

Woodstock Community Unit School District 200

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Woodstock North 2019 grad named Golden Apple Scholar

A 2019 Woodstock North High School graduate has been selected as an Illinois Golden Apple Scholar based on her high school performance and her desire to pursue a career in education.

Jourden Reis, 18, of Wonder Lake, will be eligible for up to \$23,000 in tuition and assistance, receive paid summer internships, gain classroom teaching experience and get job placement assistance after college. Reis will attend Illinois State University in the fall.

In exchange for the award, Golden Apple Scholars agree to commit to teaching for five years in an Illinois school of need following graduation.

“It’s no surprise that she was chosen,” said Jennifer Rooney, family and consumer sciences teacher at Woodstock North. “Jourden was a two-season athlete her first two years and then began focusing on basketball where she became team captain in her final year. She was a great leader on the court and beyond the court.”

The National Honor Society and French Honor Society member spent two years working as a pre-school teacher in WNHS’s Early Education Program and spent significant time interning in teacher Regan Maltese’s first-grade classroom at Greenwood Elementary School.

“She has accomplished all of this in the classroom and on the court while working not only one, but for a time two part-time jobs, and maintaining a GPA over 4.0,” Rooney said.

Reis said Maltese was a great mentor and taught her many skills. She said she’s looking forward to her education and career.

“I’ve always known that whatever career I decided to pursue in the future, it was going to have to be something with helping others and giving back to society. Then I thought, ‘What could be better than influencing the little minds of our world?’” Reis said.

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