



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Houghton and Cooley Elementary Schools Receive Reward Status

**January 20, 2017, Waterford, Mich.** – The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) recognized Houghton and Cooley Elementary Schools as Reward Schools for its academic improvements in the 2015-2016 school year. Houghton and Cooley are two of only 219 schools that met the Reward Schools criteria.

Reward schools are 1 of 3 designations that came as result of Michigan receiving flexibility to the Federal No Child Left Behind Act. Reward schools include the top 5% on the annual top-to-bottom ranking of all Michigan schools and the top 5% that made the greatest academic progress over the last 4 years.

Houghton and Cooley Elementary Schools are now part of an elite list that will serve as a model for success to other schools across the State. “Our schools are shining examples of what we can achieve in the Waterford School District,” says Superintendent Keith Wunderlich.

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