



Beginning with the graduating class of 2000, Pittsylvania County Schools introduced the Graduate of Merit program. This innovative program helps recognize and acknowledge the accomplishments of graduates who exemplify attributes of achievement, proficiency, character and social development demonstrated through commitment to excellence in education.

The Graduate of Merit program, a great school and community partnership recognizing outstanding young people, received acknowledgment from the Governor of Virginia. The program was the recipient of the Horizon Award in September of 2000.

Response to the program has been overwhelming as students pursue the honor and privilege of attaining recognition as a Graduate of Merit. Since its inception in 2000 continuing through 2008, there have been 960 students awarded with the distinction of graduating as a Graduate of Merit.



Partnerships with corporations, small businesses, and civic and church organizations ensure sponsorship for all Graduate of Merit recipients. Interest in providing support to recognize the students' accomplishments can be provided through a nominal sponsorship fee.

Program

- ✧ Graduates who attain a specified point total accumulated during their high school studies qualify as a Pittsylvania County Graduate of Merit.
- ✧ Points are earned throughout the time that the student is enrolled in grades 9-12. Areas evaluated for inclusion extend beyond the academic area to include attainment in other areas perceived to relate to life success.

Objectives

- ✧ To recognize and acknowledge accomplishments of graduates who exemplify attributes of achievement, proficiency, character and social development
- ✧ To provide additional insight into credentials of individuals who demonstrate qualities and traits beyond those of fellow graduates
- ✧ To provide prospective employers with an avenue to evaluate candidates for employment further through this recognition
- ✧ To allow area businesses the opportunity to stress to graduates the need for qualities essential to employment success

Role of the Community

- ✧ The program is sponsored concordantly between the school division and the business and civic community. Each participating business or organization will be recognized as a sponsor of the "Graduate of Merit."



Recognition/ Acknowledgement

- ✧ Each recipient will be honored during a public ceremony/banquet. This event is to be held at the end of the final semester and attended by the students, parents, sponsors and school officials.
- ✧ Permanent notation will be located at the respective schools and businesses.

Components

- ✧ Grade Point Average
- ✧ Total Courses
- ✧ Course Work
- ✧ Attendance
- ✧ Conduct
- ✧ Community Service
- ✧ School Activities



For Further Information Contact

Pittsylvania County Schools

P. O. Box 232

Chatham, VA 24531

<http://www.pcs.k12.va.us/merit/>

Dr. Lillian D. Holland

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Lillian.Holland@pcs.k12.va.us

(434) 432-2761- Ext. 3174

Ms. Tonda F. Brown

Executive Administrative Assistant for Instruction

Tonda.Brown@pcs.k12.va.us

(434) 432-2761 - Ext. 3123

Thank you! 2008 Sponsors

To be recognized as a Graduate of Merit, a student must earn a minimum of **155** points from the following categories

Category / Description	Points
Final Grade Point Average	
10 points per year for attaining a 3.0 average or above	40 points
1 additional point awarded for each tenth of a point cumulative average above 3.0 after final GPA averages have been calculated	variable points
Total Courses	
5 points per year in which a student takes a full complement of credit-bearing courses	20 points
Course Work	
5 points per year in which all courses are passed	20 points
Attendance	
5 points per year with 95% or above attendance average	20 points
1 additional point per each percent above 95% (cumulative four-year average)	5 points
Conduct	
5 points each year absent bus suspensions and/or out-of-school suspensions	20 points
Community Service	
10 points per 25 hours of service	50 points
Activities	
5 points per year in which student participates in four or more activities (participation shall be defined as a member in good standing)	20 points

- ✂ Application must be submitted prior to the end of first semester, senior year.
- ✂ Points must be earned from each category.
- ✂ Community service is defined as volunteer or non-paying activities (home, church and community) performed that are beneficial to both parties.

- 1 Community service would be validated at the end of each 25 hours earned and documented on the form provided.
- 2 Community service hours earned as part of the requirements in other organizations would not be counted towards **Graduate of Merit** certification.

