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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MILL CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVES RECOGNITION BY
“MICHIGAN SCHOOLS TO WATCH”**

DEXTER, MI, February 2007 –Mill Creek Middle School in Dexter, MI, has recently been named a “Michigan School to Watch” as a part of the National Forum to Accelerate Middle Grades Reform. Mill Creek joins White Pine Middle School in Saginaw Township, Saline Middle School in Saline, and Oakview Middle School in Lake Orion as recognized schools. In order to earn this recognition, Mill Creek met a set criteria issued by the Forum. They maintain academic excellence, are responsive to the needs and interest of young adolescents, and are committed to helping all students achieve at high levels. In addition, the school has strong teachers who work together to improve curriculum and instruction, and a commitment to bring about continuous improvement.

The Michigan Schools to Watch committee stated, “These schools demonstrate on a daily basis that when you set high standards and expectations for students and staff, and provide the appropriate support, students will succeed at high levels.”

National Forum President Dr. John Harrison said, “Michigan Schools to Watch” are special places; they make education so exciting that students and teachers don’t want to miss a day. These middle grades schools have proven that it is possible to overcome barriers to achieving academic excellence, to become places of learning that adults truly want to be a part of.”

Launched in 1999, Schools to Watch began as a program to identify middle grades schools across the country that were meeting or exceeding a set of criteria for excellence. In 2005, Michigan adopted the program. To visit the schools selected and view detailed information about the selection criteria, visit (www.michiganstw.org).

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