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## NEWS RELEASE

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All Renaissance Solutions Meet the Requirements of the **No Child Left Behind Act**

## A Renaissance in Texas Education

Madison Wis. (November 4, 2002)- On November 12<sup>th</sup>, at the annual awards dinner in Austin, the Texas Business and Education Coalition along with Just For the Kids (TBEC/JFTK) will name 63 schools to the Honor Roll of **Best Performing Public Schools In Texas** for 2002.

Of those 63 best performing schools, 70% use the reading improvement program Reading Renaissance™.

At another educational awards ceremony, Principal Galen Hoffstadt, from Luther Jones Elementary in Corpus Christi, was chosen this year's **National Distinguished Principal** for the state of Texas. She was honored by the U.S. Department of Education & National Association of Elementary School Principals in Washington, D.C. on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

Luther Jones Elementary uses both Renaissance reading and math programs in its classrooms. In fact, 34 of the Distinguished Principals awarded from each of the 50 states implement Renaissance Solutions in their schools.

Reading Renaissance, to date, is currently used by nearly 75% of all public schools in the state and is clearly having a positive impact on Texas education.

Valley Creek Elementary in McKinney, Texas is receiving the best performance honor for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. A K-5 school, Valley Creek is a certified Renaissance Master School where every teacher is trained in Renaissance teaching techniques.

“We’re just thrilled about the award,” says Principal Chris Brunner. “Learning with Renaissance has helped our children excel over and over again on state tests like the AEIS. You can really measure their progress. Reading Renaissance lets our teachers individualize instruction and address each child’s needs.”

Terri Benavides, the Librarian at Mims Elementary, another honor school in Mission, has seen library circulation almost triple in the five years they have been using Reading Renaissance. “Our school is the leader in our district for the number of books circulated. We have been named an exemplary school for six consecutive years. We are so pleased with the results from Reading Renaissance we are now implementing the Math Renaissance program as well.”

Reading Renaissance provides vital information about student performance through the use of classroom-based information systems such as Accelerated Reader® and STAR Reading®. The data it provides puts students in control of their learning and allows teachers to target and personalize instruction and adjust the curriculum to meet the needs of the student. Combined with Renaissance teaching practices, this software enables educators to meet federal requirements such as the No Child Left Behind Act and dramatically improve reading skills for every pre-K to 12 student.

To be included in the 2002 TBEC/JFTK Honor Roll, schools met stringent performance standards based on a variety of criteria including reading scores being consistent with writing scores, student performance remaining steady or improving over the past three years, and schools that are closing performance gaps where they exist.

Renaissance Learning™, Inc., is a leading provider of research-based learning information systems software, school improvement programs, teacher training, and consulting. The Company's learning information systems software products give students and teachers continuous constructive feedback that helps motivate students, dramatically accelerate learning, improve test scores, and help students master all standards, while reducing teacher paperwork. Adopted by over 62,000 schools, these software products are among the most popular in schools nationwide, including Accelerated Reader®, Accelerated Math®, Fluent Reader™, and STAR Early Literacy®. The Company's Renaissance™ school improvement process has been adopted by school districts across the country, and over 400,000 pre-K-12 educators have received Renaissance training. The Company also provides electronic assessment products and services to educational publishers, and sells enterprise software for training and knowledge management. The Company has six U.S. locations and subsidiaries in Australia, Canada, India, and the United Kingdom.

This press release contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements regarding future financial and operating results, and the introduction of new products and services. Any such forward-looking statements may involve risk and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from any future results encompassed within the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include those matters disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and the Company's other Securities and Exchange Commission filings which factors are incorporated herein by reference.

*Source: Renaissance Learning, Inc.*

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