



CARMAN-AINSWORTH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Steven Tunnicliff, Ph.D., Superintendent

G-3475 W. Court Street

Phone 810-591-3700

Fax 810-591-3323

Press Release

Contact: Jennifer Coon

Phone: 810-591-3208

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 13, 2015

CARMAN-AINSWORTH SCHOOL IS AN "ACADEMIC STATE CHAMP"

FLINT, MI:

Bridge Magazine (bridgemi.com) recently published their annual Academic State Champs report which ranks how well schools and districts are educating their students while accounting for the impact that poverty has on student achievement. Academic State Champs isn't a measure of achievement – it is a measure of overachievement.

So, how did Carman-Ainsworth fare? As a district, Carman-Ainsworth finished in the top 18% of districts across the state. Our elementary schools were ranked in the top 8%. Our middle and high school were determined to be in the top 30% of all schools. Rankin Elementary School was declared a "State Champ" with a finish of 20th out of 1,210 elementary schools in the state.

To a large degree, standardized school test scores track the socioeconomic status of the children who walk through the doors. It's not a coincidence that some of Michigan's school districts with the highest raw test scores are located in wealthy communities, and that districts with lower scores are in low-income communities.

Bridge Magazine's Academic State Champs, now in its fourth year, attempts to level the playing field by considering the income of students enrolled in schools. Their goal is to determine how well school districts perform compared with other districts with the same level of income.

Public Sector Consultants (a public policy research firm in Lansing) is the organization responsible for the review of the data. They take into account the impact of poverty by analyzing how districts across Michigan perform compared with districts of similar socioeconomic levels, an acknowledgement of the debilitating effect that poverty typically has on student achievement.

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