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## NJDOE News

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### **LOCAL INTEREST**

#### **Outstanding Second Language Programs to be Recognized at May 12 Ceremony**

Nine locally developed programs will be honored as Outstanding Local Second Language Programs in a recognition ceremony scheduled to be held on tomorrow, May 12, 2006, at the headquarters of the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association in Monroe. **News media are encouraged to attend.**

The programs to be honored were designed to serve the needs of second language learners, students for whom English is a second language or who are learning world languages. The New Jersey Department of Education created the Outstanding Local Second Language Programs to showcase practices and programs that can serve as models for other schools to follow. The exemplary programs were identified through a rigorous process that included extensive program review and a site visit conducted by state officials and supervisors of world languages and bilingual/ESL programs.

"The second language programs we honor each year represent high quality and effective classroom approaches to serve the needs of our students who are learning a second language," said Acting Commissioner of Education Lucille E. Davy. "The educators who have developed and implemented these programs are leaders in their field, and we applaud them for sharing their approaches with their colleagues from schools across New Jersey."

Five awards will be presented for world languages programs and four awards will be presented to bilingual/English as a second language programs. The five model second language programs for world languages are:

**ElizabethPublic Schools**, Union County, for the P-5 Foreign Languages in the Elementary School (FLES) Program;  
**EnglewoodPublic Schools**, Bergen County, for the K-6 Dual Immersion Program;  
**Fair LawnPublic Schools**, Bergen County, for the K-5 FLES Program;  
**PrincetonRegionalPublic Schools**, Mercer County, K-12 Program; and  
**WestWindsor-PlainsboroPublic Schools**, Mercer County, K-5 FLES Program and 6-8 Middle School Program.

The four model second language programs for bilingual / ESL are:

**Clifton Public Schools**, Passaic County, for the K-5 Sheltered ESL Program with Bilingual Support Program in schools 12, 13, 14 and 17;  
**Little FallsPublic Schools**, Passaic County, for the K-8 ESL Program;  
**RedBankRegionalHighSchool District**, Monmouth County, for the 9-12 ESL Program; and  
**RosellePublic Schools**, Union County, for the K-3 Bilingual Program at Harrison Elementary School.

Schools in districts that are designated as model programs will serve as regional resource centers for other districts in their geographic areas. Educators visiting the centers will have the opportunity to observe exemplary practices in second language teaching, learning and testing. Administrators and teachers will also be able to discuss issues of mutual concern with staff from the centers, as well as the potential for collaboration on their second language programs.

Applications for the recognition program are available on alternate year cycles. Applications for the next round of model programs will be distributed in spring 2007.

Staff from the Department of Education's Office of Academic and Professional Standards and from the Office of Specialized Populations developed the concept for the program. Selection criteria were developed by the New Jersey Supervisors of World Languages Initiative and the Statewide Advisory Committee for Bilingual and ESL Education with assistance from the Department of Education. The program award is based on detailed

information provided in a written application, a full-day site visit to schools, and interviews with administrators, teachers, parents and students.