

News Release

Education Information Services ■ 125 South Webster Street ■ P.O. Box 7841 ■ Madison, WI 53707-7841 ■ (608) 266-3559

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI-NR 2009-48

Tuesday, October 27, 2009

Contact: Patrick Gasper, DPI Communications Officer, (608) 266-3559

Evers commends 83 Exemplary Middle Schools

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers commended 83 middle schools for being named an Exemplary Middle School in Wisconsin based on student academic achievement.

“Middle school is a pivotal time for our students. They need a school environment that nourishes their phenomenal intellectual capacity while supporting their emotional growth and increasing independence,” Evers said. “Recognizing schools that have demonstrated success with students helps build strong academic expectations at the middle level.”

The Exemplary Middle School program, sponsored by the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators (AWSA) and Department of Public Instruction, is in its third year. The program recognizes middle schools with high growth in reading or math scores in the past school year; reading or math scores in the top 10 percent in the past year; or high growth in scores in reading or math for schools with a high poverty population.

“The Exemplary Middle School recognition program spotlights schools that are doing an exceptional job of preparing our students for the future,” said Jim Lynch, AWSA executive director. “The exemplary middle schools recognized by this award have set and met high standards. We will be looking to these schools for their ‘best practices’ in providing both a rigorous curriculum and the learning culture in which students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally during the middle school years.”

Instituted through AWSA’s Middle Level Commission, the Exemplary Middle School recognition program reviewed academic achievement records for 306 eligible schools based on grade-level configuration. Of those schools, 83 received certificates indicating their status as Exemplary Middle Schools. These schools are eligible for the 2009-10 Wisconsin Middle School of Excellence Awards, which will be presented at the Middle Level Commission Conference in Appleton on February 18, 2010. Applications for the award will be judged on collaborative leadership and professional learning communities; personalization and the school environment; and curriculum, instruction, and assessment in the schools.

###

NOTES: A list of the schools and their principals receiving Exemplary Middle School honors follows. This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpinr2009_48.pdf.

2009-10 Exemplary Middle Schools

Albany Middle School
Principal Traci Davis

Bayside Middle School (Fox Point J2)
Principal Don Galster

Benjamin Franklin Junior High School (Stevens Point Area)
Principal Connie Negaard

Birchwood Middle School
Principal Jeff Stanley

Bonduel Middle School
Principal Connie Rutledge

Brillion Middle School
Principal Ann Hatch

Campbellsport Junior High School
Principal Kristen Langer

Cedar Grove-Belgium Middle School
Principal Jeanne L. Courmeene

Central Middle School (Hartford J1)
Principal Wayne Thuecks

Chetek Middle School
Principal Bryan D. Yenter

Chilton Middle School
Principal Scott Fritz

Clayton School
Principal Albert Kanipes

Clear Lake Jr. High School
Principal Chris Petersen

Clintonville Middle School
Principal Tom Dechant

Cudahy Middle School
Principal Michael Carolan

Cumberland Middle School
Principal Jim Sciacca

De Forest Area Middle School
Principal Paul Herrick

De Pere Middle School
Principal Tammy Woulf

De Soto Middle School
Principal Martin Kirchoff

Deerfield Middle School
Principal Jeffrey Stenroos

Einstein Middle School (Appleton Area)
Principal David Boden

Ellsworth Community Middle School
Principal Steve Broton

Forest Park Middle School (Franklin Public)
Principal Matthew Lesar

Galesville-Ettrick-Trempealeau Middle School
Principal Paul Uhren

Glacier Creek Middle School (Middleton-Cross Plains)
Principal Tim Keeler

Greendale Middle School
Principal John Weiss

Horace Mann Middle School (Sheboygan Area)
Principal Vicki Ritchie

Hudson Middle School
Principal Dan Koch

John Long Middle School (Grafton)
Principal Greg Kabara

Kennedy Middle School (Germantown)
Principal Steven Bold

Kettle Moraine Middle School
Principal David Carr

La Farge School District
Principal Shawn Donovan

Lake Denoon Middle School (Muskego-Norway)
Principal Ryan Oertel

Lake Geneva Middle School
Principals Joe Lynch and Anne Heck

Lake Shore Middle School (Mequon-Thiensville)
Principal Carolyn J. Wilson

Little Chute Middle School
Principal Lori Van Handel

Lodi Middle School
Principal David Dyb

Lomira Middle School
Principal Robert Lloyd

Luxemburg-Casco Middle School
Principal Michael Snowberry

Menomonie Indian Middle School
Principal Stephanie Feldner

Mishicot Middle School
Principal Tom Ellenbecker

Mount Horeb Middle School
Principal Jeffrey Rasmussen

North Shore Middle School (Hartland-Lakeside J3)
Principal Michele Schmidt

Oak Creek East Middle School
Principal Peter DeRubeis

Oak Creek West Middle School
Principal Donald Kreuser

Oakfield Middle School
Principal Paul Dix

Olson Middle School (Mauston)
Principal Tom Reisenauer

Omro Middle School
Principal Paul Williams

Onalaska Middle School
Principal Roger Fruit

Oostburg Middle School
Principal Steve Harder

Paideia Academy (Kenosha)
Principal Ellen Becker

Parkview Jr. High School
Principal Tracy Elger

Pilgrim Park Middle School (Elmbrook)
Principal Mike Sereno

Pioneer-Westfield Middle School
Principal Julia Ferris

Potosi School
Principal Terry Mengel

Poynette Middle School
Principal Brian Sutton

Riverdale Middle School
Principal Sharon H. Ennis

Rosholt Middle School
Principal James Grygleski

Saint Croix Falls Middle School
Principal Kathy Willow

Sevastopol Jr. High School
Principal Adam Baier

Shawano Community Middle School
Principal Daniel Labby

Shullsburg School District
Principal Loras Kruser

Slinger Middle School
Principal Dean Goneau

Spring Valley Middle School
Principal Gretchen Cipriano

Steffen Middle School (Mequon-Thiensville)
Principal Deborah L. Anderson

Stockbridge Middle School
Principal Chad Marx

Templeton Middle School (Hamilton-Sussex)
Principal Patricia S. Polczynski

Traeger Middle School (Oshkosh Area)
Principal Jeanne Koepke

Unity Middle School
Principal Elizabeth Jorgensen

Urban Middle School (Sheboygan Area)
Principal Susan Nennig

Van Brunt Middle School (Horicon)
Principal Aaron Olson

Walden III Middle School (Racine)
Principal Bob Holzem

Walker Middle School (Sturgeon Bay)
Principal Randy Watermolen

Waukegan Middle School
Principal Shelley Weiss

Waupun Area Middle School
Principal Steven Bass

Wausaukee Jr. High School
Principal Jan Dooley

Webb Middle School (Reedsburg)
Principal Casey Campbell

Webster Transitional School (Cedarburg)
Principal Robert W. Klimpke

Webster Stanley Middle School (Oshkosh Area)
Principal Marceline Peters-Felice

Weyauwega Middle School
Principal Scott Bleck

Whitefish Bay Middle School
Principal Lisa Gies

Wisconsin Hills Middle School
Principal Robyn A. Martino

Wrightstown Middle School
Principal Steve Gromala