

News Release

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Wisconsin is tops again in federal Green Ribbon Schools program

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers congratulated four schools and one school district from Wisconsin which earned Green Ribbon Awards from the U.S. Department of Education. For the second year in a row, more winners in the program come from Wisconsin than any other state.

“Congratulations to our Green Ribbon Schools,” Evers said. “Any school that earns this designation has worked hard over the long haul to find sustainable ways of improving environmental impacts, monetary costs, and the health of students and staff.”

The four Wisconsin awardees are among only 48 schools recognized nationwide:

- **Park Elementary** (Cross Plains), Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District
- **Tomorrow River Community Charter School** (Amherst Junction), Tomorrow River School District
- **Hurley K-12 School**, Hurley School District
- **Conserve School** (Land O’ Lakes)

Additionally, the **Greendale School District** was among only nine nationwide to receive the program’s District Sustainability Award.

The winners will be invited to recognition and professional development events in Wisconsin and Washington, D.C., this summer and fall.

The federal Green Ribbon program recognizes schools and districts for achieving the often-intertwined goals of saving energy, reducing costs, fostering health and wellness, and providing effective environmental and sustainability education which incorporates STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), civic skills, and green career pathways.

Wisconsin’s honorees were nominated by the Department of Public Instruction after attaining the highest level of achievement in the state’s Green and Healthy Schools program. Green and Healthy Schools Wisconsin,

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offered through a partnership between the departments of Public Instruction and Natural Resources, along with the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education, supports and recognizes schools for such goals as reducing environmental impacts and costs, improving health and wellness of students and staff, and providing environmental education.

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NOTE: More information about the federal Green Ribbon Schools program, including links to the nominations for each winner, is available at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/awards.html>. This news release is available electronically at http://news.dpi.wi.gov/files/eis/pdf/dpinr2014_56.pdf.