

News Release

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Two schools, one district nominated for Green Ribbon Awards

MADISON — Two Wisconsin public schools and one school district will be considered for awards from the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools program.

The awards program recognizes schools and districts that act to reduce their environmental impact and costs, improve health and wellness, and provide effective environmental and sustainability education. Wisconsin’s 2017 nominees are **Houlton Elementary School**, Hudson School District, and **Kromrey Middle School**, Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District. In addition, **Washburn School District** was nominated for a District Sustainability Award.

Wisconsin has had 15 public schools, one private school, and four public school districts receive national awards since the program’s inception in 2012. Wisconsin’s Green Ribbon Award recipients are among 295 schools and 47 school districts and 25 postsecondary institutions that have been recognized nationwide.

“Meeting the requirements to be considered a Green Ribbon school means taking a hard look at day-to-day practices to make improvements,” said State Superintendent Tony Evers. “The

‘green teams’ in these schools are a collaborative group that includes parents and students, the food service and transportation director, student services staff members, and faculty and custodial staff members, all working together to move the school and community toward a healthier, more ecological and sustainable future.”

The online application required extensive data collection and reporting about the school’s facility, its health and safety policies, food service, and environmental and sustainability curriculum and assessment. Each application is

U.S. Department of Education
Green Ribbon Schools
 Wisconsin Honorees

2016

Glen Hills Middle School
 Granton Area School District
 West Middleton Elementary School

2015

Colby Elementary School
 Columbus Elementary-Discovery Charter School
 Lake Mills Elementary School
 Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District

2014

Conserve School, Land O’ Lakes
 Greendale School District
 Hurley K-12 School
 Park Elementary School, Cross Plains
 Tomorrow River Community Charter School, Amherst Junction

2013

Fort Atkinson School District
 Jefferson Elementary-Fox River Academy, Appleton
 Racine Montessori School
 Summit Environmental School, La Crosse
 Westlawn Elementary School, Cedarburg

2012

Dimensions of Learning Academy, Kenosha
 Middleton High School
 Purdy Elementary School, Fort Atkinson

(more)

reviewed by two state-level teams of education consultants and content experts. Reviewers considered the applicant's demonstrated progress in nine areas: community involvement, energy, environmental health, environmental education, health and wellness, recycling and waste management, school site, transportation, and water.

At the federal level, applications for the Green Ribbon Schools program from each participating state will be reviewed to determine if the nominees: 1) meet all of the eligibility requirements; 2) comply with all applicable federal civil rights and federal, state, local and tribal health, environment and safety statutory and regulatory requirements; and 3) meet high college- and career-ready academic standards. Winners will be announced on April 24.

Each of the nominees will also receive Green & Healthy Schools Wisconsin "Sugar Maple" certification and be recognized nationally through Project Learning Tree's "Green Schools" program and the National Wildlife Federation's "Eco-Schools USA" program.

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MORE INFORMATION:

Department of Public Instruction

Green Ribbon School Nominations: <http://dpi.wi.gov/environmental-ed/green-ribbon-schools>

Green Ribbon Past State Recipients: <http://dpi.wi.gov/environmental-ed/green-ribbon-schools/honorees>

Green & Healthy Schools Wisconsin: <http://dpi.wi.gov/environmental-ed/green-healthy-schools>

Video "Doing Sustainability in Any School": <https://youtu.be/ppZihXmONCQ>

National Wildlife Federation

Eco-Schools USA: <http://www.nwf.org/eco-schools-usa.aspx>

Project Learning Tree

Green Schools: <http://www.plt.org/greenschools>

U.S. Department of Education

ED Green Ribbon Schools Program: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>

NOTE: This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2017_18.pdf.