

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings made the following [statement](#) on March 19, 2012, recognizing Wynnebrook Elementary School in West Palm Beach, Florida:

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wynnebrook Elementary, a school in my district that exemplifies all that is right with America's public education system. Under the guidance of Principal Jeffrey Pegg and his talented faculty, Wynnebrook has been rated an "A" school by the State of Florida nine years in a row.

I toured this fine school on March 15, 2012 and saw for myself everything that makes it great. I met wonderful teachers and spoke to classroom after classroom of happy children who were clearly excited to learn.

Wynnebrook Elementary's students are overwhelmingly minority children, and most come from low-income families. Despite these challenges, writing scores on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) are in the 90th percentile, with reading scores close behind. Scores in nearly all core subjects are over 80 percent as well.

There is no lack of enthusiasm at Wynnebrook. Several teachers were eager to tell me how pleased they are with the continued excellence of Wynnebrook. They are certainly a large part of its success, with several having taught at Wynnebrook for over 30 years. Additionally, the children were eager to ask me questions about my occupation and career. I was especially impressed with the number of students who told me they would like to become doctors or lawyers.

Wynnebrook is proof that when schools get the funding they need, they will turn out intelligent, well-adjusted children who want to succeed in life. What I saw that day served as a reminder of the importance of Title I funding in ensuring that our nation's students receive the education they deserve, regardless of their financial background, and reinforced my determination to work for increased funding for public education as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Principal Pegg, reading instructor Leslie Millar, and all the fine teachers and staff members I met at Wynnebrook Elementary, and I look forward to even

greater success from its administrators, faculty, and students in the years to come.

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