

Local Schools



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Richland Earns Gold Star School Award

JULY 07TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Essex, Missouri - Richland High School is one of only eight schools in the state of Missouri to earn the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE's) 2016 Gold Star School Award.

Missouri's Gold Star Schools program was established by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in 1991 and is designed to identify schools that are performing at a high level academically or making exceptional progress.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools program and the Missouri Gold Star Schools program utilize the same criteria for nomination. In order to recommend a school to the Commissioner of Education as a Missouri Gold Star School, the school must meet the nomination criteria outlined by the U.S. Department of Education for the National Blue Ribbon Schools program, complete the National Blue Ribbon Schools application and the U.S. Department of Education must accept the schools National Blue Ribbon Schools application.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools whose students achieve at very high levels or schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program sets a standard of excellence for all schools striving for the highest level of achievement.

Missouri may nominate up to eight (8) schools for the national Blue Ribbon Award. One-third of the schools (3) must be identified as disadvantaged schools. To be nominated,

schools must have at least 100 students enrolled. In addition, nominated schools must have assessment data for at least 10 students in each tested grade for both English language arts (ELA) and mathematics.

Richland is the only school in southeast Missouri and the only high school recipient. Other schools include Adrian Elementary, Chapel Hill Elementary in North Kansas City, Fairway Elementary in the Rockwood District, Harry S. Truman in Webb City, James E. Freer Elementary in the Windsor School District, Lucy Franklin Elementary in Blue Springs and William Yates Elementary in Blue Springs.

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