



For Immediate Release

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JACKSON ELEMENTARY ADDS PLATINUM TO ITS STERLING REPUTATION.

Atlanta, GA: Warren T. Jackson Elementary School, a Georgia School of Excellence, has received Platinum designation from the Governor’s Office for the school’s exceptional student performance on the statewide CRCT exams conducted last spring. This top honor, as part of the 2008 Single Statewide Accountability System (SSAS) awards, was the only of its kind bestowed upon any Atlanta-area public school, and Jackson joins just 18 other schools in Georgia to earn Platinum-level recognition. Neighboring elementary schools Morris Brandon ranked gold, while Sarah Smith ranked silver.

Since the Governor’s Office began conducting these awards, Jackson has consistently earned additional platinum, gold and silver rankings. “Around here, Platinum means two things,” beamed Dr. Lorraine Reich, principal. “Pride and...Privileges! Our PTA is planning a week-long Recognition Week including things like No Homework Day and Longer Recess Day to celebrate this amazing achievement, and to recognize the diligent studying, preparation and dedication of all our students and teachers.”

Jackson’s CRCT Recognition Week also includes such things as a “Smarties” candy pack to each child, personally presented by the principal and vice-principal; a student “metal” of honor (platinum-colored sticker badge) commemorating this award; carpool sticker pass of the school’s motto, Now Your Thinking, by PTA volunteers; a Teacher Coffee provided by Caribou Coffee; and plenty of banners and balloons at each Jackson campus.

To be determined a Platinum achiever, a school must meet three criteria:

- Make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for three consecutive years;
- Demonstrate that at least 35% of students exceeds standards in all test areas as measured by state assessments; and
- Demonstrate that at least 98% of students meets or exceeds standards as measured by state assessments.

Overall, Jackson Elementary topped the list of 26 other public schools in Atlanta, and 275 across Georgia, that the state recognized for their performances on standardized curriculum tests and progress under the No Child Left Behind Act. Along with being a Georgia School of Excellence, Jackson Elementary has earned recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School and an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School.

***Warren T. Jackson Elementary School**, a member of the Atlanta Public Schools System, has earned recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School, a Georgia School of Excellence, and an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School. Located in the Buckhead section of Atlanta, Jackson Elementary focuses on a progressive balance of top-tier academics together with advancing a child's character education. Through a variety of programs and events (often philanthropic and ecological in nature), Jackson students are encouraged to become inquirers both in the classroom and in the world at large. For more information, visit www.wtjackson.org.*