



NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON HONORS AWARDED TO FIVE NEBRASKA SCHOOLS

Five Nebraska schools have been named as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2022. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

The U.S. Department of Education recognized the five Nebraska schools for overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

The Nebraska schools that were honored are:

- Johnson-Brock Public Schools, Johnson-Brock Public School District in Johnson.
- Adams Elementary School, Lincoln Public School District in Lincoln.
- Humann Elementary School, Lincoln Public School District in Lincoln.
- Westside Elementary School, Norfolk Public School District in Norfolk.
- Skutt Catholic High School, Archdiocese of Omaha in Omaha.

"I applaud all the honorees for the 2022 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award for creating vibrant, welcoming, and affirming school communities where students can learn, grow, reach their potential, and achieve their dreams," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "As our country continues to recover from the pandemic, we know that our future will only be as strong as the education we provide to all of our children. Blue Ribbon Schools have gone above and beyond to keep students healthy and safe while meeting their academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. These schools show what is possible to make an enduring, positive difference in students' lives."

"We are thrilled to celebrate with the five Nebraska schools that have earned this achievement," said Nebraska Commissioner of Education Matthew Blomstedt. "Through focused work and determination these schools have provided excellent learning environments, despite a number of challenges, to help their students strive to be their best."

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap.

All schools are honored 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.

- Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school's subgroups and all students over the past five years.

Up to 420 schools may be nominated each year. The Department invites National Blue Ribbon School nominations from the top education official in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Department of Defense Education Activity and the Bureau of Indian Education. Private schools are nominated by The Council for American Private Education (CAPE).

NOTE TO EDITORS: Photographs and brief descriptions of the National Blue Ribbon Schools are available at <https://www.nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov/>.

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