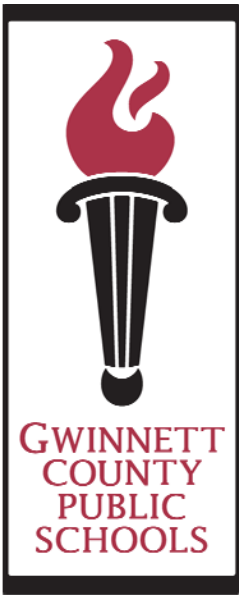


NEWS RELEASE



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**THE MISSION OF
GWINNETT COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
*is to pursue excellence
in academic knowledge,
skills, and behavior
for each student,
resulting in measured
improvement against
local, national, and
world-class standards.*

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It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools
not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex,
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any
employment practice, educational program, or any
other program, activity, or service.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 19, 2008

Contact: Communication and Media Relations, 678-301-6020

23 Gwinnett schools recognized for outstanding performance with state awards

The Governor's Office of Student Achievement, in collaboration with the Governor's Office and the Georgia Department of Education, has honored **Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS)** with 25 awards to 23 of its schools for academic achievement and improvement efforts during the 2007-08 school year. The recognition is part of the Single Statewide Accountability System (SSAS), which recognizes Georgia schools for their continuous improvement in raising student achievement and closing achievement gaps on state curriculum tests and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status.

The state recognizes schools in two categories: 1) Highest Performance, indicating the percentage of students meeting and exceeding academic standards; and 2) Greatest Gains, indicating the greatest gains in the percentage of students meeting and exceeding academic standards. In each category, the state recognizes four school award levels: Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

The 23 GCPS schools are among just 279 schools recognized statewide, with two Gwinnett schools, out of only eight in the state, earning awards in both categories: **Fort Daniel Elementary** and **Dacula High**.

"We are very proud to have such a large number of schools to be recognized for outstanding performance by the Governor's Office and Department of Education," says **Dr. Steve Flynt**, chief academic officer for GCPS. "This recognition is a testament to our district's teachers, and leaders, for their focus on teaching and learning, as well as their dedication to challenging all students to high levels of achievement."

This year's award winning Gwinnett schools are:

Greatest Gain

Schools that showed the greatest improvement in the state Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT) at the elementary and middle levels, or the Georgia High School Graduation Tests (GHSGT) taken by juniors at the high school level

Platinum

Fort Daniel Elementary
Pinckneyville Middle
Dacula High

Silver

Beaver Ridge Elementary

--More--

Highest Performance

Schools that demonstrated the highest achievement on the CRCT at the elementary and middle school levels, or the GHSGT at the high school level.

Platinum

Simpson Elementary

Gold

Camp Creek Elementary
Duncan Creek Elementary
Brookwood High

Silver

Brookwood Elementary
R.D. Head Elementary
Riverside Elementary
Suwanee Elementary
Alton C. Crews Middle
Mill Creek High

Bronze

Fort Daniel Elementary
Freeman's Mill Elementary
Level Creek Elementary
Parsons Elementary
Frank N. Osborne Middle
Collins Hill High
Dacula High
Grayson High
Gwinnett School of Mathematics,
Science, and Technology*
North Gwinnett High
Parkview High

**Recognition for this school was based on State End of Course Tests. The school served only 9th graders in 2007-08.*

These 23 award-winning schools will receive certificates and banners from the state, based on the school's profile.

For more information regarding the SSAS, contact the Governor's Office of Student Achievement at (404) 463-1150 or visit www.gaosa.org