

Five Schools Recognized as Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools

Each will receive \$5,000-\$10,000 for efforts in student performance and closing the achievement gap

OLYMPIA (December 4, 2012) — Five schools in Washington have been recognized as Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools. The awards are given to schools that have exceptional student performance or that have demonstrated that they are closing the achievement gap between student groups.

“These schools are doing great work,” said Randy Dorn, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. “Despite challenging circumstances, they are doing whatever it takes to meet the needs of their students.”

National Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools will each receive \$10,000, plus additional money to send four people to the 2013 National Title I Conference in Nashville, Tenn., January 21–24, 2013:

- **Columbia Ridge Elementary** (K–4), Ephrata School District
Scott Monson, Principal
Exceptional student performance for two or more years — Reading
- **Lake Forest Park Elementary** (K–6), Shoreline School District
Aimee Miner, Principal
Closing the achievement gap between student groups — Mathematics

State Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools will each receive \$5,000, plus additional money to send three people to the 2013 National Title I Conference:

- **Burley-Glenwood Elementary** (K–6), South Kitsap School District
Darek Grant, Principal
Closing the achievement gap between student groups — Reading
- **Madison Elementary** (PK–5), Olympia School District
Gayle Mar-Chun, Principal
Exceptional student performance for two or more years — Reading
- **Neah Bay Elementary** (K–5), Cape Flattery School District
Alice Murner, Principal
Exceptional student performance for two or more years — Mathematics

The Title I, Part A Distinguished Awards program began in 1996 to honor Title I, Part A schools for achieving high educational standards. The program is a joint project of the [National Title I Association](#) (NASTID) and the [U.S. Department of Education](#).

Every year, states select two National Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools; one that exhibits exceptional Student performance for two or more consecutive years, and one that is closing the achievement gap between student groups. Washington state also recognizes additional schools for the State Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools Award.

The award-winning schools were determined using the following criteria:

1. Teaching and learning based on the state-approved curriculum.
2. Use of research-based instructional strategies.
3. Opportunities provided for all students to achieve.
4. Coordination of Title I program with other programs.
5. Implementation of sustained research-based professional development.
6. Established partnerships with parents, families, and the community.

Title I refers to the first chapter of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. It is a series of federal laws that provide financial assistance to states and school districts to meet the needs of educationally at-risk students. [Section 1117\(b\)\(2\)](#) describes the Title I Distinguished School Award.

For more information

- [Title I, Part A – A Parent’s Guide](#)
(www.k12.wa.us/TitleI/TitleI/ParentsGuide.aspx)
- [Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program](#)
(www.k12.wa.us/EducationAwards/DistinguishedSchools)
- [Title I, Part A of ESEA](#)
(www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/ese_a02/pg2.html)

About OSPI

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is the primary agency charged with overseeing K–12 education in Washington state. Led by State School Superintendent Randy Dorn, OSPI works with the state’s 295 school districts and nine educational service districts to administer basic education programs and implement education reform on behalf of more than one million public school students.

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