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PRESS CONTACT:

November 3, 2023
Dr. Scott V. Nicol, Superintendent of Schools
(860) 896-2300

CT State Department of Education Names Windermere Elementary – ‘School of Distinction’

Student growth in Mathematics and Literacy performance place Windermere in the top 10% of schools in the State in three of the four growth categories

ELLINGTON, CT – On November 1, 2023, the Connecticut State Department of Education publicly released results from the 2022-2023 Next Generation Accountability System with Windermere Elementary School earning ‘School of Distinction’ honors.

The Next Generation Accountability System is where schools and districts earn points on a broad set of indicators. Windermere students achieved ‘high growth’ across *all students* in grades 3-8 in Math and for *high-needs students* in Math and English Language Arts – this puts Windermere Elementary School in the top 10% of schools in the State in the identified categories for the 2022-2023 school year.



Windermere School construction to be completed by Fall 2025

Dr. Michael Young, Professor at the University of Connecticut’s NEAG School of Education and Chair of the Ellington Board of Education Curriculum Committee remarked, *“The staff at Windermere Elementary should be proud of their efforts not only for the 2022-2023 school year but also for their work in past years – especially throughout the pandemic. Piloting new early Science of Reading and Math curricula should help Windermere students to continue to excel.”*

Actions taken during COVID helped the Ellington Schools [buck pandemic-induced learning loss trends state-wide](#) in 2022, making it the only school district in the State to increase overall growth in Grades 3-8 and SATs in both English Language Arts and Mathematics.

“I am honored to partner with the talented and caring staff at Windermere. Their daily dedication to not only Windermere students but to the overall success of the Ellington Family is outstanding. Ellington educators are collaborative professionals who build upon the success of each other across schools PreK-12. The Ellington Family is a great team!”

-Ms. Jennifer Hill, Windermere Principal

Windermere staff will be honored at the November 15, 2023, regular Board of Education meeting. School administration is currently in the process of analyzing district-wide student growth on the state assessments for discussion at future Board of Education meetings.

Look for the announcement of the Windermere School building project groundbreaking ceremony in the coming weeks. The project was approved by Ellington voters at a referendum on May 23, 2023, with the project completion anticipated for Fall 2025.
