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Board of Education Announces 2019 Exemplar Performance School Awards

RICHMOND, Va. — The state Board of Education today recognized 235 schools for high student achievement or continuous improvement under the board's new exemplar performance school recognition program.

The board approved the criteria for the new awards in April 2018. The exemplar performance school recognition program is aligned with the Board of Education's revised accreditation standards and replaces the Virginia Index of Performance recognition program.

"The exemplar performance awards criteria are designed to complement the commonwealth's recently revised accreditation standards and help school divisions focus resources where they are most needed to ensure that all children are receiving a high-quality education," Board of Education President Daniel A. Gecker said. "The awards recognize schools that are exceeding state accreditation standards and schools that are making continuous improvement in improving outcomes for students and in narrowing achievement gaps."

The recognized schools include 52 schools that earned the Board of Education Highest Achievement Award and 183 schools that earned the Board of Education Continuous Improvement Award.

"I congratulate the principals, teachers, support staff and students of all of these schools for the academic successes and hard work these awards represent," Superintendent of Public Instruction James Lane said. "I am especially pleased to see schools that went unrecognized under the previous awards program receive the recognition they deserve for consistent gains in academic achievement and successful efforts to reduce absenteeism and dropout rates."

2019 Board of Education Highest Achievement Award

To earn the Board of Education Highest Achievement Award, a school must earn a state accreditation rating of Accredited, and meet the following benchmarks:

- 70-percent pass rate on state assessments in science and mathematics;
- 75-percent pass rate on state assessment in English reading and writing;
- No more than a five-percent gap (for schools with two student groups) or a 10-percent gap (for schools with three or more student groups) in English reading and writing between the lowest-performing group and all other students in the school; and
- No more than a five-percent gap (for schools with two student groups) or a 10-percent gap (for schools with three or more student groups) in mathematics between the lowest-performing group and all other students in the school.

The schools earning the Board of Education Highest Achievement Award are as follows:

- Albemarle County — Virginia L. Murray Elementary
- Alexandria City — James K. Polk Elementary and Patrick Henry Elementary
- Arlington County — Tuckahoe Elementary

(more)

- Augusta County — Riverheads High
- Bath County — Millboro Elementary
- Chesterfield County — Bellwood Elementary
- Fairfax County — Forestville Elementary, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology and Wolftrap Elementary
- Henrico County — Colonial Trail Elementary, Nuckols Farm Elementary, Rivers Edge Elementary, Sandston Elementary and Twin Hickory Elementary
- Lee County — Elk Knob Elementary
- Loudoun County — Hillsboro Charter Academy, Legacy Elementary and Waterford Elementary
- Montgomery County — Gilbert Linkous Elementary
- Newport News City — Deer Park Elementary and General Stanford Elementary
- Northumberland County — Northumberland Elementary
- Patrick County — Blue Ridge Elementary and Patrick Springs Elementary
- Prince William County — Bel Air Elementary, C.A. Sinclair Elementary and Minnieville Elementary
- Richmond — Open High
- Roanoke County — Bonsack Elementary, Burlington Elementary and Green Valley Elementary
- Rockbridge County — Mountain View Elementary and Linville-Edom Elementary
- Russell County — Belfast Elk Garden Elementary and Honaker Elementary
- Scott County — Yuma Elementary
- Smyth County — Rich Valley Elementary and Sugar Grove Elementary
- Surry County — Surry Elementary
- Virginia Beach — Bayside Elementary, Christopher Farms Elementary, Corporate Landing Elementary, Green Run Collegiate, Kingston Elementary, Malibu Elementary, Old Donation School, Rosemont Elementary and Shelton Park Elementary
- Winchester — John Kerr Elementary
- Wythe County — Rural Retreat Elementary
- York County — Mount Vernon Elementary

2019 Board of Education Continuous Improvement Award

To earn the Board of Education Continuous Achievement Award, a school must earn a state accreditation rating of Accredited or Accredited with Conditions and meet at least one of the following benchmarks for improved performance on accreditation-related school quality indicators:

- A cumulative 10-point increase over three years in the combined rates for reading and mathematics and in the pass rate for science, with improvement each year on each indicator:
- A cumulative 10-point increase over three years in the combined rates for reading and mathematics for two or more student groups, with improvement each year for each group on both indicators;
- A cumulative 15-percent decrease in the chronic absenteeism rate over three years, with a decrease each year; or
- For schools with a graduating class, a cumulative four-point increase in the Graduation and Completion Index over three years, with an increase each year, and a cumulative 15-percent decrease in the dropout rate, with a decrease each year

The 183 schools earning the Board of Education Continuous Improvement Award are as follows:

- Accomack County — Pungoteague Elementary
- Albemarle County — Albemarle County Community Public Charter and Western Albemarle High
- Alexandria — Francis C. Hammond Middle and George Washington Middle
- Amherst County — Amherst County High
- Arlington County — Abingdon Elementary, Arlington Community High, Arlington Science Focus School and Hoffman-Boston Elementary
- Augusta County — Edward G. Clymore Elementary and Stuarts Draft High

(more)

