



NEWS RELEASE

Waterford School District, 1150 Scott Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328

Riverside Elementary School Named Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School

March 23, 2009 Waterford, Mich. – Riverside Elementary School in Waterford has been selected as Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary Schools by the Michigan Department of Education. The Blue Ribbon, the most prestigious education award in the state, distinguishes Riverside Elementary School for its excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement, parent involvement, and community support.

Superintendent Robert Neu said this award represents a great honor for the students, staff, and parents of Riverside Elementary School. “It’s a powerful validation of the hard work, commitment, and focus on quality and continuous improvement at Riverside Elementary School,” Neu said

Schools selected for recognition prepared an extensive written nomination package representing a thorough self-evaluation. The process involved assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the school and developing improvement plans for the future. When evaluating nominations, the Department of Education looks for overall school quality, including challenging standards and curriculum, excellent teaching, ongoing professional development by teachers and staff members, a safe and supportive school environment, family and community partnerships that contribute to school quality, and high or improving student performance on measures of achievement.

Riverside Elementary School was one of 22 schools selected this year for this award. Established in 1982, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program celebrates elementary and secondary schools, in alternate years, and has evolved to place a strong emphasis on school improvement.

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