

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## South Fayette School District

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### South Fayette Schools Receive Keystone Award

*South Fayette Township, PA* – The South Fayette School District has earned a Keystone Achievement Award from the Pennsylvania State Department of Education. This award is being presented to schools across the state that have met the Commonwealth’s standards for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for the past two years.

These awards are being presented to celebrate and commemorate the work of Pennsylvania’s students and staff that has resulted in continued academic success. South Fayette students have consistently placed well above state and local averages on the PSSA tests, which are a major factor in earning AYP. Below is a summary of South Fayette’s scores for the 2003-2004 school year:

#### **PSSA RESULTS: Percentage of Students Proficient or Above in Subject Test**

	<b>SF 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>State Average</b>		<b>SF 8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>State Average</b>		<b>SF 11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>State Average</b>
<b>READING</b>	82%	63%		88%	69%		88%	61%
<b>MATH</b>	93%	62%		80%	58%		81%	49%

AYP is achieved by meeting a variety of standards required by the state’s accountability system and the federal No Child Left Behind Act. The academic targets for the 2003-2004 school year indicated that 35 percent of students needed to be considered proficient or better in math and 45 percent in reading. In the current school year, the percentages will be increased to 45 and 54 percent, respectively.

This award does not mark a final victory but is considered a great milestone on a long journey. The proficiency levels for reading and math increased for the 2004-2005 school year and will continue to increase until 100% of our students are proficient or better in reading and math.

An in-depth report on South Fayette assessment scores will be presented to the community in the annual District Report Card in the coming weeks.

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