

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Flagler County Public Schools

Rymfire Elementary School Named Apple Distinguished School

Flagler County Public Schools is proud to announce that Rymfire Elementary School has received the esteemed honor of being selected as an Apple Distinguished School. The Apple Distinguished School designation is reserved for schools that have implemented a 21st century vision of education using Apple technology. The selection of Rymfire Elementary School as an Apple Distinguished School highlights its successes in enhancing and extending teaching and learning with thoughtful and innovative implementations of technology.

Each of the 21st Century classrooms is equipped with up to date technology including wireless network, MacBooks, smart pads, and assistive listening devices. Students use technology to create their own Keynote presentations, podcasts, and enhanced podcasts with programs such as GarageBand, iMovie and iPhoto. In addition, teachers and students have access to 5 mobile learning labs, a research lab and a CCC lab equipped with Apple computers that can be used for class lessons and projects. The students' schedules include Technology on the Wheel in which they are taught reading skills through the use of computer programs. Another new addition is the iPod touch mobile learning lab. This class set can be transferred from one class to another, allowing teachers the opportunity to use the iPods to access various applications to assist with student learning. Furthermore it gives students the opportunity to use 21st Century technology in new and exciting ways.

Principal Paula St. Francis opened the school in August 2006 with the vision to provide 21st learning environment for her students and teachers and serve as a model for both the district and the state. She gives all the credit to the flexible and talented teachers, involved parents, and creative students.

For 2008-09, 33 schools across the United States were selected as Apple Distinguished Schools. The term of appointment as an Apple Distinguished School is for one year, renewable annually. As an Apple Distinguished School, Rymfire Elementary will share its program and best practices with other educators and institutions. The administration, staff, and teachers invite you to visit, observe, and engage in the 21st learning environment. The school was presented with a banner and plaque by Mark Benno, Apple Computer Curriculum Evangelist, and Gary Brose, Apple Executive