



Illinois State Board of Education

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Jesse H. Rulz
Chairman

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

February 2009

Adrienne Merritt, Principal
Meadowview School
Country Club Hills SD 160
4701 W 179th St
Country Club Hill, IL 60478

Re: Spotlight Schools Award – 2008 Illinois Honor Roll School

Dear Principal:

Congratulations! Your school has been selected as by the Illinois State Board of Education as a 2008 Spotlight School.

On behalf of the State Board of Education, I commend you and your staff for the hard work and effort that allows your students to succeed academically. As you well know, the Spotlight award recognizes a high poverty school where academic performance is closing the achievement gap. Your school is one of 499 Spotlight Schools located in urban, suburban and rural areas earning honors this year.

The criteria for selecting Spotlight Schools in 2008 are rigorous:

- At least half the students are from low-income families in 2008.
- At least 60 percent of students must have met or exceeded standards in both reading and mathematics in 2008.
- At least 50 percent of students met or exceeded standards in both reading and mathematics in the two previous years; 2007 and 2006.
- Schools must have made Adequate Yearly Progress in the two previous years as required by No Child Left Behind, which in 2008, meant the following:
 - at least 62.5 percent meeting and exceeding standards in both reading and mathematics;
 - 95 percent participation rate in state assessments for all students in each subgroup
 - attendance rate of at least 90 percent for elementary and middle schools and graduation rate of at least 75 percent for high schools.

Enclosed you will find a certificate commemorating this award.

At <http://www.ilhonorroll.niu.edu>, you can learn more about the Illinois Honor Roll, which includes three categories of awards – Spotlight Schools, Academic Improvement, and Academic Excellence. At this website, you will find a page devoted to your school and a customized logo for your use. Also, you will find the criteria for the awards and a full list of award winners.

We encourage you to celebrate your success and share the good news with students, parents and all community partners. Again, I extend my sincere congratulations and very best wishes for continuing success.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

Enclosure

cc: Dr Earline Scott, Superintendent
Country Club Hills SD 160