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## **St. Louis Park Honored by ACT for Efforts in College and Career Readiness**

ROSEVILLE – This week, St. Louis Park High School was one of four organizations in the country recognized by ACT for their efforts to prepare students for career and college. ACT honored them with the “College and Career Transition Award,” praising the school’s Building Assets Reducing Risk program, which seeks to prevent students from failing.

St. Louis Park High School has drastically reduced the number of ninth graders failing first year high school classes—from 44 percent to 11.5 percent since the program began. Research shows that students who fail more than two classes during their ninth grade year are less likely to finish high school on time.

“I want to congratulate St. Louis Park on this incredible honor. As we look to increase student achievement for all our students and break down barriers of access to higher education, we want to continue recognizing those programs that are showing progress,” Minnesota Education Commissioner Brenda Cassellius said. “St. Louis Park High School is showing sustained results with this strategy. I hope this award encourages them to share their work and help other schools replicate their success.”

The College and Career Transition Award is given to a high school that successfully prepares students of diverse backgrounds for life after graduation, and demonstrates student growth toward meeting ACT’s College and Career Readiness Benchmarks.

The awards were presented at an event in Washington, D.C. Tuesday night. The award ceremony capped off ACT’s year-long College and Career Readiness Campaign. The goal of the campaign was to identify and promote those organizations who are making progress in ensuring college and career readiness.

Other schools honored include: Bozeman High School in Bozeman, Montana; Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama; and Bodine Electric Company in Peosta, Iowa.

In March, ACT officials recognized Sandra Yimbo from Osseo Senior High, St. Louis Park Senior High, Ridgewater College in Willmar and Lakeland Mold of Brainerd for exemplary college and career readiness efforts by high school students, high schools, community colleges and employers. [View the March press release for more information.](#)