



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

**IN RECOGNITION OF
EXEMPLARY HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOL
SOUTHEAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
TULSA, OKLAHOMA
2014 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL
September 30, 2014**

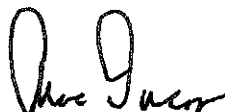
Congratulations on earning National Blue Ribbon School recognition as a 2014 Exemplary High Performing School. The U.S. Department of Education is pleased to acknowledge your efforts to support all students in reaching high academic standards. Your school is an inspiring example of excellence in education.

President Barack Obama and I firmly believe that we must prepare every student to graduate from high school ready to attend college or begin a career. We are committed to transforming our education system to remove barriers that prevent our students from accessing a learning environment that fosters high expectations and high achievement. Our nation's success depends on well-educated and highly effective citizens.

Schools like yours demonstrate that, with effort and dedication, schools and classrooms can be great places where students engage in the kinds of complex and creative thinking necessary in a global economy. By empowering every child to become a lifelong learner and an engaged citizen, you and your colleagues are creating the leaders of tomorrow. Your example is a powerful inspiration to other educators. I hope that you will work with other schools to share the practices that have made your school exemplary.

The U.S. Department of Education looks forward to celebrating your accomplishments at the 2014 National Blue Ribbon School recognition events in Washington, D.C., November 10-11, 2014, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, N.W. Two representatives from your school are invited to attend. I look forward to seeing you at the awards ceremony.

Congratulations again on your well-deserved honor. I wish you and your students continued success in the years ahead.


Arne Duncan