**Woodland Intermediate School celebrates MSP test success**

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**Woodland Intermediate School Awards**

WOODLAND FIRE CHIEF MIKE JACKSON (Bottom Row), Mayor Grover Laseke (Middle Row), and Police Chief Rob Stephenson (Top Row) stand with Woodland Intermediate School students who received awards for outstanding achievement on their MSP exams.

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**Devin Higgins staff reporter**

Last spring, the 465 students at Woodland Intermediate School took their Measurements in Student Progress (MSP) exams and had to wait until they returned in the fall to find out their results.

For the first year, however, Principal Chris Wiseman wanted to make it a special occasion.

“Prior to the testing last spring, I visited each of our classrooms,” Wiseman said. “I reinforced the importance of being responsible for ourselves, giving our best effort and owning our results. We also discussed three areas associated with our MSP tests that we would be highlighting and presenting awards for when we returned to school in the fall. It is now that time.”

On Oct. 4, an assembly was held with Mayor Grover Laseke, Fire Chief Mike Jackson and Police Chief Rob Stephenson on hand to congratulate the students on their success.

Awards were given for three categories of achievement, according to Wiseman. Any students who achieved a Level 4 score in reading and math, which is the highest category on the 1-4 scoring system. Students who also achieved a perfect score in any of the disciplines of reading, writing, science or math received awards. In addition, students who showed improvements over the previous year by 50 points or more.

With their classmates, friends and family present, 76 students received the Level 4 award, 22 earned perfect scores and 30 were recognized as the Most Improved.

“It was really a great day because not only did we get to celebrate the success of our kids in a formal assembly, but we had local leaders and role models join us to take part,” Wiseman said.

Last year, Woodland Intermediate presented more than 1,200 awards for various academic and social acheivements, and Wiseman is hoping to surpass that mark this year.

“We stress giving our best effort in everything we do, taking ownership for ourselves, our choices and our behavior and being responsible for our level of success,” said Wiseman. “We stress this every morning as a school as part of our morning announcements. Our staff consistently reinforce these messages with their students. They are a major point of emphasis in our building.”

Going forward, Wiseman and his staff is looking forward to what this spring’s MSP tests will bring when the students return in the fall.

“I’m hoping this will become an annual tradition here at Woodland and I can’t wait to see how our students respond,” Wiseman said.

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