



The Center for Educational Effectiveness

---

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**September 23, 2009**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**104 “Great Schools” in Washington State Recognized as Highest Improving  
in Reading and Math**

One-hundred and four Washington State schools will be honored for being amongst the 5% highest improving Washington schools in Reading and Mathematics over the last 5 school years.

“Recognition of the dedication and perseverance it takes to sustain improvement over multiple years is an essential component of supporting our educational system”, said Sue Mills, Executive Director at the Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE), a Redmond-based educational research and data-service organization.

The 104 “Great Schools 2009” will be recognized for their sustained improvement at a Schools of Distinction luncheon on Sept. 26, at the *Great Schools and Exemplary Leaders Institute* sponsored by Phi Delta Kappa International (PDK)-Washington State and is being held at the Renton campus of City University.

In 2007 and 2008, this recognition was known as the "State Superintendent's Schools of Distinction-Learning Improvement Award." For 2009, sponsorship for this school-level, learning improvement award, now known as the "Great Schools Award" is through the Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) and the Washington Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International (PDK-WA). The same methodology used to determine the Schools of Distinction award in 2007 and 2008 is being used to determine the “Great Schools” award for 2009.

“The award winners represent the diversity of Washington State” said Greg Lobdell, Director of Research for CEE. “All nine educational regions of the state are represented—from Aberdeen to Yakima and Almira to Wilbur—with everything in between. The diversity continues with district size; Seattle and Tacoma as large districts, Yakima and Pasco as medium districts, and Sultan and Sedro-Woolley as smaller districts. Students in these schools range between 2.7% and 100% poverty and 0% to 48.6% English language learners”.

*Additional details on the award winners can be found on the follow pages.*

**Contact: Sue Mills, Executive Director**  
**Greg Lobdell, Director of Research**  
**Center for Educational Effectiveness**  
2249 152<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE  
Redmond, WA 98053  
425-283-0384

## Great Schools-2009: By the Numbers:

### **By Level:**

- Elementary Schools: 55 Schools
- Middle Schools / Jr. High Schools: 25 Schools
- High Schools: 24 Schools

### **By Region:**

Educational Service District	Area Served	Number of Award-winning Schools
ESD101	Spokane & NE Washington	14
ESD105	Yakima Valley	4
ESD112	Vancouver & SW Washington	9
ESD113	Olympia and Southern Olympic Peninsula	6
ESD114	Bremerton and Northern Olympic Peninsula	5
ESD121	Puget Sound	33
ESD123	Tri-cities and SE Washington	6
ESD171	Wenatchee & North Central Washington	12
ESD189	North Puget Sound and Islands	15

### **By Size:**

- Largest School: Ferndale High School (1,648 students)
- Smallest School: Northport High School (70 students)

### **Repeat Winners (winners at least 2 of the 3 years- see list next page):**

- Elementary Schools: 16 repeat winners out of 55 Schools
- Middle Schools / Jr. High Schools: 10 Repeat winners out of 25 Schools
- High Schools: 9 Repeat winners out of 24 Schools

### **Three-Time Winners:**

Cape Flattery	Clallam Bay Elementary
Yakima	Nob Hill Elementary School
Puyallup	Fruitland Elementary
Puyallup	Warren Hunt Elem
Lake Washington	Alcott Elementary
Cascade	Icicle River Middle School

### **Poverty Range (percent of students eligible for Free/Reduced price meal programs):**

- Poverty ranges from 2.7% to 100%
- 49 of the 104 schools are above the state average for poverty (40.3%)

### **English Language Learners Served:**

- Percent of ELL students served ranges from 0% to 48.6% of student population
- State average for ELL percentage is 8.0%. 23 award winners serve a percentage higher than the state average.

## Great Schools 2009

### ESD 101: Spokane

Almira	Almira Elementary
<i>Central Valley</i>	<i>Liberty Lake Elementary*</i>
<i>Colville</i>	<i>Colville Senior High *</i>
<i>Curlew</i>	<i>Curlew Elem &amp; High *</i>
East Valley (Spokane)	Otis Orchards Elementary
Endicott	Endicott/St John Middle
Freeman	Freeman High
Liberty	Liberty High
<i>Northport</i>	<i>Northport High *</i>
Odessa	P C Jantz Elementary
Ritzville	Ritzville Elementary
Spokane	Longfellow Elementary
Valley	Valley
Wilbur	Wilbur Elementary

### ESD 105: Yakima Valley

Kittitas	Kittitas High
West Valley (Yakima)	Wide Hollow Elementary
<b>Yakima</b>	<b>Nob Hill Elementary **</b>
<i>Yakima</i>	<i>Ridgeview Elementary*</i>

