

Westwood Elementary Recognized for Excellence in Serving Students with Disabilities

Congratulations to Westwood Elementary! The school has earned the distinguished honor of being named one of only **10 schools in North Carolina** to meet the eligibility requirements for the [National ESEA Distinguished Schools Award – Category 3: Excellence in Serving Special Populations of Students \(SWD\)](#).

The National ESEA Distinguished Schools Program, coordinated by the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators (NAESPA), highlights federally funded schools across the country that demonstrate exceptional academic achievement and innovative practices benefiting students. Each year, North Carolina selects just two Title I schools to represent the state at the national level—one for closing achievement gaps and one for excellence in serving special populations of students, including those with disabilities.

Westwood’s recognition is based on data rankings provided by the NCDPI’s Office of Accountability and Testing as of September 19, 2025. The school will be honored alongside other top-performing schools at the [North Carolina Association of Federal Education Program Administrators \(NCFEPA\) luncheon on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, in Greensboro](#). At the luncheon, the top two schools in each category will be announced and go on to represent North Carolina at the **2026 National ESEA Conference in Denver, Colorado, February 10–12, 2026**.

This recognition highlights the dedication of Westwood’s educators, staff, and families in supporting student success and ensuring that all learners, especially those with disabilities, have the opportunity to thrive.

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