 Governor's Scholars Program and their Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s)

FROM: Aristofanes Cedeño, Executive Director

DATE: April 17, 2020

As you know, we postponed the notifications of the application status to the student nominees until Thursday or Friday, April 16/17. Yesterday, we mailed the reports to school officials and with today's date we are mailing to you the much expected notification about the status of your application. The letters will go to the home address of the applicant as it appears on the personal information page of the application.

Regardless of the final results, we are very grateful to the almost 1900 students whose applications reached the State level competition and thank you for your interest in the Governor's Scholars Program. We also thank those who helped you along the way.

In the event you do not receive your letter within the same timeframe as other applicants, please wait a day or two and then follow our recommendations found in the Memo to Superintendents et al. placed on our website gsp.ky.gov on Thursday morning, April 16.

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 previous years, knowing in advance that applicants have other choices/opportunities and based on our experience that between 40 and 60 selected scholars do not accept the invitation to join the GSP, we have risked to accept a few more beyond the 1020 originally announced. Not this year. In concrete terms, this means that more scholars were placed as alternates which, inevitably, increased the number of students not selected.

Because our staff is currently working from home, we may not be able to answer questions from applicants or parents/legal guardians in the same fashion as in the past. The hard copies of the applications are filed in our office which may make it more difficult for our staff to address all questions that will arise in your mind. In most cases, we will refer you to our website and ask for your patience as we continue, like many of you, navigating these uncharted waters. I would like to reiterate that to avoid confusing communication and potential rumors, we will make official general announcements only on our website.

All of us associated with the Governor's Scholars Program sincerely hope that all of you are 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.