

AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

General

The Somerville Board of Education believes that student achievement should be recognized at all levels in a manner appropriate to the student's accomplishment.

The board directs the superintendent/designee to develop criteria and procedures for presenting awards to students for scholarship and outstanding accomplishments in the arts, athletics and citizenship.

The superintendent shall review and advise the board on acceptance of proposed trophies, prizes, scholarships or other awards from nonschool donors. Any such proposed award shall be free from bias as outlined in the district's affirmative action policies.

Criteria regarding eligibility and selection for awards shall be disseminated annually to all students and parents/guardians.

Academic Recognition

The board directs the superintendent/designee to establish criteria and procedures for placing students in grades 6 through 12 on academic honor rolls.

National Honor Society

The board shall maintain membership in the National Honor Society. Membership shall be open to juniors and seniors who have fulfilled the criteria required by the national guidelines. Selected students shall show proof of exhibiting the four standard characteristics of scholarship, leadership, character, and service. Members are expected to volunteer their time each year through our peer tutoring programs, as well as a number of service projects which may include our annual community clean up, the Spooky Sprint, Girls on the Run 5k, creating Christmas cards for local veterans, and raising funds and awareness for cancer research. In addition, dues and other monies earned are used to award National Honor Society service scholarships each year.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

In each high school graduating class, the student who has earned the highest grade point average shall be named valedictorian and the student who has earned the next highest grade point average shall be named salutatorian.

In the event that the highest and/or the next highest grade point average has been earned by two or more students, both or all the students who have tied for or second place shall be named co-valedictorian and/or co-salutatorian.

Athletic Participation

The board wishes to recognize the achievements of students who give many hours of their time to represent the school in interscholastic athletics. Requirements for awards in each sport shall be decided by a

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committee composed of coaches, athletic director and principal. The superintendent shall approve awards and recognition of athletic achievements proposed by school connected groups, community groups and other individuals.

Service Participation

School service groups shall be recognized for participation in order to emphasize the importance of good citizenship in school life as outlined in the course of study.

Adopted: August 20, 1996
 Revised: July 15, 2005, November 20, 2012
 NJSBA Review/Update: March 2017
 Readopted:

Key Words

Awards, Student Achievement Awards, Academic Awards, Athletic Awards, Honor Roll

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20 Discrimination; prohibition
N.J.S.A. 18A:71A-9 Higher education; student assistance authority

Possible

Cross References: *1322 Contests for students
 *3280 Gifts, grants and bequests
 *5120 Assessment of individual needs
 *5125 Student records
 *5127 Commencement activities
 *5131 Conduct/discipline
 *6145.1/6145.2 Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
 *6147 Standards of proficiency

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.