



## **WE ARE EXCELLENT!**

Winchester has recently been certified by National PTA as a parent involvement **School of Excellence** through 2008. This completes a process which began in the fall of 2004 with the formation of a committee who went on to assess our practices and policies according to six national standards:

**Communicating**—Communication between home and school is regular, two-way, and meaningful.

**Parenting**—Parenting skills are promoted and supported.

**Student Learning**—Parents play an integral role in assisting student learning

**Volunteering**—Parents are welcome in the school, and their support and assistance are sought

**School Decision Making and Advocacy**—Parents are full partners in the decisions that affect children and families

**Collaborating with Community**—Community resources are used to strengthen schools, families, and student learning

We are one of only 8 schools statewide to have received this award and 552 nationwide. You will notice the seal below appearing on our website and on other correspondence.

More information can be found at [www.pta.org/parentinvolvement/certification](http://www.pta.org/parentinvolvement/certification).

Thanks to Susie Pool, Sally Eisele, Anne Randall, Lynn O'Meara, Jayme West, Marlene Kunz (Civic Concern) for their work on this project. If anyone has ideas to contribute to better our parent involvement practices, please make them known! Documentation put forward for certification is available in the school office if you would like to see our assessment and proposals for improvement. Look out for additions to our website and a series of parenting seminars next year.

Pat Messing and Ann McCutcheon.