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## District receives IRPE examiner award

The Iowa Quality Center and the Iowa Recognition for Performance Excellence Executive Council annually recognizes the organization that supports the examiner base of the IRPE process with the most people. The 2005 honor was recently presented to the Cedar Rapids Community School District. The district had eight examiners in 2005. The district also participated with examiners in 2004.



Examiners spend approximately 120 total hours evaluating an Iowa-based applicant to the IRPE process, and identifying strengths and opportunities for improvement as they relate to the national Baldrige Criteria. Based on the score, examiners may also visit an applicant on site to tour facilities, and meet with leadership and employees to verify and clarify the strengths and the opportunities assigned.



District examiners for 2005-06 are Gregg Petersen, executive administrator of elementary education; Jay Marino, associate superintendent for accountability and organizational effectiveness; Suzanne Blomme, executive director of special services; Kay Coe, Nixon principal; Joyce Fowler, Harrison principal; Denise Pape, Cleveland principal; and Val Dolezal, Grant principal. Examiners for 2004-05 were Steve Graham, executive director of business services; Jane Lonergan-

Highly, McKinley associate principal; Jim Thornton, executive director of secondary education; Becky DeWald, Pierce principal; and Dave Markward, superintendent.

"I extend my personal thank you to the recently trained IRPE examiners, as well as those trained last year," commented Dr. Markward. "They have committed large amounts of personal time to learn more about the Baldrige criteria and contribute their talents for the betterment of the Iowa Quality Center and other organizations around the state. In so doing, they have also become even more valuable contributors to our district's continuous improvement initiatives in our journey to realize our vision of Excellence for All."

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