

The Blanchard and Sweeney Medals: Established in 2022

To be read by the Superintendent of Schools when presenting these medals:

In December 2021, two exceptional leaders retired from their positions as Hanover's Police Chief and Fire Chief. Police Chief Walter Sweeney Jr. and Fire Chief Jeffrey Blanchard dedicated their professional lives to protect and serve our community with integrity, honor, courage, and loyalty to the citizens of Hanover. Each of them served their respective departments for over 40 years, and culminated their careers as Chief for over a decade. Chief Sweeney and Chief Blanchard demonstrated unwavering commitment to the Hanover Public Schools and the safety and academic success of our students. They believed in the empowerment and opportunity that education affords children of all abilities, and the essential role of public schools to support our democracy and the freedom our nation provides to each of us. To celebrate the legacy of these legendary community leaders, the Hanover Public Schools bestows these medals annually as our most prestigious awards for character, service, and leadership.

Jeffrey R. Blanchard Medal for Honorable Service

The Jeffrey R. Blanchard Medal for Honorable Service is awarded annually to a Hanover High School senior who has demonstrated selfless and exceptional service to their classmates, our schools, and our community throughout their years at Hanover High School. The recipient of this medal is a student recognized by their classmates and teachers for their integrity, empathy, innovation, ability to inspire others to serve our community, and a commitment to the values of the Hanover Public Schools.

Walter L. Sweeney Jr. Medal for Distinguished Leadership

The Walter L. Sweeney Jr. Medal for Distinguished Leadership is awarded annually to a Hanover High School senior who has demonstrated courageous and distinguished leadership throughout their years at Hanover High School. The recipient of this medal is a student recognized by their classmates and teachers for their resilience, exceptional effort to inspire others, selflessness, courage to lead in the face of adversity, and a commitment to the values of the Hanover Public Schools.

Process for Selection:

Candidates for these medals will be nominated annually by faculty members and submitted to the Principal who will confer with the HHS Leadership Team and Guidance Department to select the recipients. The recipients will be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools who will bestow the honors during the senior awards ceremony.