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**Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition**

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**The Background:**

The *Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program* is a project of the National Association of State Title I Directors. It provides an opportunity for Title I schools from every state to be publicly recognized for positive educational achievements.

The purpose of the Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program is to identify schools that are ensuring that all children have access to effective instructional strategies and challenging academic content; and that are demonstrating success in ensuring that all children, particularly educationally deprived children, make significant progress toward learning that content.

Each state may select two schools for national recognition; a maximum of one from each of the following categories:

- Category 1: School that has exceeded its adequate yearly progress for two or more years NCLB, Section 1117(b)(1)(B)(ii); and,
- Category 2: School that has significantly closed the achievement gap between students groups NLCB, Section 1117(b)(1)(B)(i).

Selected schools must have a poverty rate of at least 35% for the selected year and meet these two criteria:

- Demonstrated high academic achievement for two or more consecutive years; and;
- Met or exceeded state standards for making adequate yearly progress (AYP) for two or more consecutive years.

Four schools in Tennessee have been recognized as Title I Distinguished Schools for 2011-2012, two national awardees and two state awardees.

***National Title I Closing the Achievement Gap Between Student Groups***

David Crockett Elementary School  
Lawrence County School  
Anne L. Ray, Principal  
2301 Waynesboro Highway  
Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

***National Title I Exceptional Student Achievement***

Fairmont Elementary  
Johnson City Schools  
Carol McGill, Principal  
1405 Lester Harris Road  
Johnson City, TN 37601

***State Title I Closing the Achievement Gap Between Student Groups***

Michigan Avenue Elementary  
Bradley County Schools  
Robert Brittingham, Principal  
188 Michigan Avenue Road  
Cleveland, TN 37312

***State Title I Exceptional Student Achievement***

John P. Freeman Optional School  
Memphis City Schools  
Monica C. Smith, Principal  
5250 Tulane Road  
Memphis, TN 38109

**The Master Plan Connection:**

This item supports the Board's *Master Plan* by providing access to a high-quality curriculum in schools with academically at-risk students to reach proficiency on state content standards as measured by state academic assessments.

It supports quality teaching since these schools are unique and share common characteristics of dedicated staff, effective community, and parental engagement as well as excellent district and school leadership.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends acknowledgment of these schools for their dedication to student achievement across Tennessee. The National Title I Schools were recognized at the National Title I Conference in Tampa, FL. in January 2011.