

Description of Senior Awards and Scholarships 2015

Poskey Scholarship—\$4,000 for 2015 (one-time award)

This 8th annual scholarship is awarded to PHS seniors who demonstrate goals in nursing and/or baseball or softball. Grades, activities, service, and an essay are part of the criteria. The Poskey Foundation sponsors this scholarship.

Tabitha Stanton Scholarship --\$1,000 for 2015 (or \$500 each)

This 6th annual scholarship is awarded to one (or possibly two) PHS seniors who have shown experience as mentors/role models (through an essay) and have plans to continue to do so after graduation. The applicant must also provide proof of postsecondary admissions. The Stanton family sponsors this scholarship in memory of their daughter.

Elizabeth 'Betsy' Lowe Memorial Scholarship--\$500

This 5th annual scholarship is awarded to one (or possibly two) PHS senior who has demonstrated community service either through school or the community. The applicant must also provide proof of community service (through an essay) and indicate plans to attend college after high school. The Lowe/Vertalka families sponsor this scholarship in memory of their daughter.

Potterville PEA Scholarship--\$500

The Potterville Education Association awards this 8th annual scholarship to one PHS senior. The senior must plan on attending a two- or four-year college. Grades and essay may determine the recipient. Preference will be given to applicants who plan to pursue a career in Child Development/Education or in the Human Services Career Pathway.

Potterville Academic Foundation--Gerald & Lala Mae Elliot Scholarship--\$200-250

One PHS senior is awarded this 11th annual scholarship. The senior must have at least a 2.0 GPA and plan on earning a certificate/associate's degree at a community college or trade school. This scholarship is intended for a senior who does not qualify for financial aid via the FAFSA.

Potterville Music Boosters Scholarship--\$500

One-two PHS seniors are awarded this longtime annual scholarship. The seniors must demonstrate commitment to the band and/or choir program for all four years. Preference may be given to applicants who plan to pursue music as a career or plan to continue music-related activities.

Abbey Award-\$500

This longtime athletic scholarship is awarded to one PHS senior who demonstrates excellence in academics and athletics. Leadership may also be a consideration. Dr. Kimm Johnson, PHS Alumnus, sponsors this scholarship.

Sarah M. Jones Memorial Scholarship--\$500

This 13th annual athletic scholarship is awarded to one PHS senior who has participated in athletics and demonstrates excellence in academics, leadership and perseverance. The Jones family sponsors this scholarship in memory of their daughter.

Eaton Federal Savings Bank/Herbert R. Black Memorial Scholarship--\$500

One PHS senior is awarded this longtime annual scholarship, usually given to a senior who is pursuing a business-related career. If there are none, then it will be given to the next best-deserving applicant.

John W. Duris Memorial Scholarship, Charlotte Optimist Club--\$750

The Charlotte Optimist Club awards up to four scholarships each year for Potterville, Maple Valley, and Charlotte seniors. The awardees must have been enrolled in a technical course (such as the EISD Career Center) and show intent to earn an Associate's Degree or to start at a community college prior to transferring to a four-year college. The Optimist Club conducts its own awards program. Potterville has also had past winners who have been dually enrolled students in college technical courses.

Youth Advisory Council American Red Cross Scholarship

The American Red Cross gives one or two scholarships to schools that sponsor three blood drives a year. This award is given to a PHS senior who is a member of Youth Advisory Council and active in organizing and working the blood drives. Underclassmen YAC members and the YAC advisor review the applications, with the underclassmen voting for the top awardees, if necessary.

D.A.R. Good Citizen Award

One senior is selected from each high school in the country to represent the high ideals set forth by the Daughters of the American Revolution for citizenship. The faculty first votes, narrowing it down to the top three. The senior class then votes for their class representative. The nominee may choose to apply for a scholarship. A separate awards program is conducted in March.

MHSAA Scholar Athlete Scholarship-\$1,000

32 scholarships are awarded to Michigan seniors each year through MHSAA. Two PHS seniors won this honor for 2011. Selection is based on athletic participation and honors, activities, and an essay regarding sportsmanship. Winners may be previewed at www.mhsaa.org

Tom Schneider Peacemaker Award

This award is presented annually to a graduating high school senior in the mid-Michigan area who has demonstrated a commitment to a more peaceful world and community. PHS Staff may choose to nominate a senior for this award.

President's Awards for Educational Excellent and Achievement

Excellence--A certificate, pin, and letter is awarded to each senior who has a minimum of a 3.75 GPA and has scored in the 85th percentile or higher in math and/or reading on a recent national standardized test (such as the ACT). The certificate and letter are signed by the President of the United States.

Achievement—The same award is given to specific seniors who have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA but do not meet the testing requirements for the Excellence award (or vice versa); students who have done well in high school sometimes are rewarded because of obstacles they have faced or because of their consistent, good work.

College Scholarships--\$500-\$15,000 per year

Scholarships provided by the colleges themselves are based on various criteria, most often the 6th or 7th semester GPA and ACT scores. Some are awarded automatically when the student applies to the college. Others require a separate application, and even others require attending a scholarship competition. All college scholarships are described online and often in their application packets.

Michigan Competitive Scholarship—amount varies

Seniors who scored at least a 23 composite on the ACT by December of their senior year are recognized as Semifinalists for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship. Seniors must then apply for financial aid (using the FAFSA); if financial need is determined the MCS may be part of their financial aid package. Not all students who are semifinalists qualify for the money.

Vomberg Scholarship, the Vomberg Foundation—amount varies

Seniors who are willing to work while in college and maintain their grades may apply for this scholarship. Financial need is the primary consideration. Students are granted a first interview and may also be called back for a second interview.