

What's Working in Florida's Schools: Knowledge and Excellence Yields Success (K.E.Y.S)

On May 19, 2009, the Florida Department of Education and the State Board of Education honor fourteen Distinguished Title I Schools, one school for excellence in science, and one for excellence in the arts. The success stories of these schools are phenomenal.

Nine Title I schools exceeded state standards for making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for five years, attained a school grade of "A" in both the 2006-07 and 2007-08 school years, and have more than 68% economically disadvantaged students:

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| Rock Lake Elementary | Orange |
| James S. Hunt Elementary | Broward |
| North Twin Lakes Elementary | Miami-Dade |
| EWB Stirrup Elementary | Miami-Dade |
| Mater Academy East Charter | Miami-Dade |
| Muller Elementary Magnet | Hillsborough |
| Twin Lakes Elementary | Miami-Dade |
| Southside Elementary | Miami-Dade |
| Mater Academy | Miami-Dade |

Five Title I schools significantly closed the achievement gap for two or more years, made AYP two consecutive years, and in 2006-07 and 2007-08 earned a school grade of "A" with more than 57% economically disadvantaged students:

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| Temple Terrace Elementary | Hillsborough |
| Boulevard Heights Elementary | Broward |
| Eastside Elementary | Polk |
| Lehigh Elementary | Lee |
| Mayport Elementary | Duval |

Terrace Community Middle School is recognized for exemplary achievement in science. Seventh and eighth grade students conducted an environmental survey and interpretive conservative project in Tampa Bay. An NCLB Blue Ribbon school, they have been graded "A" for six years with more than 80% of students scoring proficient in science.

Rochelle School of the Arts has excelled in the arts and maintained AYP in addition to their "A" status. As a Music Demonstration K-8 school in Polk County, they have performed at Walt Disney World, the Kennedy Center, Detroit Tiger's Fan Fest, and earned superior ratings.

Congratulations to each of these outstanding schools that represent rigor, high standards, and educational excellence in Florida.