



October 24, 2006

Jones Sign, anonymous donor come through for Redgranite Elementary School

For the third year in a row, Redgranite Elementary School has received the highest honor awarded by the state as a "Wisconsin School of Promise." And, with the support of Jones Sign Company of Green Bay and a local anonymous donor, a billboard just outside the village limits displays the pride of an entire community.

"Jones Sign gave us the entire board free from rent and charged us a mere \$1500 for the sign. They're even paying for the electricity to light it up for us," exclaimed Mike Coron who has worked to get the billboard for two years. "Christine Vong, the senior sales director at Jones saved us more than \$7,000 in the process. She definitely wanted to do this for our school and convinced her directors to go ahead with the plan."

"We weren't out of the woods yet, because our award winnings didn't amount to the cost we had to pay. However, in one evening, an anonymous donor decided that the sign's importance to the community was worth it. An extra \$1,000 was then added to the pot. It's amazing how generous some people can be, but lifelong residents are just that way. They attended the first schools here," said Coron.

"I've been trying to coordinate this project for such a long time and can truly say that it has been one of the proudest moments of my 22 years in Redgranite School. When people see this sign and the slogan 'Working within the community through unity,' it tells a story of hard work by parents, students, teachers, aides, custodians and everyone in our town. It's not just the school that makes things like this happen. It's an entire village and the school district lending their support to cause changes that are good for everyone. The slogan came quite easily to me," said Coron. "It had a nice ring to it."

The symbols of the award, the years Redgranite has received it, the slogan, and the congratulations to the district are displayed in beautiful colors. A closer look at the sign shows the award symbol in a very light, but large backdrop.

Parkside Middle School also received the award this year. The success of Wautoma's schools is gaining strength rapidly due to the implementation of a new curriculum plan. According to professionals from the state who observe and direct the over 400 districts in Wisconsin, Wautoma is well ahead of the curve in terms of compliance. According to Coron, he's never been associated with such dedication anywhere in any business. He attributes this to his fellow teachers and administrators and especially to District Superintendent Jeff Kasuboski, whose positive influence is always felt.