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#### THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.

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# NEWS RELEASE

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# College Board highlights achievement of more than 2,500 GCPS AP (Advanced Placement) Scholars

The 2011 College Board AP (Advanced Placement) Scholar Report shows that during the 2010-2011 school year, 2,552 **Gwinnett County Public Schools** (GCPS) high school students earned the AP Scholar honor, a College Board recognition for high performance on college-level work while in high school. That's an increase from the 2,263 GCPS students who earned the title the previous school year.

"Because we know that Advanced Placement courses further prepare students for college-level work, the growing number of Gwinnett students earning this honor speaks of how serious these young people are about their higher education plans," explains **Dr. Calvin Watts**, GCPS associate superintendent for teaching and learning support. "We congratulate our students for their efforts, as well as their parents and teachers for their support of academic achievement."

This group of Gwinnett students is part of the top 18 percent of the 1.9 million students worldwide who took AP exams, and who performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

The College Board recognizes the following different levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP exams:

#### **National AP Scholar:**

147 Gwinnett students qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average grade of 4 or higher on a five-point scale on all AP exams taken, and grades of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

#### **AP Scholar with Distinction:**

762 Gwinnett students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

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### **AP Scholar with Honor:**

454 Gwinnett students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

## **AP Scholar Award:**

1,257 Gwinnett students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP exams with grades of 3 or higher.

The awards were presented to students at the following 19 participating GCPS high schools:

School	AP Scholar	AP Scholar with Honor	AP Scholar with Distinction	Total Number of Students	National AP Scholar	Total Number of Awards
Archer High	9	4	3	16		16
Berkmar High	109	23	46	178	6	184
Brookwood High	136	63	123	322	19	341
Central Gwinnett High	51	8	14	73	6	79
Collins Hill High	70	23	49	221	9	230
Dacula High	38	11	12	61	2	63
Duluth High	81	34	44	159	10	169
Grayson High	61	26	18	105	3	108
Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology	75	38	83	196	33	229
Lanier High	3	1		4		4
Meadowcreek High	22	3	5	30		30
Mill Creek High	71	29	41	141	2	143
Mountain View High	20	11	7	38	1	39
Norcross High	65	27	50	142	4	146
North Gwinnett High	161	50	98	309	14	323
Parkview High	101	48	90	239	16	255
Peachtree Ridge High	124	43	73	240	21	261
Shiloh High	23	6	4	33		33
South Gwinnett High	37	6	2	45	1	46
GCPS Total	1,257	454	762	2,552	147	2,699

Because a student must first earn the AP Scholar with Distinction Award before becoming a National AP Scholar, several students received multiple awards. Of the 762 AP Scholars with Distinction, 147 students also were honored as National AP Scholars. A total of 2,699 awards were presented to the 2,552 Gwinnett students.

Some of the highlights from this year's class of Gwinnett AP Scholars are:

- Of the 178 AP Scholars at **Berkmar High**, six earned the title as 9th graders earning a perfect score of a 5 on three AP exams each.
- In one year, Central Gwinnett High increased its number of National AP Scholars from one to six students.
- Of the two National AP Scholars named at **Dacula High**, one student participated in 14 AP Exams while the other took eight AP Exams.
- Out of a total school enrollment of 544 students, 196 of them, or 36%, earned the title of AP Scholar at Gwinnett School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology.
- In its first year since opening in 2010, **Lanier High** had four AP Scholars, three of which earned the title as 11th graders.
- Of the 33 AP Scholars at Shiloh High, eight of these students earned the national title before their senior year.

Through more than 30 different college-level courses and exams provided in Gwinnett County, AP courses provide students with the opportunity to earn college credit or advanced placement and stand out in the college admissions process. AP is accepted by more than 3,600 colleges and universities worldwide for college credit, advanced placement, or both on the basis of successful AP exam grades.

For more information about the AP program, visit the College Board at <a href="https://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a> News media representatives interested in speaking with GCPS school leaders should coordinate with the Department of Communication and Media Relations by calling 678-301-6020.