

## Edwardsville Ranked #1 in Best Cities in Illinois for Young Families

On Monday, June 10, NerdWallet, a website focused on empowering consumers to make better decisions about their personal finances, travel plans, or higher education, ranked Edwardsville #1 in the “Best Cities in Illinois for Young Families.” The website is a recommendation site that is dedicated to user welfare.

The website ranked cities based on three criteria: 1) Does the town have good public schools? 2) Can you afford to live there? 3) Is the town growing and prospering?

According to NerdWallet, “Edwardsville is consistently cited among the best places for families in both statewide and national studies — and for good reason. The town’s public schools at every level, from elementary to high school, have a near-perfect rating from Great Schools. Given Edwardsville’s proximity to St. Louis, quality jobs are plentiful, providing a high median household income while the town’s suburban location keeps home costs low. This bustling community also boasts 86 miles of bike paths maintained by Madison County Transit. As the third-oldest town in Illinois, Edwardsville continues to attract families even two centuries later.”

Edwardsville District 7 Superintendent Dr. Ed Hightower said that it is gratifying to be recognized for what has become the hallmark of District 7’s philosophy regarding education.

“Families can move to District 7 and be assured that their children will receive the same excellent quality of education regardless of which school they attend. This recognition further validates that individuals and organizations from outside of the District 7 community respect and recognize the wonderful work that is occurring in District 7.

In 2010, District 7 was recognized as a “Class Act” by Education Executive and Family Circle named Edwardsville as one of the “Ten Best Towns for Families.” In 2009, Glen Carbon was recognized in “One Hundred Best Places to Live – America’s Best Small Towns” by Money Magazine. And, in 1996, District 7 received recognition from Money Magazine as one of the “Top 100 Schools in Towns You Can Afford.” We believe that this recent recognition as the number one city in “Best Cities in Illinois for Young Families” will further attract new families to the District 7 community.

A quality school district is key to quality communities, and the District will continue to work to improve the quality of education for our children. By focusing on that goal, the District will continue to attract new families to the District 7 community.”

The complete list follows:

1. Edwardsville
2. O’Fallon
3. Charleston
4. Grayslake
5. New Lenox
6. Geneva
7. Huntley
8. Downers Grove
9. Elmhurst
10. Orland Park

Visit this link to read the full article <http://www.nerdwallet.com/blog/2013/cities-illinois-young-families/>.