

# Aura Elementary Is A Benchmark School

Aura Elementary School in Elk Township was recently named a 2007 "Just for the Kids—New Jersey Benchmark School" for attaining high rates of student achievement on state tests.

Benchmark Schools are schools designated by the Business Coalition for Educational Excellence (BCEE) at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce using data from the state's HSPA (High School Proficiency Assessment), GEPA (Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment), or NJ ASK (Assessment of Skills and Knowledge). A total of 73 schools throughout the state received this honor.

Assessment data are annually posted to the Just for the Kids—New Jersey Web site at [www.just4kids.org](http://www.just4kids.org).

Just for the Kids (J4TK) is a powerful tool that helps educators analyze data about their schools to use toward creating blueprints for improvement or continued success.

The Just for the Kids Web site presents fair and relevant pictures of a school's performance by comparing them with schools with similar student populations.

"The Just for the Kids—New Jersey Benchmark Schools should make everyone proud of what is possible in great educational environments," said Dana Egreczky, president, Business Coalition for Educational Excellence.

"We hope these schools will stand as role models for others around the state. We owe our young people the best chance for a rewarding future."

