



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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FIVE ALABAMA SCHOOLS RECOGNIZED AS 2014 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

Montgomery, Ala. – [Five Alabama public schools](#) were recognized today based on their overall academic excellence or for making progress in improving student academic achievement levels. U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan recognized 337 national schools as 2014 Blue Ribbon Schools.

The USDE will honor approximately 287 public and 50 private schools at a recognition ceremony on November 10-11 in Washington, D.C. In its 32-year history, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed this coveted award on nearly 7,900 of America’s schools.

Alabama schools honored:

System Name	School Name	Principal
Winfield City	Winfield Elementary School	Roy Gilbert Williams
Dothan City	Heard Magnet School	Peggy Maddox
Dothan City	Beverlye Magnet School	Maria Johnson
Tuscaloosa City	Tuscaloosa Magnet School—Elem.	Jean Burkhalter
Mountain Brook City	Mountain Brook Junior High School	William Donald Clayton

[The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program](#) honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students either achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. The award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content.

All schools are recognized 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. Student subgroup performance and high school graduation rates are also at the highest levels.
- *Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools* are among their state’s highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school’s subgroups and

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all students over the past five years. Student subgroup performance and high school graduation rates for each subgroup are at high levels.

Specifically, for the 2013-2014 award year, the Department strengthened the focus of both categories' performance criteria around subgroups within a school and improving graduation rates for all students. A list of the 2014 National Blue Ribbon Schools is available at <http://nationalblueribbonsschools.ed.gov/awardwinners/>.

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