



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

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Michigan Schools Taking Steps to Support Student Health

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan schools are stepping up to the task to build healthier school environments as a part of the Michigan Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan. In recognition of these efforts, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and Governor Rick Snyder will recognize 18 Michigan schools for fostering healthy eating, physical activity habits, and tobacco-free lifestyles among students.

"Throughout the 18 schools recognized today, more than 11,000 students have been impacted by the positive changes made in their school environments," said James K. Haveman, director of the MDCH. "The effort put forth by these schools to promote healthy lifestyles has helped contribute to a decline in childhood obesity; proof that Michigan is moving in the right direction."

The Michigan School Wellness Award program is part of the governor's Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan. MDCH, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), the United Dairy Industry of Michigan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, and the Michigan Health and Wellness Education Workgroup today recognized Michigan's award-winning schools at a special lunch event during the Michigan Learning Connection Summit at Ford Field in Detroit, Mich.

The Michigan School Wellness Award program aims to engage schools statewide in creating healthy school environments by establishing Coordinated School Health Teams, completing the Healthy School Action Tools and implementing sustainable policy and environmental changes. The top award level, Gold, schools have achieved each of these elements. To apply for the program, schools provide information about nutrition, physical education/activity, and tobacco-free practices and submit at least one success story. The winners of this year's School Wellness Awards include:

- **Bronze Level Awards**

- American Monessori Academy in Livonia
- JKL Bahweting Anishnabe PSA in Chippewa
- Carstens Elementary School in Wayne
- Thomas Jefferson Elementary School in Wayne
- Pullman Elementary School in Van Buren
- Ross Beatty High School in Cass
- Bothwell Middle School in Marquette
- Green Elementary School in Macomb

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- **Silver Level Awards**

- Borland Elementary in Lapeer
- Jack Harvey Elementary School in Macomb
- Fitzgerald Senior High School in Macomb
- New Haven High School in Macomb
- Three Lakes Academy in Mackinac

- **Gold Level Awards**

- Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy in Macomb
- Atherton Elementary School in Genesee
- Donelson Hills Elementary in Oakland
- NorthWest High School in Jackson
- Horizon Elementary in Ingham

This year's winners laud such achievements as no-cost physical activity opportunities before and after school, universal breakfast, alternative breakfast methods, school gardens, developing and implementing policies related to healthy eating, tobacco free environments, physical education; and promoting healthy habits to school staff members.

To view school award winners, learn more about the School Wellness Award Program and other resources available for schools, visit www.mihealthtools.org/healthyschools.asp. For more information about the Michigan Health and Wellnes 4 x 4 Plan, visit www.michigan.gov/healthymichigan.

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