

## **Press Release**

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## **Pennsbury Students Recognized for Integrity**

(Fallsington, PA) – Congratulations to the Pennsbury-LYFT Character Award winners for April. Emma Dunkerley, Leilani Aikens, Salma Elenany, and Luke Sherratt\* were honored at the Pennsbury School Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, April 21, 2022.

The purpose of the Pennsbury-LYFT Character Award is to recognize and reward students who embody exemplary character traits and behaviors. The character trait for April was *integrity*.

Emma Dunkerley is a fourth-grader at Fallsington Elementary School and was nominated by Jessica Popp, Meagan Mauck, Marta Grothman, Terri Sherman, Debbie Hellmuth, Kristen Cahill and Vinny DePaola. They shared that Emma demonstrates commendable character and integrity on a daily basis. They describe her as a reliable and trustworthy student who is flexible even when an obstacle is put in her path. She is responsible for her actions and always respects those around her. No matter who she might be working with at the time, Emma always chooses to do the right thing regardless of how the other students are behaving, and sets a great example for her group members and the class as a whole.

Leilani Aikens is an eighth-grader at Charles Boehm Middle School and was nominated by all of the eighth grade teachers there. They shared that Leilani shows integrity by standing up for her peers, even when being a bystander would be easier. She is the first to speak up against unkind words on others' behalf. When working on group assignments in class, she holds her peers accountable and ensures that they complete their tasks to the best of their abilities. As an officer in the student council, she supports the ideas of others and does the work required to make those ideas happen. Leilani is a positive leader and a role model for her peers.

Salma Elenany is a ninth-grader at Pennsbury High School and was nominated by Shannon Lynch. Shannon says that Salma is an impressive ninth grader with a moral compass who always completes all of her tasks. She is part of the Junior ROTC program and is the Color Guard Commander for many community service activities. She makes sure other color guard members are prepared, and also leads the unit during events. Salma is responsible for training the new cadets and testing them on the five cadet fundamentals, a responsibility that would typically go to a second year cadet or higher. Salma has installed new processes to help the classes run smoother and, in turn, has instilled discipline and integrity in others.

Luke Sherrat is a fifth-grader at Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School and was nominated by Special Area teachers Brian Doron, Dana Hoffman, Claudia Scaran, and RoseMarie Shire. They shared that Luke is always the first to stand up for what is right in the face of peer pressure. He demonstrates integrity by leading his peers in class and always demonstrates maturity beyond his years. As a school safety, he sets a high bar by always leading younger students safely at dismissal. He is steady and consistent with his character and choices every single day.

Each month, students are nominated by teachers, staff, or administration, and the winners are selected by LYFT and other community partners. LYFT is a group of volunteers, individuals, and organizations throughout the community that shares the common goal of strengthening and supporting Pennsbury students.

\*Luke Sherratt was unable to attend and will be formally honored at the June 16, 2022 School Board meeting.