



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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Alabama
State Board
of Education

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Governor Kay Ivey
President

**FIVE ALABAMA SCHOOLS NAMED
2024 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS**

Jackie Zeigler
District I

Montgomery, Ala. – The U.S. Department of Education today recognized 356 schools as the 2024 cohort of the National Blue Ribbon Schools, including five schools in Alabama. This prestigious recognition highlights schools that excel in academic performance or make significant strides in closing achievement gaps among different student groups.

Tracie West
District II

The Alabama schools named as National Blue Ribbon Schools were:

Stephanie Bell
District III

- Alabama – *EPIC Alternative Elementary School*, Birmingham City.
- Alabama – *East Elementary School*, Cullman City.
- Alabama – *Carver School of Mathematics, Science, and Technology*, Dothan City.
- Alabama – *Crestline Elementary School*, Hartselle City.
- Alabama – *Brookwood Forest Elementary School*, Mountain Brook City.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

“The National Blue Ribbon Schools Award is a testament to the exceptional achievements of students and educators at each of these schools,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. “The 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools are raising the bar for our nation’s students, serving as models for effective teaching and intentional collaboration in their schools and communities. As we celebrate their achievements, let us look to these schools for inspiration as we champion education as the foundation of a brighter future for every child.”

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V
Vice President

The 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools reflect the full diversity of American education and serve students from all backgrounds. While awardees represent a wide array of schools, they share common traits. National Blue Ribbon Schools are led by leaders who articulate a clear vision of instructional excellence and uphold high standards. They showcase effective teaching methods and offer robust professional development for their staff. Data-driven instruction is a hallmark, and there is a concerted effort to ensure every student succeeds. Collaboration among families, communities, and educators is a key component of their success.

Marie Manning
District VI
President Pro Tem

Belinda McRae
District VII

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII

A National Blue Ribbon School award flag displayed in a school’s entryway or on a flagpole is a widely recognized emblem of exceptional teaching and learning. These schools serve as models of effective and innovative practices for educators across the nation.

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Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

Five Alabama Schools Named 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools

The Department recognizes all schools based on student performance data including assessment results, student subgroup performance and graduation rates. Schools are recognized in both or either of two performance categories:

- **Exemplary High Performing Schools:** These schools are among the top performers in their state as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.
- **Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools:** These schools excel in narrowing achievement gaps between different student groups and the overall student body.

Each nominated school submits a comprehensive application detailing its school culture, curriculum, assessments, instructional practices, professional development, leadership, family, and community involvement.

Up to 420 schools may be nominated each year. The Department invites nominations for the National Blue Ribbon Schools award from the top education official in all states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the Bureau of Indian Education. Private schools are nominated by the Council for American Private Education.

NOTE TO EDITORS: Photographs and brief descriptions of the 2024 National Blue Ribbon Schools are available at <https://nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov/>

CONTACT: National Press Office, (202) 401-1576 or press@ed.gov

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