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St. Paul School

Press Release

U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION RECOGNIZES ST. PAUL - WESTERVILLE AS ONE OF 286 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS FOR 2013

- St. Paul Catholic School was recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan today along with 285 schools in the 2013 cohort of National Blue Ribbon Schools, based on their overall academic excellence. St. Paul, a K - 8 school of 840 students in Westerville, received this honor for "Exemplary High Performance," as one of Ohio's highest performing schools, as measured by state assessments and nationally-normed testing.
- School principal Dr. Kathleen Norris said, "I am so proud of our students, teachers, parents and administrators. They deserve all the credit and we are honored to be among this select group of schools across the nation."
- Secretary Duncan made this year's announcement live via the Department's USTREAM channel <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/education-department> and was viewed by recognized principals, teachers, and students assembled across the country.
- The Department will honor 236 public and 50 private schools at a recognition ceremony on Nov. 18-19 in Washington, D.C. In its 31-year history, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed this coveted award on nearly 7,500 of America's schools.
- "Excellence in education matters and we should honor the schools that are leading the way to prepare students for success in college and careers," said Secretary Duncan. "National Blue Ribbon schools represent examples of educational excellence, and their work reflects the belief that every child in America deserves a world-class education."
- The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement.

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- To select National Blue Ribbon Schools, the Department requested nominations from the top education official in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the Bureau of Indian Education. The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) nominates private schools. A total of 420 schools nationwide may be nominated, with allocations determined by the numbers of K-12 students and schools in each jurisdiction. The Secretary of Education invites nominated schools to submit an application for possible recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School.
- NOTE TO EDITORS: A list of the 2013 National Blue Ribbon Schools is available at <http://www.ed.gov/nationalblueribbonschools>