

National Blue Ribbon Schools Recognition

The Background:

Through the prestigious National Blue Ribbon Schools Program, the U.S. Department of Education annually recognizes elementary, middle, and high schools based on outstanding academic achievement and gap closure. The National Blue Ribbon School award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The National Blue Ribbon School flag gracing an entry or flying overhead is a widely recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

States are invited to nominate schools for recognition based on very specific criteria defined by the U.S. Department of Education. Nominated schools must then successfully complete an intensive application process, which is reviewed for approval by the U.S. Department of Education. Blue Ribbon Schools are recognized in two award categories: “Exemplary High Performing” schools that demonstrate exceptional academic achievement and “Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing” schools that make great advances in closing subgroup achievement gaps.

For 2016, Tennessee had six public schools recognized as National Blue Ribbon Schools. In November 2016, these schools were recognized at a national ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Exemplary High Performing Schools	Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools
<p>Brentwood Middle School Dr. Brandon Barkley, Principal Williamson County Schools 5324 Murray Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027</p>	<p>Bethpage Elementary School Mr. David Woodard, Principal Sumner County Schools 420 Old Hwy 31 East, Bethpage, TN 37022-8252</p>
<p>Glendale Elementary School Ms. Jeanna Collins, Principal* Metro Nashville Public Schools 800 Thompson Ave, Nashville, TN 37204 *Sue Clark was the principal when nominated</p>	<p>Jackson Elementary School Ms. Yolanda Heidelberg, Principal Shelby County Schools 3925 Wales Rd, Memphis, TN 38108-2177</p>
<p>Walnut Grove Elementary School Dr. Kate Donnelly, Principal Williamson County Schools 326 Stable Road, Franklin, TN 37069</p>	<p>John P. Freeman Optional School Ms. Randi Scott Howard, Principal Shelby County Schools 5250 Tulane Rd, Memphis, TN 38109-7510</p>

The Recommendation:

For information purposes only; no action required.