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Four Oklahoma School Districts Recognized for Excellence in Accounting

OKLAHOMA CITY - State Superintendent Sandy Garrett is pleased to announce the four Oklahoma school districts who have won 2009 Excellence in Financial Reporting awards. The competitive awards are given annually to four districts by the Oklahoma State Department of Education using rigorous criteria.

This year's winners are:

- Jenks Public Schools. Winner of the Large District category (5,000 or more students).
- Cordell Public Schools. Winner of the Midsize District category (between 501-4,999 students).
- Fargo Public Schools. Winner of the Small District category (less than 500 students).
- Liberty Public Schools in Sequoyah County. Winner of the Elementary School District category.

"We are very proud to award these four districts what has become a coveted distinction among Oklahoma school districts," Garrett said. "This award means these districts, above all others in their size category, practice the highest standards in timeliness and accuracy of their financial reporting and are being diligent in their stewardship of taxpayer funds."

Garrett added the winning districts were formally recognized this week during the Oklahoma State Department of Education's annual "Leadership" conference for school leaders and that each will receive a plaque provided by the Association of School Business officials.

Criteria for the award is based on a point system and includes many requirements related to the timeliness and accuracy of data, as well as the reconciliation of all data sent to the SDE with other data districts submit, such as that to county entities.

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