



For Immediate Release
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345 Georgia Schools Awarded for Outstanding Achievement

ATLANTA- The Office of Student Achievement and the Georgia Department of Education announced today that 345 Georgia public schools are being recognized for improvement and achievement during the 2009-2010 school year. The schools are being recognized under Georgia's Single Statewide Accountability System (SSAS), which awards schools based on their performance on state curriculum exams and Adequate Yearly Progress status.

"Congratulations to the principals, teachers, parents, and students at these schools," said Kathleen Mathers, Executive Director of the Office of Student Achievement. "This is one way to say 'great job' to these school communities that have stayed focused and committed to helping children learn and achieve at high levels."

The awards are being announced as part of the release of the state's Annual K-12 Public Schools Report Card.

"The students and staff at these schools are to be commended for this significant achievement," said State School Superintendent Brad Bryant. "These high levels of achievement and improvement don't happen unless everyone is focused on the goal of providing a world-class education to every student."

About the SSAS Awards

The schools are awarded on four levels -- Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze -- in two categories (click [here](#) for more detailed award criteria):

- *Greatest Gains*: Schools that showed the greatest improvement in scores on the Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) or the Georgia High School Graduation Tests (GHSGT)

- *Highest Performance*: Schools that demonstrated the highest achievement on the CRCT or GHSGT

17 schools earned the unique distinction this year of being recognized for both Greatest Gains and Highest Performance:

- Bremen High School, Bremen City Schools
- Buford Elementary School, Buford City Schools

- Decatur High School, Decatur City Schools
- DeKalb School of the Arts, DeKalb County Schools
- Early College Academy of Columbus, Muscogee County Schools
- Early College High School at Carver, Atlanta Public Schools
- Glenwood Primary School, Floyd County Schools
- Greenbrier Middle School, Columbia County Schools
- Houston County Career and Technology Center, Houston County Schools
- Jefferson High School, Jefferson City Schools
- Lumpkin High School, Lumpkin County Schools
- Mabry Middle School, Cobb County Schools
- Miller County High School, Miller County Schools
- Mirror Lake Elementary School, Douglas County Schools
- Rabun Gap Community School, Rabun County Schools
- Riverwood International Charter School, Fulton County Schools
- School of the Arts at Carver, Atlanta Public Schools

About the State Education Report Card

The Report Card, which features the SSAS awards, was developed by the Office of Student Achievement and provides bottom-line data for Georgia's preschools, K-12 schools, colleges and universities, technical colleges, and educator licensing and accreditation. It includes school, system, and state level reports organized into seven major sections: Accountability, Georgia Tests, National Tests, Indicators, Student and School Demographics, Personnel and Fiscal, and Comparisons.

The Office of Student Achievement provides accountability reporting for all of Georgia's education system from preschool through college to drive improvement in student achievement and school completion. To learn more about the agency, including the SSAS awards, please visit www.gaosa.org.

Please reference the attached documents for a complete list of 2009-2010 SSAS award winners.

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