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Dr. William C. Hardin, Superintendent

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## **St. Marys Elementary School Earns Title Gold Greatest Gains School**

The Governor's Office of Student Achievement recently released the list of 2018 Highest Performing and Greatest Gains school awards. This year, St. Marys Elementary School is one of the **112** Greatest Gains schools in the state and one of only **28** schools out of all 2,302 public schools in Georgia to receive the 2018 Gold Award for Greatest Gains.

St. Marys Elementary School was awarded a "Gold Award" in the Greatest Gains category for exhibiting high growth in student achievement, meaning that the academic growth over the last three years has been in the top 3% of schools in the state.

Schools must meet the following criteria to be determined Gold winners:

- Place between the 97th and 99th percentile statewide in the average CCRPI Progress Score over the last three years;
- Remain in the same CCRPI Single Score range (i.e., 90.0 and higher, 80.0-89.9, 70.0-79.9, 60.0-69.9, or lower than 60) over the last three years; and
- Be excluded from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement's 2018 Turnaround Eligible list and the Georgia Department of Education's 2018 Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) lists.

When asked to comment about the recent announcement, Dr. Rebecca Gillette, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction praised the work of the St. Marys Elementary community by responding, "This award is due to the collaborative effort of students, teachers, administrators and parents of St. Marys Elementary School. SMES has consistently used student data to better guide intervention selection and ultimately, has seen positive achievement gains. The system is very proud of the SMES school community and its achievement.

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