



# PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 232 • 39 Bank Street S.E. • Chatham, Virginia 24531

Dr. Mark R. Jones  
Division Superintendent

**Memorandum:**

I-97/17-18

**TO: Business and Organizational Leaders**  
**FROM: Teresa Petty, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction**  
**SUBJECT: Graduate of Merit Sponsorship**  
**DATE: January 24, 2018**

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The Pittsylvania County School Division's Graduate of Merit program is a well-established and successful school and community partnership. The program recognizes and acknowledges the accomplishments of our high school graduates that exemplify attributes of achievement, proficiency, character and social development. We are extending an invitation to your business or organization to partner with us and become a sponsor of the Graduate of Merit program.

Since the inception of the program in 2000, 2,084 students have been recognized as being a Graduate of Merit. In 2018, there will be 129 Graduate of Merit candidates vying for this honor and needing sponsorship.

Pittsylvania County School Division staff members are in the process of acquiring sponsors for each Graduate of Merit. We hope that you will be able to join us in recognizing the accomplishments of these distinguished students. Your sponsorship of \$100 per student will be greatly appreciated.

In addition, the opportunity is available to sponsor scholarships. Your company or organization may be interested in sponsoring one or more of these scholarships. The number of awards presented is based on funding secured.

**\$500 Scholarships:**

- ***Above and Beyond Volunteer Service Award*** - The award will be presented to two students from each high school, a total of eight students. Students must apply for this award that is based on exemplary volunteer service.
- ***The James E. McDaniel 212<sup>0</sup> Award (formerly the Superintendent's 212<sup>0</sup>)*** – The award will be presented to the top ranked Graduates of Merit.

**\$100 Community Scholarships:**

- These scholarships will be awarded to Graduate of Merit recipients based on GOM ranking. *Sponsorship of these scholarships is available once sponsorship of all candidates is achieved.*

An informational brochure and a sponsorship form are enclosed for your review. A listing of the 2018 Graduate of Merit candidates is enclosed.

Specific details relative to the banquet/recognition ceremony are in the process of being finalized. The 2018 Graduate of Merit banquet/ceremony will be held at the Averett Convocation Center (North Campus) on Thursday, May 17, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. Final details will be forwarded to you at a later date.

We invite you to partner with Pittsylvania County School Division and help us to recognize the outstanding achievements of our graduates by becoming a Graduate of Merit program sponsor. If you have questions or need additional information, feel free to contact Ms. Tonda Finney (Extension 5007) at 434-432-2761.

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Enclosures

C: Dr. Mark Jones, Superintendent