

## **DIPLOMA WITH DISTINCTION**

The Diploma with Distinction is awarded to graduating seniors who have achieved, with conscientious work and personal integrity, four of the following six criteria listed below:

- Attained either a 31 Composite Score on the ACT or a 1380 Combined Critical Reading/Math Score on the SAT. Students in the Classes of 2018 and 2019 must also have attained the advanced level on the Science Connecticut Academic Performance Test.
- Earned during the first six semesters of high school an overall weighted grade point average of 3.3 or better.
- Qualified for the marking period Honor Roll six times during the first six semesters (i.e., the first 12 marking periods) of high school.
- Received a score of five (i.e., commendable level) or higher on the Junior Writing Portfolio.
- Received a cumulative score of four (i.e., outstanding level) or higher in the Summer Reading Record Program. (This criterion requires participation in the Summer Reading Record Program as a rising senior.)
- Completed a four-year Pathways sequence consisting of career research, job shadowing, extended internship or community service, and the acceptance of a Senior Passage proposal, achieving advanced status in each.

The Diploma with Distinction is presented to qualified, graduating seniors at the annual Commencement Exercises of Joel Barlow High School. The diploma not only recognizes the exceptional academic achievements of the recipients, but also commends the recipients for their personal integrity in all aspects of scholarship. Any acts of cheating, plagiarism, and other commissions of unethical acts by students to present or to falsely promote their academic work, including co-curricular performance, disqualifies the students from such distinction.

Students who have met the criteria for Diploma with Distinction by October 1<sup>st</sup> of senior year will receive official notification that they have qualified for this distinction. This notification will be mailed to all post-secondary institutions to which the students have applied. However, the notification will be revoked and post-secondary institutions will be notified of this revocation if disqualification for the diploma occurs anytime during the remainder of the senior year.