

**SUMTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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**Press Release**

**From: Casey Ferguson, Supervisor, Career Technical and Adult Education**

**Date: October 5, 2021**

**Subject: Sumter County School District US Presidential Scholar Nominees**

Sumter District Schools is pleased to announce the selection of the district nominees for the US Presidential Academic and CTE Scholar Awards. This prestigious honor is bestowed upon two seniors who excel in either Academics or Workforce preparation studies. One nominee for each category is selected to represent each district high school: South Sumter High School, The Villages Charter High School, and Wildwood Middle High School. This year the district nominee selection committee has chosen the following two students to represent Sumter County in the state-wide competition:

**U.S. Presidential Academic Scholar:**

**Mea Kelley, South Sumter High School, Class of 2022**



**U.S. Presidential CTE Scholar:**

**Harper Fuchs, The Villages Charter High School, CTE Applied Engineering Academy**

Class of 2022



The district would also like to recognize the nominees from each school. These students represent the best of the best in Sumter County! From South Sumter High School the CTE Scholar nominee was Shammayah Gibson. From The Villages Charter High School the Academic Scholar nominee was Marcus Philip Watson. From Wildwood Middle High School the Academic Scholar nominee was Carnyla Williams and the CTE Scholar nominee was Andrea Martinez-Fender.

The 2022 criterion for selection of the nominees was determined by the Federal Commission on Presidential Scholars. Students nominated for the Academic Recognition were chosen based on involvement and service to the community; leadership and character; writing samples; academic achievements; and overcoming personal obstacles or barriers. CTE students were chosen based on academic rigor; technical competence; employability skill attainment; ingenuity and creativity; and training in 5 sectors of the President’s Blueprint. Mr. Shirley, Superintendent of Sumter County Schools offered these words of support for the nominees “Our heartiest congratulations to these two outstanding scholars who will represent their respective schools and our school district so well. Congratulations on this first of many future accomplishments!” If you would like more information regarding this initiative, please contact Casey Ferguson at (352) 793-5719 ext. 54210 or [Casey.Ferguson@sumter.k12.fl.us](mailto:Casey.Ferguson@sumter.k12.fl.us).