- Bath County — Valley Elementary
- Bland County — Bland County High
- Botetourt County — Central Academy Middle, Eagle Rock Elementary and James River High
- Brunswick County — Brunswick High and James S. Russell Middle
- Buchanan County — Grundy High
- Buckingham County — Buckingham Co Elementary
- Buena Vista — Enderly Heights Elementary and Parry McCluer High
- Campbell County — William Campbell High
- Carroll County — Fancy Gap Elementary, Hillsville Elementary and St. Paul School
- Charlottesville — Charlottesville High and Walker Upper Elementary
- Chesapeake — Butts Road Primary, Edwin W. Chittum Elementary, George W. Carver Intermediate, Grassfield Elementary, Grassfield High, Hickory High, Hickory Middle, Hugo A. Owens Middle, Oscar F. Smith High, Western Branch Middle and Western Branch Primary
- Clarke County — Clarke County High and Johnson-Williams Middle
- Colonial Beach — Colonial Beach Elementary
- Craig County — Craig County High
- Cumberland County — Cumberland High
- Dickenson County — Clintwood Elementary
- Essex County — Essex High
- Fairfax County — Bailey's Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences, Bryant High, Centreville High, Edison High, Fairfax County Adult High, Frost Middle, Herndon High. Hutchison Elementary, Justice High, Kilmer Center, Kings Park Elementary, Lake Braddock Secondary, London Towne Elementary, Madison High, Mountain View High and Stenwood Elementary
- Falls Church — George Mason High
- Fauquier County — W.G. Coleman Elementary
- Floyd County — Check Elementary
- Floyd County — Floyd County High
- Floyd County — Floyd Elementary
- Frederick County — Apple Pie Ridge Elementary
- Galax — Galax Elementary and Galax High
- Giles County — Giles High and Narrows High
- Gloucester County — Abingdon Elementary, Achilles Elementary and Petsworth Elementary
- Grayson County — Fairview Elementary and Grayson Highlands
- Greenville County — Greenville County High
- Hampton — Cesar Tarrant Middle and Luther W. Machen Elementary
- Hanover County — Cold Harbor Elementary, Elmont Elementary, Henry Clay Elementary, Pole Green Elementary and South Anna Elementary
- Harrisonburg — Harrisonburg High and Spotswood Elementary
- Henrico County — Jackson Davis Elementary and Montrose Elementary
- Henry County — Magna Vista High
- Highland County — Highland Elementary
- Isle of Wight County — Smithfield High
- King and Queen County — Central High
- Loudoun County — Briar Woods High and Stone Hill Middle
- Louisa County — Louisa County Middle
- Madison County — Waverly Yowell Elementary
- Martinsville — Martinsville High and Martinsville Middle
- Montgomery County — Christiansburg Primary and Eastern Montgomery Elementary
- Nelson County — Tye River Elementary
- New Kent County — New Kent Elementary and New Kent Middle

(more)

- Newport News — David A. Dutrow Elementary, Denbigh High, Discovery STEM Academy and T. Ryland Sanford Elementary
- Norfolk — Academy for Discovery at Lakewood, Coleman Place Elementary, Crossroads Elementary, Larchmont Elementary, Mary Calcott Elementary School, Southside STEM Academy at Campostella, St. Helena Elementary, Suburban Park Elementary, Walter Herron Taylor Elementary and Willard Model Elementary
- Northumberland County — Northumberland High
- Orange County — Lightfoot Elementary, Locust Grove Elementary and Locust Grove Middle
- Page County — Luray Elementary and Springfield Elementary
- Patrick County — Hardin Reynolds Elementary
- Pittsylvania County — Mount Airy Elementary and Union Hall Elementary
- Powhatan County — Flat Rock Elementary, Pocahontas Elementary, Powhatan Elementary and Powhatan Middle
- Prince George County — William A. Walton Elementary
- Prince William County — Bristow Run Elementary, Leesylvania Elementary and Springwoods Elementary
- Radford — Belle Heth Elementary
- Rappahannock County — Rappahannock County High
- Richmond — Albert Hill Middle, Binford Middle, John Marshall High and Richmond Community High
- Roanoke — Crystal Spring Elementary, Highland Park Elementary, Patrick Henry High and Westside Elementary
- Roanoke County — Glenvar High, Hidden Valley High, Mountain View Elementary and Oak Grove Elementary
- Rockingham County — Broadway High, John C. Myers Elementary and McGaheysville Elementary
- Russell County — Castlewood Elementary, Honaker High and Swords Creek Elementary
- Scott County — Rye Cove High and Shoemaker Elementary
- Smyth County — Northwood High
- Spotsylvania County — Courtland Elementary, Robert E. Lee Elementary, Spotsylvania High and Spotsylvania Middle
- Stafford County — Andrew G. Wright Middle, Kate Waller Barrett Elementary, Rodney E. Thompson Middle and Shirley C. Heim Middle
- Suffolk — King's Fork High
- Sussex County — Sussex Central Middle
- Virginia Beach — Alanton Elementary, Frank W. Cox High, Green Run High, Hermitage Elementary, Landstown High and North Landing Elementary
- Washington County — Valley Institute Elementary
- Waynesboro — Kate Collins Middle and Westwood Hills Elementary
- Westmoreland County — Washington and Lee High
- Williamsburg-James City County — Lafayette High
- Wythe County — Scott Memorial Middle
- York County — Bruton High and Queens Lake Middle

Board of Education Innovative Practice Award

This fall, the Virginia Department of Education will solicit applications from schools and school divisions for the Board of Education Innovative Practice Award. The awards will be announced in the spring of 2020 and will recognize innovative practices implemented for at least two full academic years in the areas of instruction, administration, technology, family and student health, learning environment and teacher retention.

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