

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Plano West Senior High School Student Earns Perfect Advanced Placement Exam Score**

#### ***One of only 33 students worldwide***

**PLANO, Texas, Nov. 26, 2013**— Plano West Senior High School graduate Christopher Lancaster earned a perfect score on his AP Exam in spring 2013. He is one of only 33 students in the world to earn every point on the Microeconomics Exam, answering every multiple-choice question correctly and earning the maximum scores on each of the essays in the free-response section of the exam. Christopher took the exam in the spring semester of his senior year.

Advanced Placement Exam scores are reported on a scale of 1 to 5, where a 5 is equivalent to grades of A+ and A in the corresponding college course. Christopher received the top score of 5. In total, 67,682 students took the AP Microeconomics Exam in 2013.

“It is indeed rare that a student achieves this level of excellence. Plano West Senior High School is very pleased and excited to claim Christopher as one of our own,” Principal Kathy King said. “This accomplishment exemplifies Christopher’s high personal expectations and hard work, and is also a tribute to his outstanding Microeconomics teacher, Sally Meek.”

The Advanced Placement Exams are written and scored by college professors from around the world, and are typically designed to cover a full-year of intensive, college-level knowledge and skills, so it is very rare for a high school student to earn every point possible on the exam. Looking across approximately 4 million AP Exams that were taken by 2.2 million students in 2013, in subjects ranging from Art History to Calculus to Physics, a total of 109 students earned every point possible on an AP Exam – a result characterized by the College Board’s AP Program as “an extraordinary academic achievement.”

“I am so grateful for the honor and recognition. I couldn’t have done it without the fantastic culture of academic success that is so core to the nature of Plano West Senior High School,” Christopher Lancaster said. “Also, I want to thank, most graciously, Ms. Meek for her amazing teaching in a discipline that she has made me love so much.”

Last week, Principal King and Ms Meek “FaceTimed” Christopher during Ms. Meek’s APEcoMicro class to announce his perfect score and to celebrate.

“It is an honor to teach outstanding students like Chris Lancaster,” Sally Meek said. “It is exciting to work with these well-prepared and passionate students who are encouraged and supported by Plano West teachers, administrators, counselors and parents. Congratulations Chris!”

The College Board’s Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) provides willing and academically-prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school. In 2013, approximately 4 million exams were taken by 2.2 million students at 18,920 high schools around the world. Students received scores of 3 or higher on 59 percent of these exams, potentially qualifying them for college credit or advanced placement (or both) at colleges and universities worldwide.

### ***About The College Board***

The College Board is a mission-driven not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access to higher education. Today, the membership association is made up of more than 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education. Each year, the College Board helps more than 7 million students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services in college readiness and college success – including the SAT® and the Advanced Placement Program. The organization also serves the education community through research and advocacy on behalf of students, educators and schools.

***About Plano Independent School District***

The Plano Independent School District (Plano ISD) ([www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu)) endeavors to foster the highest level of student learning. The mission of Plano ISD is to provide an excellent education for all students. Plano ISD is located 20 miles north of Dallas, Texas and serves the residents of approximately 100 square miles in southwest Collin County, including 66 square miles in the city of Plano, northern portions of the cities of Dallas and Richardson and parts of the cities of Allen, Parker and Murphy. Plano ISD employs 7,000 faculty and staff members who serve more than 55,000 students in 70 schools and 11 service facilities. Participating in Plano ISD schools enables students to adapt to new learning opportunities throughout their lives, collaborate with, and contribute to, the global community and to be creative and disciplined in their thinking.

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