

***Local seventh-graders earn national honors  
for top scores on college entrance exams***

Sixty-one Alachua County Public School 7<sup>th</sup>-graders have been recognized for earning high scores on college entrance exams, including fifteen who were among the top performers in the nation.



The students all took either the SAT or the ACT as part of the annual Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP). The prestigious program identifies and honors high-achieving middle school students from across the nation.

Nearly 54,000 seventh-grade students took part in Duke TIP this year.

On May 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, the program will recognize students from Florida, including the 61 from Alachua County Public Schools, whose scores were as high as the top-performing 50% of high school juniors and seniors who took the same tests. Recognition ceremonies are being held at the University of South Florida, Florida Atlantic University, and Flagler College.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, fifteen of those students will be honored at the Grand Recognition Ceremony on the Duke University Campus in Durham, North Carolina. All fifteen earned scores equal to or better than 90% of the juniors and seniors who took the tests. This year fewer than 2100 students nationwide achieved such high scores.

The State Recognition level students came from middle schools throughout the county, including Bishop, Ft. Clarke, Lincoln, Oak View, Mebane, Kanapaha and Westwood.

Grand Recognition level students this year all attend Lincoln Middle School. They include Angela Chen, Avery Colon, Lucas Dai, Eric Diao, Jake Frazer, Edward Jeong, Sydney Kang, Vedant Karalkar, Devika Kumar, Timmy Li, Ronan Morris, Atharva Pathak, Tristin Tan, Navya Tripathi and Jeffrey Xue.

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