

Executive Summary: Green Sign Recognition Project Proposal

Meridian CUSD 223 proposes establishing a Green Sign Recognition tradition to celebrate Stillman Valley High School students who earn a first-, second-, or third-place finish at the state level. This recognition will celebrate exceptional student achievement, strengthen community pride, and inspire future SVHS athletes and activity participants.

Background

Coach Matt McMullen recently purchased a green recognition sign honoring the SVHS 4x400-meter relay team that placed third at the IHSA State Finals this past spring. In the past, IDOT provided green highway signs recognizing teams that placed third or higher at state. IDOT has since limited these signs to IHSA State Champions. Coach McMullen located a company that manufactures similar signs and proposed displaying them along Pine Street near the pine trees on district property. Displaying the signs on district property allows Meridian CUSD 223 to publicly recognize these accomplishments without requiring approval from IDOT or the Village.

Recognition Criteria

A green sign may recognize:

- A first-, second-, or third-place finish at an IHSA State Final
- A first-, second-, or third-place finish at another school-sponsored state-level competition
- An individual student, team, or activity group representing SVHS
- An SVHS student participating through a district-approved cooperative program

All qualifying achievements must be earned at the state level.

We understand that former students may have earned similar honors and graduated without receiving this recognition. Although we cannot recreate every past award, recognizing currently enrolled students provides the clearest and most consistent starting point for this new tradition. All future accomplishments meeting the established criteria will be recognized through this practice.

Display and Ownership

Each sign will be:

- Displayed along Pine Street on district property
- Displayed for four years following the qualifying achievement
- Removed after the four-year display period and returned to the associated sport or activity for continued display or preservation
- Purchased through the activity account associated with the recognized sport or activity

Recommendation

The Administration recommends the Board of Education consider the approval of the Green Sign Recognition project. The Green Sign Recognition project will provide a consistent and visible way to celebrate the highest accomplishments of our students while establishing a meaningful new tradition for the entire Cardinal community.