

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2018

U.S. Department of Education Announces Naperville North High School a 2018 National Blue Ribbon School

Naperville, IL – U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos today recognized 349 schools as [National Blue Ribbon Schools](#) for 2018 including Naperville Community Unit School District 203's Naperville North High School. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

"I'm pleased to celebrate with you as your school is named a National Blue Ribbon School," said U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos in a video message to the honorees. "We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers and meaningful lives. Congratulations on your students' accomplishments and for your extraordinary commitment to meeting their unique needs."

"We are honored to have Naperville North High School named a Blue Ribbon School," said Superintendent Dan Bridges. "This recognition affirms the hard work of our educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content."

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 student groups and all students over the past five years.

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“We are proud to have been awarded as a Blue Ribbon School in the Exemplary High Performing Schools category,” said Stephanie Posey, Principal, Naperville North High School. “Our teachers engage students in learning at the highest levels by utilizing research-based best practices and analyzing academic data to set goals for growth.”

Now in its 36th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 8,800 schools. On November 7-8, the Secretary and the Department of Education will celebrate with 300 public and 49 private school honorees at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

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).

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ABOUT US: Naperville Community Unit School District 203 is a nationally recognized pre-K-12 school district of 16,800 students in two high schools, five junior highs, 14 elementary schools, and one early childhood center. The educational program of the Naperville 203 school district is designed to provide excellence for all students, and founded in the mission of educating students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors. #empower203