



## **NJDOE News**

**For More Information Contact the Public Information Office:**

**Richard Vespucci**  
**Kathryn Forsyth, Director**  
**609-292-1126**

**For Release: August 7, 2006**

---

### **Local Interest** **DOE Selects 30 Best Practices and 1 Star School for 2005-06**

The New Jersey Department of Education has announced its selection of 30 Best Practice winners and one Star School winner for the 2005-06 school year. The selections were made as part of DOE-sponsored programs to identify exemplary, home-grown classroom programs and outstanding, high-caliber schools as models for educators throughout New Jersey.

"Since this program was established in 1993, we have been able to shine a light each year on the innovative and creative programs developed at the local level by educators," said Acting Commissioner of Education Lucille E. Davy. "Such successes deserve statewide attention to outstanding work in education that is worthy of emulation by any school district, anywhere."

The Best Practices and Star Schools programs highlight outstanding classroom practices and curriculum and model schools of excellence that are aligned to New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards.

The Best Practices and Star School winners were chosen from a field of more than 400 applications. The programs selected cover a range of activities from professional development programs to early childhood, and to exemplary programs that emphasize the state's Core Curriculum Content Standards. Applications for the programs are first reviewed by the county offices of education and then submitted to the Department of Education, where panels of experts review the work of their peers and rate each application.

The link to the Best Practice winners is here:

<http://www.nj.gov/education/bp-ss/bp/>

The link to the Star School winner is here:

<http://www.nj.gov/education/bp-ss/ss/>

The recognition program is being revamped with an exclusive focus on exemplary classroom practices. Since this year marks the last year of the Star Schools program, DOE conducted a very rigorous process that led to the selection of one school to serve as a symbol of all of the outstanding public schools in New Jersey.

An awards ceremony will be held in December to honor these award winners, as well as other educators and programs that have earned special recognition during the year.

For more information, please contact the Department of Education Public Information Office at (609) 292-1126.