



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

**IN RECOGNITION OF
SAINT SEBASTIAN PARISH SCHOOL IN AKRON, OHIO
AS A
2023 EXEMPLARY HIGH PERFORMING NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

September 28, 2023

Congratulations on achieving recognition as a 2023 Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School! Your dedication to cultivating an inclusive and nurturing environment for learning, coupled with your focus on academic excellence for every student, is truly commendable.

Each day, you encourage and guide students as they embark on a journey of lifelong learning. You set an extraordinary standard for educational excellence and help to prepare your students for fulfilling careers and to fully participate in our democratic society. Your efforts are a key part of how we are raising the bar in education in this country—showing how with support and resources, all students, regardless of their backgrounds or circumstances, can rise to meet the highest expectations we hold for their achievement.

Your distinction as a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School also is a testament to your school's intentional collaboration with parents, families, and your broader community to wrap students in care for their overall well-being and to provide them with rich, well-rounded, and engaging learning experiences.

Your practices are serving as a model for schools across the United States.

The U.S. Department of Education is excited to honor your achievements at the 2023 National Blue Ribbon Schools Awards ceremony, scheduled to take place at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, located at 2500 Calvert Street N.W., in Washington, D.C., on November 16 and November 17, 2023.

We extend an invitation to two representatives from your school, as well as your superintendent, to attend this celebration.

Thank you again for your work to ensure your students are served in nurturing, inclusive, and welcoming environments for learning where they can gain the knowledge and skills to thrive in school and beyond.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Miguel A. Cardona".

Miguel A. Cardona, Ed.D.
U. S. Secretary of Education