
Blue Ribbon Schools Recognition

The Background:

The U.S. Department of Education annually recognizes schools that demonstrate outstanding student achievement results. This prestigious program is the *Blue Ribbon Schools Program*. These schools were recognized with the other national Blue Ribbon Schools for 2010 in Washington, DC, in November 2010.

Blue Ribbon Schools must be first nominated by the chief state school officer (CSSO) as eligible. Based on state data, the CSSO certifies that the nominated schools meet one of two criteria:

- 1) At least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds and show dramatic improvement in test scores to high levels in at least the past three years in reading (language arts or English) and mathematics.
- 2) Regardless of demographics, achieves in the top 10 percent of schools in the state in the school's grade category as measured by state tests of reading (language arts or English) and mathematics in at least the last grade tested in the last year tested.

The nominated schools must successfully complete an intensive application process which is reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education.

Tennessee had six schools recognized as Blue Ribbon Schools for 2010. They are:

Schools in the top 10 percent of the State with at least 40 Percent Disadvantaged Students

1. Bethpage Elementary
Sumner County Schools
Bill Johnson, Principal
420 Pld Hwy 31 E
Bethpage, TN 37022
2. Cowan Elementary
Franklin County Schools
Cynthia Young, Principal
501 E. Cumberland Street
Cowan, TN 37318

Schools with at least 40 percent disadvantaged students that have dramatically improved student achievement to high levels

3. Big Sandy School
Benton County Schools
Marty Caruthers, Principal
13305 Hwy69A
Big Sandy, TN 38221

4. Douglass Elementary School
Shelby County Schools
Angela Brown, Principal
1650 Ash Street
Memphis, TN 38108

5. Grundy County High School
Grundy County Schools
William Childers, Principal
24970 SR 108
Coalmont, TN 37313

6. Townsend Elementary
Blount County Schools
John Dalton, Principal
140 Tiger Drive
Townsend, TN 37882

The Master Plan Connection:

These items supports the Board's Master Plan by providing access to a high-quality curriculum in schools using standards of excellence as evidenced by student achievement and high school quality.

It supports quality teaching with characteristics of a dedicated staff and an effective community as well as excellent district and school leadership.

The Recommendation:

For informational purposes only; no action required.