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Two Idaho students named U.S. Presidential Scholars

(BOISE) – A student from Boise High School and one from Moscow High School have been named as Idaho’s Presidential Scholars for 2018, Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra said Tuesday.

“Jack A. Lauer of Boise and Tia T. Vierling of Moscow earned this honor based on their academic achievements and involvement in their school and community,” Superintendent Ybarra said. “I’m proud to have them represent Idaho on the national stage.”

Lauer and Vierling will travel to Washington, D.C., on June 24 to receive their Presidential Scholar medallions.

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced the 54th class of U.S. Presidential Scholars Tuesday, recognizing 161 high school seniors across the country for their accomplishments in academics, the arts and career and technical education fields.

"I want to congratulate this year’s class of Presidential Scholars on their achievement and also thank their parents, teachers and other academic advisors who have helped guide them along the way,” said Secretary DeVos. “These students have pushed themselves to be the best they can be, and I am certain that devotion will serve them well as they continue their individual learning journeys.”

The White House Commission on Presidential Scholars selects one young man and one young woman from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. families living abroad. In addition, 15 scholars are chosen at large, 20 are named Presidential Scholars in the Arts and 20 are named Presidential Scholars in Career and Technical Education.

Of the 3.6 million students expected to graduate from high school this year, more than 5,200 candidates qualified for consideration for the 2018 awards.

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