

NEWS RELEASE

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Six graduating seniors recognized with Allied Sports scholarships

Towson, Md. – Six graduating seniors from across the county were honored with Allied Sports scholarships during an awards ceremony at Baltimore County Public Schools headquarters on May 24.

The <u>BCPS Allied Sports program</u>, which began in the 1994-1995 school year, is an inclusive program that provides students with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in interscholastic sports alongside their peers without disabilities. Participants play soccer, bocce, and softball.

"This year's Allied Sports scholarship winners have shown extraordinary qualities that exemplify what the Allied Sports program is all about," said BCPS Superintendent Dr. Darryl L. Williams. "They are competitive but compassionate. They are unstoppable yet understanding. They are grateful and giving. They are unsung heroes and outstanding sportsmen and women."

Scholarships were presented to:

- Marcia Hill, Woodlawn High School, Brittney Reese Allied Sports Scholarship recipient.
 This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding senior female athlete. It is named for Brittney Reese, an Olympic champion long jumper and the original sponsor of the scholarship.
- Jayson Hilliard, Hereford High School, Chase Kalisz Allied Sports Scholarship recipient.
 This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding senior male athlete. The scholarship is named for Chase Kalisz, an Olympic Gold and Silver medalist and two-time world champion swimmer. His father, Michael Kalisz, is athletic director at Hereford High School.
- Ariel Harvey, Parkville High School, Tradepoint Atlantic Allied Sports Scholarship recipient.

This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding senior student aide. The award is sponsored by Tradepoint Atlantic, a global logistics center currently revitalizing projects in Baltimore County.

- Nika Suvorovsky, Franklin High School, League of Dreams Allied Sports Scholarship recipient.
 This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student athlete from Franklin High School, and it is presented in memory of Larry Meekins, a star baseball player at Franklin High who later coached baseball and soccer at the school for more than 25 years. The scholarship is sponsored by Frank Kolarek and the League of Dreams.
- Caleb Rhinehart, Owings Mills High School, Oak Contracting Allied Sports Scholarship recipient.

 This scholarship is awarded to an "unsung hero" and is sponsored by Oak Contracting.
- Ava Lutz, Dulaney High School, The O'Meara Family Allied Sports Scholarship recipient.
 This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding student-athlete who exemplifies outstanding sportsmanship and character, and it is sponsored by Carrie O'Meara and family.

(Editor's note: Photos from the awards ceremony can be found on Flickr.)

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<u>Baltimore County Public Schools</u>, the nation's 22nd largest school system, is focused on raising the bar and closing gaps to prepare our students for the future. Thanks to innovative and talented leaders, teachers, staff, and students, BCPS celebrates <u>many honors</u>.