

MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDS



"Coming into your school, you get a sensation of knowledge," said Dr. Gerald Zahorchak, Pennsylvania secretary of education. "Looking at your faces — all of them with so much promise — it's like heaven."
~North Journal, June 6, 2007

Pine-Richland Middle School Named 'School to Watch'

Pine-Richland Middle School (PRMS) is one of only three Pennsylvania middle schools to be named "Schools to Watch" as part of a recognition program developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform.

State leaders based its selection criteria on many factors including the following:

- > Academic Excellence
- > Responsiveness to the Needs & Interests of Young Adolescents
- > Commitment to Helping All Students Achieve at High Levels
- > Strong Leadership Team
- > Teachers Who Work Together to Improve Curriculum & Instruction
- > Commitment to Assessment & Accountability to Bring About Continuous Improvement

The PA Don Eichhorn School: "Schools to Watch" Team visited the school. Members observed classrooms, interviewed administrators, teachers and parents and looked at achievement data, quality of lessons and student work.

Dr. Kathleen Harrington, PRMS principal, said the selection committee described PRMS as an "exciting, electric environment for learning inspired by a hardworking staff".

While PRMS is only one of three PA schools chosen in 2007 for the middle school award, it is only one of 34 in the US.

PRMS Students Earn Awards

Art Awards

The PA Middle School Association State Conference highlighted artwork by Kayleigh Jackson, Courtney Jones, Pat Kline, Christine Lamendola, William Lazar, Austin Lent, Lucas Lyerly, Noel Martin, Ashley Profozich, Carla Steppan, Robert Stephens and Lauren Sundo in Harrisburg, PA during March 2007.

Geography, History, Math, Science & Technology Awards

- > Elizabeth Beatty (first), Ben Tilley (second), Nicholas Kappeler (third) and Justin Frye (fourth) earned top awards in the American Statistical Association's national poster competition.
- > Maggie Burris earned third place in the junior consumer science division at the 68th Annual Pittsburgh Regional Science & Engineering Fair held at Heinz Field March 30 and 31, 2007 and has been nominated to compete in the Discovery Channel Young Scientist Challenge in October of 2007. In addition, Burris earned a US Naval Science medal. Her project investigated the effect radio frequencies have on materials. Tyler Baratka and Alyssa Lazar participated in the regional event.
- > Cameron Barnes, Cole Gessner, Nigel Halliday and Ben Zerbe took first place in the Science Bowl Jan. 9, 2007 at the Carnegie Science Center.
- > Cameron Barnes took first place, Eric Zelina took second place and Stephen Cohen took third place in the PRMS Geography Bee.