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HSD students earn achievement awards from High Schools That Work

Twenty-two seniors from the Hazelwood School District qualified for the High Schools That Work (HSTW) 2010 Award of Educational Achievement and are expected to receive certificates this month for their efforts.

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) announced that 690 seniors in the state are receiving the award for completing a challenging program of high school courses and demonstrating readiness for employment or college studies.

Nearly 4,000 students at 64 high schools in Missouri took the 2010 assessment.

Award winners from the District include Jamell Cooney, Stephen Hamilton, Alexis Fennoy, Danielle James, Paul Langdon, Andrea Woll, Abigail Feldmann, Megan Will, Meagan McCaughan, LeAnn Nash, Sydney Rice, Shamell Smith, T'Keyah Thomas, Bong Tran, Alison Berndt, John O'Brien, Alexander Meyer, Nathan Spain, Nolan Xanh, Ariel Anglin, Ashley Jost and Gustav Lumpe.

Students qualify for the HSTW award by completing a college preparatory course of study in at least two of three subject areas – English/language arts, mathematics or science. Students must also complete a concentration in a career/technical area, mathematics/science or the humanities, and they must meet readiness goals in each subject area on the HSTW assessment.

The assessment is administered to seniors in even-numbered years and provides comprehensive data about student achievement and perceptions about school and classroom experiences. The results are used to help schools and state education officials determine what is and what isn't working to increase student achievement.

HSTW, established by the Southern Regional Education Board, is a whole-school, research- and assessment-based reform effort for ninth through 12 grades, and is supported by DESE. It is the largest high school improvement effort in the United States, with more than 1,100 school sites in 31 states.

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The Hazelwood School District serves nearly 19,000 students and is the second largest district in St. Louis County. Communities in the district include Hazelwood, Black Jack, Spanish Lake, a large section of Florissant, portions of Bridgeton, Bellefontaine Neighbors and Ferguson, and several square miles of unincorporated St. Louis County. The mission of the Hazelwood School District is to launch learners on a quest for high standards, fairness and distinguished achievement.