

DR. JENNIFER NORRELL, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Administrative Center 310 Seminary Ave. Aurora, IL 60505 d131.org | (630) 299-5554 | info@d131.org

<u>For Immediate Release</u> October 27, 2022

ALL EAST AURORA D131 SCHOOLS EARN COMMENDABLE or EXEMPLARY on Illinois State Board of Education Summative Designations

Aurora, IL—It is a day of celebration in East Aurora School District 131 as history has been made, yet again! The U. S. Department of Education — Every School Succeeds Act requires states to assign a summative designation to schools. Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has four summative designations: Exemplary, Commendable, Targeted and Comprehensive. East Aurora District Schools have all been assigned the TOP TWO designations from ISBE.

Fred Rodgers Magnet Academy received the highest designation of Exemplary; performing within the top 10 percent of schools in the State of Illinois with no underperforming subgroups. Four more of our schools ascended a level in designation category ratings, while all other schools were able to maintain their Commendable ratings! With substantial growth leading to increases in graduation rate, freshman on track rates, it is no surprise that East Aurora High School moved from Targeted to Commendable. Cowherd Middle School moved from Targeted to Commendable, Waldo Middle School beginning 2017-2018 was assigned the comprehensive designation which then moved to the targeted category and in 2022 achieved Commendable Designation, and Allen Elementary School moved from Targeted to Commendable.

Bardwell, Beaupre, Benavides STEAM Academy, Brady, Dieterich, Gates, Hermes, Johnson, Krug, O'Donnell, Oak Park, Rollins, and Simmons Middle School maintained their Commendable Designation.

This is a result of the tremendous efforts of the students, staff, and families of East Aurora. These students have demonstrated success in English and Math growth and English language proficiency improvements. Proud Superintendent of East Aurora Schools, Dr. Jennifer Norrell, affirms "We are truly one team and our staff have implemented our plan! We also thank our parents who partnered daily 2020-2021 to help us keep their children focused."

The Illinois Report Card measures the academic performance and student success progression from the previous school year. Multiple key area measurements are screened to determine one of four designations:

<u>Exemplary</u> – the school is performing within the top 10 percent of schools statewide and has no student groups underperforming.



DR. JENNIFER NORRELL, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Administrative Center 310 Seminary Ave. Aurora, IL 60505 d131.org | (630) 299-5554 | info@d131.org

<u>Commendable</u> – the school has no underperforming student groups greater than 67 percent, but the performance is not yet in the top 10 percent statewide.

<u>Targeted</u> – the school has one or more student groups that are performing at or below the level of the "all students" group.

<u>Comprehensive</u> – the school is in the lowest performing 5 percent of schools within the state and has a high school graduation rate below 67 percent.

This remarkable feat corroborates an unwavering commitment from our Board of Education that East Aurora District 131 is a place where students and staff reach their full potential. As Norrell states "We would not have been able to make these strides without a strong Board that both challenges us and provides top resources to support each student reaching their full potential."

Related Links:

- Article Link on D131 website: https://www.d131.org/news/all-easd-131-schools-earn-commendable-or-exemplary-on-illinois-state-board-of-education-summative-designations/
- Illinois School Report Card, District Designation Link: https://www.illinoisreportcard.com/District.aspx?districtId=31045131022

 Photos:



###

Media Contact

For interviews, additional photos or other information contact: Superintendent Dr. Jennifer Norrell's Office, (630) 299-5554 lmorales@d131.org