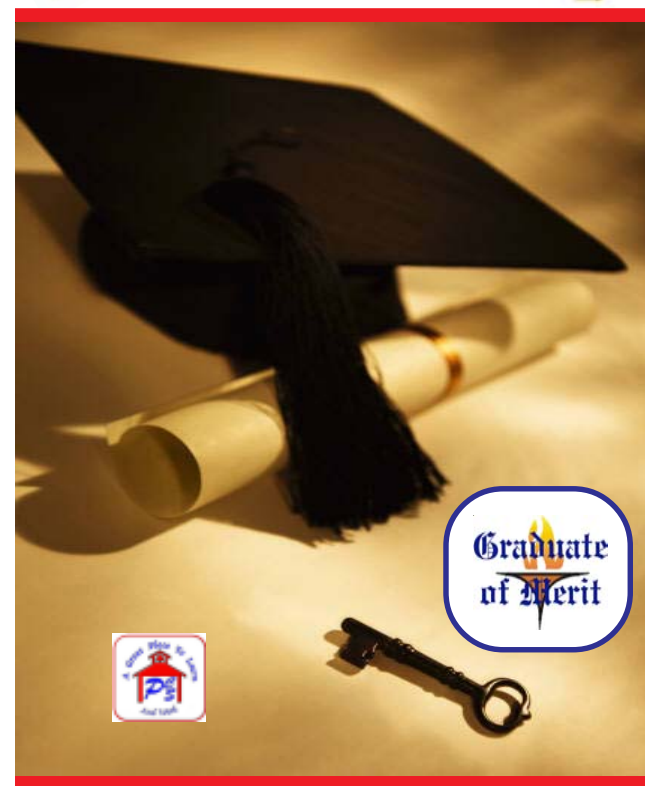
Abercrombie Oil Co.
 Alan Dalton Photography
 Allied Home Mortgage
 Allstate (Thomas & Johnston)
 American Legion Auxillary
 - Dan River Unit 1097
 American National Bank & Trust
 Audiology Hearing Aid Assoc.
 Averett University
 Barkhouser Ford Inc.
 Bethel Baptist Church
 Blair Construction, Inc.
 Bobby Carlsen Photography
 Brosville Animal Clinic
 C & N Storage
 Calloway Construction
 Calvin & Brenna Takata
 Captain Copy
 Centra Health Medical Center - Gretna
 Central Oil of Virginia Corp.
 Chatham Family Medical Center
 Chestnut Level Baptist Church
 Colbert-Moran Funeral Home
 Collie Equipment Co.
 Columbia Forest Products, Inc.
 Compton & Nichols
 Corinth Christian Church
 Corning, Inc.
 Dalton-Yeatts Real Estate
 Danville Area Association for
 Arts and Humanities
 Danville Braves
 Danville Science Center
 Danville/Pittsylvania Co.
 Chamber of Commerce
 Davenport Energy
 David Grimes, Commonwealth
 Attorney
 Dewberry, Inc.
 Dewey B. Deboe, Jr.
 Dorothy Grimes
 Drs. Martha & Barry Cutright
 Dr. Paul & Sheryl Grekos
 DVF Foodservice
 First Baptist Church of Gretna, Virginia
 First Citizens Bank
 Four Seasons Pest Control
 Fraternal Order of Eagles -
 Piedmont Aerie 4420
 Gateway Minute Market
 George Grekos Memorial
 Gethsemane Miss. Baptist Church
 Green Rock - Gethsemane
 Pentecostal Faith Church
 Gretna Junction Lions Club
 Gretna Lions Club
 Harmony United Methodist Church
 Holbrook Enterprises

Hurt-Motley Ruritan Club
 Indianapolis Colts (In Honor
 of Ronald Scott DVM)
 J. W. Squire Co., Inc.
 James River Equipment
 Jean Willis Hundley Mem.
 John & Phyllis Collins
 Keen Street Baptist Church
 Kenneth Scruggs
 Kentuck Baptist Church
 Liberty University
 Majestic Cleaners
 Maude Clement Garden Club
 MPC/Gateway
 Mecklenburg Electric Coop
 Mike & Becky Taylor
 Mt. Olive Miss. Baptist Church
 NAACP Youth Council -
 Pittsylvania Co.
 Napoli's Italian Restaurant
 National College
 Nestle
 Norris Funeral Home
 Pepsi Bottling Group
 Piedmont Glass
 Piney Grove Missionary
 Baptist Church
 Pittsylvania Education Association
 Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center
 R. J. Baldwin Agency, Inc.
 RC RIGHT Group Home
 ReyChem
 Reynolds-Clark Development, Inc.
 Robert Woodwall Chevrolet
 Ronald M. Scott DVM Memorial
 Ross Electric, Inc.
 Sam & Dennia Burton
 Sartomer Co., Inc.
 Senator Robert Hurt
 St. John's UM Church -
 Fisherman's Club
 Taylor Rental Center
 The Butcher's Block
 The Community Foundation
 of the Dan River Region
 The Institute for Advanced
 Learning & Research
 The Laundry Center
 The Optimist Club
 The Wednesday Club
 TRJ Trucking
 Val's Pals Preschool
 Virginia Bank & Trust
 Virginia Trane
 Wilkins & Co.
 Womack Publishing/StarTribune
 Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes
 Wyatt Buick Pontiac Inc.

Our success depends on you!

*Pittsylvania County Schools
 Chatham, Virginia*

GRADUATE OF MERIT



*A great school and community
 partnership recognizing
 outstanding young people*