



**Dr. John D. Barge, State School Superintendent**  
*"Making Education Work for All Georgians"*

## **2012 Georgia Schools of Excellence Named**

**Aug. 13, 2013** -- State School Superintendent Dr. John Barge today named the 2012 Georgia Schools of Excellence in Student Achievement, honoring 28 schools that have shown the highest performance or highest progress across the state. Each of these schools will receive a \$1,000 check from Georgia Natural Gas to be used however they wish. United Healthcare is also a sponsor for the 2012 Schools of Excellence program.

"These schools are the epitome of excellence," said Superintendent Barge. "It took us a while to name the 2012 Schools of Excellence, but we wanted to measure them based on our College and Career Ready Performance Index rather than the old measure. With our new, more rigorous accountability system, these schools really shine. Their focus on areas that impact student success is evident across the board. I offer my congratulations to our 2012 Georgia Schools of Excellence and my appreciation to Georgia Natural Gas and United Healthcare for continued support of our schools."

Superintendent Barge will travel to three Schools of Excellence this week and will visit others throughout the year.

The Georgia Schools of Excellence are chosen from each Congressional District in the following categories (full criteria attached below):

### **Highest Performance:**

Highest Performing schools represent the top performance schools within each Congressional District on the College and Career-Ready Performance Index.

### **Highest Progress:**

Highest Progress schools represent the school making the greatest gains within each Congressional District on the College and Career-Ready Performance Index.

## **2012 GEORGIA SCHOOLS OF EXCELLENCE**

### **Highest Performance Congressional District, School, System**

1. Esther F. Garrison School of Visual and Performing Arts, Chatham County
2. J. S. Pate Elementary, Crisp County
3. Centralhatchee Elementary, Heard County
4. R.D. Head Elementary, Gwinnett County
5. Oakhurst Elementary, Decatur City
6. Hembree Springs Elementary, Fulton County
7. Harris Elementary, Gwinnett County
8. Quail Run Elementary, Houston County
9. Towns County Middle, Towns County
10. Mulberry Elementary, Gwinnett County
11. Marietta Center for Advanced Academics, Marietta City
12. A.R. Johnson Health Science and Engineering Magnet, Richmond County
13. Elite Scholars Academy, Clayton County
14. Jones Elementary, Bremen City

### **Highest Progress Congressional District, School, System**

1. Center Elementary, Ware County
2. John Johnson Elementary, Decatur County
3. McIntosh High, Fayette County
4. DeKalb Early College Academy, DeKalb County
5. Kipp Strive Academy, Atlanta Public Schools
6. Garrison Mill Elementary, Cobb County
7. Big Creek Elementary, Forsyth County
8. Centerville Elementary, Houston County
9. World Language Academy, Hall County
10. Frank N. Osborne Middle, Gwinnett County
11. Kennesaw Charter, Cobb County
12. Broxton-Mary Hayes Elementary, Coffee County

13. King Springs Elementary, Cobb County

14. Trion Elementary, Trion City

**MORE INFORMATION:**

Schools of Excellence Criteria

Visit [www.TrueBlueSchools.com](http://www.TrueBlueSchools.com) to continue to strive for excellence for your school – the TrueBlue Way.

## 2012 School of Excellence Selection Criteria

The selection of Georgia Schools of Excellence is divided into two (2) recognition categories: 1) Highest Performing and 2) Highest Progress. Each Congressional District is afforded the opportunity to possess one (1) school from each of the recognition categories so long as they meet the criteria for eligibility.

### **Criteria for Eligibility:**

#### ***Highest Performance:***

Highest Performing schools represent the top performance schools, within each Congressional District, on the new College and Career-Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). In particular, the school with the highest **Overall** CCRPI school is awarded the recognition so long as they meet the following criteria:

- Have not been awarded the Highest Performing School of Excellence award, based on the CCRPI, during the past five years.
- The Overall CCRPI Score is greater than 90.0.
- They are not currently identified as a Priority, Focus, or Alert school.

In the event two or more schools possess the same score, the school with the highest Progress Score will be awarded the recognition. If schools remain tied after the Progress Score, the school with the highest Achievement Gap closure will be selected.

#### ***Highest Progress:***

Highest Progress schools represent the school making the greatest gains, within each Congressional District, on the new CCRPI. In particular, the school with the highest **Progress** CCRPI score is awarded the recognition so long as they meet the following criteria:

- Have not been awarded the Highest Performing School of Excellence award, based on the CCRPI, during the past five year.
- The Progress CCRPI Score is greater than 11.5.
- They are not currently identified as a Priority, Focus, or Alert school.

In the event two or more schools possess the same score, the school with the highest Overall Score will be awarded the recognition. If schools remain tied after the Overall Score, the school with the highest Achievement Gap closure will be selected.