



THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20202

**IN RECOGNITION OF  
BRANDON ACADEMY  
AS A 2010 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**  
September 2010

Congratulations on earning national recognition as a 2010 Blue Ribbon School.

As President Barack Obama said, "...an education can fortify us to rise above any barrier, to meet any test..." Schools such as yours confirm this truth. You have proven that parents, teachers, staff, administrators, and community leaders working together can nurture students to reach their full potential. Your dedication to excellence reminds us that with determination and effort, anything is possible.

Our nation has a responsibility to help all children realize their full potential. Schools honored with the Blue Ribbon Schools Award are committed to achievement and to ensuring that students learn and succeed. Your work reflects the conviction that every child has promise and must receive a quality education.

I applaud you for your dedication to academic excellence and for your commitment to improving education in America. By helping your students learn and by caring for them as individuals, you are a model for your state and for the nation.

We look forward to celebrating your award with our Blue Ribbon Schools partners—the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the National Middle School Association, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and the Council of Chief State School Officers. We are pleased to invite two representatives from your school—the principal and a teacher or staff member—to attend the national recognition events. They will be held November 15-16, 2010, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, NW, in Washington, DC.

Thank you for your contributions to the vital endeavor of educating our nation's children, and congratulations on your accomplishments as a 2010 Blue Ribbon School.

  
Arne Duncan