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## **Two Elementary Schools Earn National Title I School Distinction** *Recognition Comes from the National Association of State Title I Directors*

RICHMOND, Va. — The National Association of State Title I Directors is recognizing Snow Creek Elementary in Franklin County and Bethel Manor Elementary in York County as Virginia’s two 2015-2016 National Title I Distinguished Schools.

Snow Creek Elementary was selected for exceeding all federal benchmarks for increasing achievement in reading and mathematics for two consecutive school years. Bethel Manor Elementary was chosen for its success in narrowing achievement gaps in reading and mathematics over two consecutive years, while increasing the achievement of all student subgroups.

In addition, Snow Creek Elementary and Bethel Manor Elementary both earned full state accreditation for two consecutive years, and students in both schools achieved average scores at the 60th percentile on state assessments in reading and mathematics during 2014-2015.

“I congratulate the principals, teachers and students of both schools for their success in overcoming challenges and meeting the commonwealth’s high expectations for learning and achievement in reading and mathematics,” Superintendent of Public Instruction Steven R. Staples said.

Representatives from the schools will be recognized by the National Association of State Title I Directors during the organization’s annual conference, January 28-31, 2016, in Houston, Texas.

Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act — also known since 2001 as No Child Left Behind — authorizes federal funding for school divisions and schools for programs to raise the achievement of students identified as being at risk of academic failure. The law also requires states to set annual objectives for schools for increasing student achievement on statewide tests in reading and mathematics.

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