

Gold Star Schools – Who, What, When, What do they get

What is a Gold Star School?

A Gold Star School is achieved by having a certain ratio of girls in the school served by the Girl Scout Program. There are currently three levels that schools can earn:

- Bronze – serves 1 out of every 6-9 girls
- Silver – 1 out of every 4-5 girls
- Gold – 1 out of every 2-3 girls

How Do I know where my school stands?

By attending the monthly Service Unit Meeting you will get updates on your school's progress by grade level. You will be able to see all of the schools in the Service Unit so it is a great time for brainstorming to plan on how to reach those girls that are not being served. You're School Organizer, Registrar, or Regional Membership Manager will be a part of this process as well.

My school has reached an award level, now what happens?

Now is the time to be working with your School Organizer and Regional Membership Manger to plan the next step. For gold star schools, you, your school organizer and the other leaders at your school may get together to talk about what the day may look like. Someone will need to meet with the principal to discuss what will be an appropriate time fro the celebrations. This may be part of an assembly, year-end school celebration, individual class party or whatever works best for your school. Your Regional Membership Manager will make the arrangements to get the appropriate certificate and award.

Based on the level achieved the school will receive the following:

- Bronze level – no recognition
- Silver level – framed certificate presented to principal
- Gold level – framed certificate and cookie party for the entire school, alert the media (pencils can be substituted for cookies if requested)

Help make the Day Special

Help make the award achieved extra special for the girls and the school by working together to plan a day of celebration for everyone. Some suggested ideas are:

- Have the girls wear their uniforms to school
- Invite the Troop Leaders at the school to attend the cookie party
- Invite local media to participate (get school permission first)
- Have the girls do a flag ceremony for the school
- Hold an assembly to present certificate to school
- Ask the school to make it "Girl Scout Day"
- Invite all girls who are in Girl Scouts to be recognized that day – assembly, announce their names over the PA system, in their classroom, allow them to go first to lunch. Ask the teachers to have the girls share some great/fun things they do in Girl Scouts.
- Be sure to make parents aware of this award. See if the school will publish something either on their web-site or in their newsletter.