



## Medford Township Public Schools

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March 19, 2009

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

It is with great pleasure and pride that I inform you that the Medford Township Memorial Middle School has been designated by the State Department of Education as a "School to Watch" in recognition of their commitment to academic excellence and student development. Education Commissioner, Lucille E. Davy, announced on Monday, March 16, 2009 that four middle grade schools within New Jersey were selected for this honor.

Please refer to the link for the Department of Education...

<http://www.nj.gov/education/news/2009/0316stw.htm>.

Criteria needed for consideration included academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational support/processes. Since the onset of the "Schools to Watch" Initiative, in New Jersey, only seven (7) middle schools have received this distinction.

As a "School to Watch," Memorial will host visitations from other schools in the Tri-State area to showcase programming and share their successes. A reciprocal benefit is that our staff and students will be afforded the ability to network with other middle schools and learn from them. However, the school's overall goal is to continue to strive to "be the best it can be."

Over the next couple months, Memorial will participate in a number of recognition and celebration activities sponsored at the state and national level. On Wednesday, April 15, 2009, representatives from Memorial will be recognized at the New Jersey State Board of Education Meeting in Trenton. We will also be hosting a local celebration and Banner Presentation Ceremony during the month of June.

On behalf of the Board of Education, and the Medford Township School Community, we congratulate Mr. Phil Petru, Principal, and Mr. Peter Bisconte, Assistant Principal, the Memorial Teachers, Support Staff, and students on this fantastic accomplishment. We are all very proud of you and greatly appreciate your hard work. This honor is truly reflective of our entire school community — as all roads in the Medford Township Public School district lead to the Memorial School. Once again, congratulations and keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

Superintendent of Schools

JJD/prd