



News Release

Contact: Martin Ackley, Director of Public and Governmental Affairs, 517-241-4395
 Bill DiSessa, Spokesperson, 517-335-6649

13 Michigan Schools Awarded 2018 National Blue Ribbon Recognition

October 1, 2018

LANSING – Thirteen exemplary, high-performing schools in Michigan are being recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USED) as 2018 National Blue Ribbon Schools.

“Michigan schools are creating high-quality learning environments that encourage all students to achieve and succeed,” said Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles. “Congratulations to these fine schools. Their academic accomplishments serve as milestones to celebrate on our way to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years.”

Named as 2018 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education (USED) are these public schools and their districts:

School	District
Achieve Charter Academy	Achieve Charter Academy
Akron-Fairgrove Elementary School	Akron-Fairgrove Schools
Canton Charter Academy	Canton Charter Academy
Dearborn STEM Middle School	Dearborn City School District
Eagle Lake Elementary School	Edwardsburg Public Schools
Ernest W. Seaholm High School	Birmingham City School District
Holmes Elementary School	Spring Lake Public Schools
International Academy	Oakland Schools
Jeffers Elementary School	Spring Lake Public Schools
Lake Hills Elementary School	Grand Haven Area Public Schools
Pine River Elementary School	Bullock Creek School District
Rosy Mound School	Grand Haven Area Public Schools
Village Oaks Elementary School	Novi Community School District

Each year, Michigan Department of Education (MDE) nominates 13 public schools annually for this award in the Exemplary High Performing Schools category. Public schools are nominated by each state's Department of Education and non-public schools are nominated by the Council for American Private Education (CAPE).

This year, USED is honoring up to 420 National Blue Ribbon Schools at a recognition ceremony on Nov. 7-8 in Washington, D.C. Each school receives a banner and plaque. Last year, 342 schools were honored nationwide.

In its 36-year history, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed this coveted award upon more than 8,800 of America's public and private schools.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students either achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. The award flag gracing a school's building is a widely-recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

All schools are recognized in one of two performance categories, based on all student scores, subgroup student scores and graduation rates:

- *Exemplary High Performing Schools* are among their state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. Student subgroup performance and high school graduation rates are also at the highest levels.
- *Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools* are among their state's highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school's student groups and all students over the past five years. Student group performance and high school graduation rates for each group are at high levels.

For more information on the National Blue Ribbon School program and the U.S. Department of Education's press release, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/nationalblueribbonschools>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BLUE RIBBONS SCHOOLS, CONTACT:

U.S. Department of Education Press Office:

(202) 401-1576 or press@ed.gov

###