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# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **URBANA EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL EARNS GOLD CIRCLE OF QUALITY FROM ISBE**

Urbana – Urbana Early Childhood School earned a Gold Circle of Quality from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for their Preschool for All program.

The Gold Circle of Quality is a rating used in the ExceleRate Illinois, the state’s quality rating and improvement system for early learning and development programs that serve children from birth to age 5. “The Gold Circle Designation indicates the highest quality rating that ISBE attributes to the Preschool for All (PFA) programs,” explains Cris Vowels, Principal of Urbana Early Childhood School. “It tells our community and parents that our staff works very hard to maintain the highest standards and best practices in early childhood education.” ExceleRate Illinois is anchored by a set of standards that focus on early learning and development and places a high priority on instructional excellence, family services, staff qualifications, professional development, and program administration.

Urbana Early Childhood School (UECS) is in its second year in their new facility on Washington St, attached to Prairie Elementary. The UECS staff is committed to providing a quality, individualized learning program for eligible preschool children. The classroom activities focus on a concern for the child's total development including communication, cognitive, physical and emotional development.

Urbana School District #116 is a unit district located in east central Illinois. Our outstanding schools in an outstanding community comprise of an early childhood school, six neighborhood elementary schools, a middle school, a high school, and an adult education center. To discover more about our award winning schools and students, please visit [www.usd116.org](http://www.usd116.org). You can find us on Facebook at Urbana School District #116 or follow us on Twitter: @Urbana116.

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*Outstanding schools in an outstanding community!*

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