



DEFINING EXCELLENCE

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## Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Report Says Edina High School is Among the Top Schools in the Nation

**Edina, Minn., Dec 11, 2008** – According to *U.S. News & World Report*, Edina High School (EHS) is among the top 2 percent of high schools in the nation. The news magazine labeled EHS as a Silver Medalist School due to its high performance on state assessment tests and its college readiness score. A total of 13 Minnesota high schools received a silver medal ranking, and of those schools, Edina had the highest college readiness score.

Edina Public Schools Superintendent Ric Dressen was impressed by the method *U.S. News & World Report* used to determine the top high schools. "This is a very thorough analysis of school performance and participation," said Dressen. "It's a great accomplishment and speaks to the success of our entire K-12 system."

*U.S. News & World Report* considered 21,069 high schools nationwide. To determine top-performing schools, the magazine first reviewed state assessment data in reading and math. In order to survive this cut, schools had to prove that their entire student body performed well, not just a select few. Only 1,925 schools had scores that qualified them for the next level.

The remaining schools were divided into bronze, silver or gold categories based on their college readiness scores. Schools with the top 100 scores were ranked in the gold category. A total of 504 schools had a score of 20 or greater and were ranked in the silver category. EHS had a college readiness score of 51.4, the highest of any recognized Minnesota school. The remaining 1,321 schools were ranked in the bronze category because their college readiness scores were less than 20. Minnesota did not have any schools representing the gold category.

"It's an honor to be recognized as a Silver Medalist School," said Bruce Locklear, principal of EHS. "Our goal is very simple: we want to reach and teach all students." Locklear attributes the high school's success, in part, to intervention and prevention programs designed to reach all students. These programs ensure that the needs of at-risk students are addressed, but do not hinder the high school's Advanced Placement program, which continues to flourish.

EHS is also consistently ranked as one of the top 100 schools in the nation by *Newsweek*. In 2008, it received a ranking of 91 and was the only Minnesota school to make the top 100. *Newsweek* makes its selection by totaling the number of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Cambridge tests completed and dividing it by the number of graduating seniors.

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The *U.S. News & World Report* article can be accessed here:  
<http://www.usnews.com/sections/education/high-schools>

**About Edina Public Schools:**

Edina Public Schools is comprised of six elementary schools (K-5), two middle schools (6-9) and one senior high (10-12). Total enrollment is approximately 7,800 students. The District serves Edina, a first-tier Minneapolis suburb comprised of approximately 47,450 people.

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**Edina Public Schools Media Release**  
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