

## Raymond Pace Named District's Sunshine State Scholar

2016-2017

Each year, Nassau County School District selects a top 11th grade student for outstanding performance in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to be honored at the 2017 Sunshine State Scholars Program in Orlando, Florida, May 19-20, 2017.

While selecting a scholar this year was extremely difficult as all the candidates were high achieving students and excellent choices, only one student could be selected.

**Raymond Pace** was named the district's top 11th grader and the year's Nassau Sunshine State Scholar for 2016- 2017. Raymond Pace is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Pace, Sr. of Hilliard, Florida. He is an eleventh grade honor student at **West Nassau High School**. Raymond not only has excelled in rigorous STEM courses at WNHS, but also has participated in the University of Central Florida's Hydrogen Fuel Cell Competition and the University of Florida's Junior Science, Engineering, and Humanities Symposium. He is on track to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars Award, having completed over 200 community service hours. His post-secondary plans include attending a four-year university and majoring in Physical Science. He is currently exploring career options in the fields of Physics and Chemistry.

Our scholar, along with his parents and Ms. Karol Siusta, a science teacher who has served as a significant influence for him, will travel to Orlando on May 19-20, 2017, for an extraordinary two-day program honoring the scholars from all school districts.

Founded in 1997, the goal of the Sunshine State Scholars program is to retain intellectual talent in the Sunshine State. In addition to bringing together the scholars from each school district to be honored, representatives from Florida's colleges and universities come to meet with the students and to discuss career and post-secondary opportunities available to them in Florida. The Florida Education Foundation provides this excellent opportunity to assist these scholars in making plans for their future.

Please congratulate **Raymond Allen Pace**, the district's top 11th grader in STEM as the Nassau County Sunshine State Scholar for 2016-2017.



Nassau County School District's Sunshine State Scholar 2017 and Educational Team

Left to Right: Kelly Burnette (Assistant Principal at WNHS, Monica Wright (District Science Resource Teacher), Karol Siusta (Physics Teacher), Dr. Cynthia Grooms (Director Secondary Education), Raymond Pace Sr., Raymond Pace Jr. (Sunshine State Scholar), Dr. Kathy Burns (Superintendent of Schools), Karen Pace, and Curtis Gaus (Principal WNHS).



Top STEM Scholar and Proud Parents

Left to Right: Mr. Raymond Pace, Sr., Raymond Pace, Jr. (Sunshine State Scholar), Mrs. Karen Pace