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## Capitol ceremony celebrates 2012-13 Wisconsin Schools of Recognition

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers praised Land O' Lakes Elementary School for being among 132 schools in the state that received Wisconsin School of Recognition honors for the 2012-13 school year during a special Oct. 2 ceremony at the State Capitol in Madison.

Evers welcomed, from left: Dr. Mike Richie, Shirley Erickson (5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher), Cynthia Spiess (3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher), and Scott Foster (principal) to the recognition event. To be recognized, schools must be among those with the highest poverty rates in the state, have met adequate yearly progress goals under federal education law for the past two years, and have student achievement on state mathematics and reading assessments that is higher than schools with similar poverty levels and grade configurations.

"The staff and administration of these schools are committed to forging partnerships among teachers, parents, administrators, other school staff members, and the community to create an educational environment that supports children's learning," Evers said.

Scott Foster, Land O' Lakes Principal, stated, "Land O' Lakes Elementary school is a special place for students to learn and grow socially". He highlights that TEAMWORK is what it takes to be recognized for this special award and rewards the entire staff for this accomplishment and the students' success. He adds, "Other key team players in our student's success are our PTA and community partners; our local art gallery - LOLA, food pantry, community garden, library, and Conserve School (to name just a few). They contribute immensely to the success we have seen with the students." Land O' Lakes Elementary has received this wonderful honor two out of the last three years. "The major key to our success is that all staff work hard and truly believe that all of our students can and will succeed. No one quits until we reach that goal!" said Principal Foster.