### ESD 112: Vancouver & SW Washington

Battle Ground	Cam Jr Sr High
Camas	Skyridge Mid
Kalama	Kalama Elem
Longview	Columbia Heights Elementary
Lyle	Lyle High
<i>Naselle-Grays River</i>	<i>Naselle Jr High*</i>
Toutle Lake	Toutle Lake High
Washougal	Cape Horn Skye Elementary
White Salmon Valley	Columbia High

### ESD 113: Olympia & Southern Olympic Peninsula

Aberdeen	Central Park Elementary
Montesano	Montesano Senior High
<i>North Thurston</i>	<i>Lacey Elementary*</i>
Onalaska	Onalaska High
Taholah	Taholah Elementary
Taholah	Taholah Middle

### ESD 114: Bremerton & Northern Olympic Peninsula

Bremerton	Crownhill Elementary
<b>Cape Flattery</b>	<b>Clallam Bay Elementary**</b>
Port Angeles	Dry Creek Elementary
Port Angeles	Lincoln High
Quilcene	Quilcene High

### ESD 121: Puget Sound

<i>Bainbridge Island</i>	<i>Eagle Harbor High *</i>
Bellevue	Puesta del Sol Elementary
Bethel	North Star Elementary
Clover Park	Hudtloff Middle
<i>Enumclaw</i>	<i>Southwood Elementary *</i>
Franklin Pierce	Central Avenue Elementary
Highline	Hazel Valley Elementary
Issaquah	Sunny Hills Elementary
<i>Kent</i>	<i>Kent Mountain View Academy*</i>
<b>Lake Washington</b>	<b>Alcott Elementary**</b>
Lake Washington	Rush Elementary
Northshore	Lockwood Elementary

Northshore	Secondary Academy for Success
Peninsula	Purdy Elementary
<i>Peninsula</i>	<i>Kopachuck Middle *</i>
Puyallup	Edward Zeiger Elem
<b>Puyallup</b>	<b>Fruitland Elementary**</b>
<b>Puyallup</b>	<b>Warren Hunt Elem**</b>
Puyallup	Kalles Junior High
<i>Riverview</i>	<i>Cherry Valley Elementary *</i>
<i>Seattle</i>	<i>Catharine Blaine K-8*</i>
Seattle	Daniel Bagley Elementary
Seattle	John Stanford International Elementary
Seattle	Orca Elementary
Seattle	South Shore Elementary
Seattle	Thornton Creek Elementary
Seattle	View Ridge Elementary
Seattle	AS #1 (Pinehurst) K-8
<i>Seattle</i>	<i>Madison Middle *</i>
Seattle	Mercer Middle
<i>Steilacoom Hist.</i>	<i>Pioneer Middle*</i>
<i>Tacoma</i>	<i>Skyline*</i>
White River	Wickersham Of Discovery

### ESD 123: Tri-cities & SE Washington

College Place	John Sager Middle
Kennewick	Lincoln Elementary
Othello	Scootney Springs Elementary
Othello	McFarland Junior High
Pasco	James McGee Elementary
<i>Waitsburg</i>	<i>Waitsburg High *</i>

### ESD 171: Wenatchee & North Central Washington

<i>Cascade</i>	<i>Osborn Elementary*</i>
<b>Cascade</b>	<b>Icicle River Middle **</b>
<i>Cascade</i>	<i>Cascade High *</i>
<i>Cashmere</i>	<i>Vale Elementary *</i>
Coulee-Hartline	Almira Coulee Hartline High
Eastmont	Grant Elementary
Eastmont	Robert E Lee Elementary
<i>Eastmont</i>	<i>Rock Island Elementary*</i>
<i>Lake Chelan</i>	<i>Chelan High *</i>
<i>Methow Valley</i>	<i>Liberty Bell Jr Sr High*</i>
<i>Quincy</i>	<i>Quincy High *</i>
Wenatchee	Orchard Middle

### ESD 189: North Puget Sound and Islands

Arlington	Kent Prairie Elementary
<i>Arlington</i>	<i>Post Middle *</i>
Arlington	Stillaguamish
<i>Bellingham</i>	<i>Columbia Elementary *</i>
<i>Bellingham</i>	<i>Bellingham High *</i>
Burlington-Edison	Edison Elementary
Conway	Conway
Edmonds	Lynnwood High
<i>Everett</i>	<i>Gateway Middle *</i>
<i>Ferndale</i>	<i>Ferndale High *</i>
Lake Stevens	North Lake Middle
Mount Baker	Mount Baker Senior High
Mukilteo	Mukilteo Elementary
Sedro-Woolley	Big Lake Elementary
Sultan	Gold Bar Elementary

*Italics\** : Repeat Winner

*Italics \*\** : **Three-Time Winner**