

GWIB Senior Appointed to US Military Academy



Cristian Mendoza-Espinosa has been appointed to the US Military Academy at West Point, NY, with a nomination from US Congresswoman (and IB parent) Diana DeGette. Cristian reports to "Beast Barracks," the historic induction process, on June 27th of this year. Four years later he will be commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the US Army with an initial service obligation of 5 years.

Cristian says, "I am deeply honored by the appointment to the US Military Academy as it is one of my dreams to attend West Point. As a first generation American, this country has given my family and me a tremendous amount. It took us in, gave my family a chance to rise economically, and gave me an opportunity to obtain a great education. With so much given, I believe I have a duty to repay this country, and I cannot think of a better way to repay than to enter the US Military Academy and become a leader in the US Army. Besides repaying my country, I want to add to the diversity of the US Army officer corps.

Cristian serves as the Cadet Battalion Commander for the 6th JROTC battalion at GWHS. He played varsity lacrosse prior to become the cadet leader. Most recently he capped 4 years of competitive rifle marksmanship by placing 4th in the Colorado State Rifle Championships in December, while leading his team to 3rd place overall. Among many other activities during 4 years at GWHS, Cristian has been a member of Math, Chemistry and Model UN clubs.

At the same time, Cristian has met the academic demands of the IB program with distinction and has been named a 2010 National Hispanic Scholar by scoring in the top 2.5% of eligible Latino students who took the PSAT in October 2009.

Congratulations, Cristian!

Sections of this item appeared in an announcement posted on January 28, 2011, on the DPS website.