

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

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Colbert Elementary wins national award

A north Spokane County school was the only one in Washington to win a national award for outstanding achievement.

Colbert Elementary School in the Mead School District won the 2009 Blue Ribbon Award. State assessments show nearly 80 percent of all students meet the standards in reading, math and writing; 92 percent of fourth-graders and 94 percent of the sixth-graders met Washington Assessment of Student Learning reading standards.

"This is a tremendous recognition for Washington state and Colbert Elementary School," said U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash. "Principal Jared Hoadley, the staff and the students of Colbert Elementary exemplify how a commitment to excellence can provide outstanding educational opportunities to children. We need more schools like this in Washington state."

Schools are singled out for recognition if they have more than 40 percent impoverished students and increase their performance, or if students' assessment scores are in the top 10 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

Each state submits a list of schools for recognition.