



SUMTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2680 West County Road 476
Bushnell, Florida 33513
352-793-2315

Press Release

From: Casey Ferguson, Coordinator, Career Technical and Adult Education
Date: October 23, 2024
Subject: Sumter County School District US Presidential Scholar Nominees

Sumter District Schools is pleased to announce the selection of the district nominees for the 2024-2025 U.S. 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 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:



Sumter U.S. Presidential Academic Scholar:
Jose Carvajal-Beltran
Wildwood Middle High School
Class of 2025



Sumter U.S. Presidential CTE Scholar:
Rebecca Stephens
South Sumter High School
Agriculture CTE Academy
Class of 2025

The district would also like to recognize the nominees from each school. These students represent the best of the best in Sumter County! From Wildwood Middle High School the CTE Scholar nominee is Amber Law. From The Villages High School the Academic Scholar nominee is Caroline Cannon, and Katie Campbell is the CTE Scholar nominee. From South Sumter High School the Academic Scholar nominee is Elizabeth Young.

The Federal Commission on Presidential Scholars determined the 2023-2024 criterion for selection of the nominees. 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. Richard A. Shirley, Superintendent of Sumter County Schools, offered these words of support for the nominees, *“Congratulations go to these two outstanding scholars who will represent their respective schools and our school district so well. I know this will be the first among 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.