

## News Release from Dripping Springs ISD



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### For Immediate Release

Sept. 11, 2015

## DSHS SENIORS SELECTED AS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

DRIPPING SPRINGS, Texas—Dripping Springs High School seniors **Aidan Edwards** and **Evan Gabrielsen** have been selected as National Merit semifinalists in the 61st annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Semifinalists represent less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, and were the highest scoring students on the 2014 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. To become a finalist, a student must have an outstanding high school academic record, be recommended by the school principal, and submit SAT scores that confirm his/her earlier qualifying test performance. The index score in the state of Texas (which is how students qualify) was at an all-time high. Finalists will be announced in February 2016.

Aidan competes in the Computer Science event of the UIL academic competition and as a junior advanced to the regional meet. He also participates in the YMCA Youth and Government program where he was honored for "Best Written Bill" and attended the Conference on National Affairs. Aidan currently is working at AccioData in Dripping Springs, where his internship is giving him experience writing computer code. The son of Timothy and Erin Edwards, he plans to major in Computer Science in college, but has not yet committed to a school.

The son of Tom and Penny Gabrielsen, Evan is a member of the varsity cross country and track teams, as well as National Honor Society. He serves as president of the Leo Club (a service organization affiliated with the Lions Clubs International) and also enjoys rock-climbing. He is undecided on a college and major.

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