

Dear Superintendent Green:

Each year, the Office for Education Policy (OEP) at the University of Arkansas creates a report titled the **Outstanding Educational Performance Awards** highlighting the highest-performing schools in Arkansas based on the Benchmark and End-of-Course exams.

We are pleased to announce that Valley Springs Middle School won a “High-Achieving Overall School” OEP award. These awards are based on the OEP-created “school GPA,” calculated on the basis of the percentage of students that perform at a particular level on the Benchmark exam (advanced, proficient, basic, and below basic). To learn more about how we determined the OEP award winners and to see the full list of award recipients, you can view the entire report here: http://www.officeforeducationpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2014_OEP_Awards_High_Achieving_Overall.pdf

We congratulate you on this accomplishment and hope that you will share this good news with teachers, students, and any others who contributed to your school’s success. In the next week, we will send an award certificate to the school. Because schools often win more than one type of OEP award, we encourage you to follow the OEP over the next few months as we release more OEP awards for grade-level achievement, growth, and more.

If you would like to follow us and do not already, you can send an email to oep@uark.edu with the subject line “Add to OWL List” to be added to our weekly email list.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office for Education Policy at oep@uark.edu. Congratulations again on your OEP award!

Sincerely,

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