



NEWS RELEASE

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Richmond Community, Open High Schools Ranked Among America's Best – Again! *Both Make U.S. News & World Report List For 3rd Straight Year*

For the third straight year, *U.S. News and World Report* has ranked Richmond Community and Open high schools among America's best. Both Richmond City high schools were included in a report published in the Dec. 10 issue of the magazine. Standard & Poor's School Evaluation Services conducted the rankings.

Richmond Community received a silver medal and is one of only eight high schools in the state to earn a gold or silver ranking. Nationwide, 561 schools received gold or silver awards. Open High is one of 36 Virginia high schools and one of 1,750 nationwide to receive a bronze medal.

Nearly 22,000 public high schools were analyzed according to how well students performed on state tests, how well disadvantaged students performed and how successful the school was in providing college-level coursework, as indicated by Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate test data.

"To be ranked among America's best high schools for a third straight year is truly an extraordinary accomplishment," said School Superintendent Dr. Yvonne Brandon. "The national rankings reflect the outstanding commitment shared by the students, teachers and parents of both schools to create a learning environment that is defined by academic rigor and student achievement."

Dr. Thomas H. Beatty serves as principal at Richmond Community. Candace Veney-Chaplin is principal at Open High.

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For additional information, contact Victoria Oakley, Chief Academic Officer, at 780-7727.