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SUMNER SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS BRIEF

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STATE ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION AWARDED TO FOUR SUMNER SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOLS

SUMNER, WA: A total of four schools in the Sumner School District earned Washington Achievement Awards for 2015. The annual award recognizes Washington State's top-performing schools and their impact on student learning. Awards are given in three categories; Overall Excellence is awarded to the top five percent of all Washington schools, High Progress is awarded to the top ten percent of all schools, and Special Recognition Awards. Special Recognition Awards are awarded to high-performing schools based on English language arts growth, math growth, extended graduation rate, English language acquisition, and achievement gap. Award winning schools are selected based on statewide assessment data for three previous years.

Liberty Ridge Elementary earned the award for Overall Excellence, High Progress, and Special Recognition in English language arts and math growth. Overall excellence is earned by schools in the top 5% of the Composite Achievement Index rating.

Bonney Lake Elementary and Emerald Hills Elementary earned the award for High Progress. High Progress Reward Schools scored in the top 10 percent of schools in the reading or ELA and math combined on state assessments for the All Students group. This designation acknowledges a school's performance and improvement in both reading or ELA and math during a 3-year period (2012/13 – 2014/15).

Donald Eismann Elementary earned the award for Special Recognition in math growth. Donald Eismann is recognized as being in the top 5% of the 3-year average Median Student Growth Percentiles (MSGPs) for Math.

Acting Superintendent Laurie Dent commented, "These achievement awards recognize successful strategies implemented by hard working teachers and staff at these schools. We are extremely proud to have four of our outstanding schools recognized. This recognition validates the work being done in schools for the success of students."

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education sponsor these awards, now in their sixth year. Award winners are selected using the State Board of Education Revised Achievement Index and are based on statewide assessment data for the three previous years. The Achievement Index measures school performance, emphasizing improvement and recognition. Schools cannot be listed as Priority or Focus and must have at least 95 percent participation on state tests to qualify for recognition.

OSPI and the State Board of Education will honor recipients at a ceremony to be held May 10, 2016.