



Opportunity Through Education

Brian Schroeder – *Superintendent of Public Instruction*
Chad Auer – *Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction*

Wyoming Department of Education
122 W. 25th St., Ste. E200
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7675

MEMORANDUM NO. 2022–115

TO: School District Superintendents
Title I Grant Managers
Principals

FROM: Shelley Hamel, Chief Academic Officer

DATE: October 3, 2022

SUBJECT: Two Wyoming Schools Named 2022 National Blue Ribbon Schools

COFFEEN ELEMENTARY AND WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY NAMED 2022 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

Coffeen Elementary in Sheridan County School District #2 and Washington Elementary in Sweetwater County School District #2 were recognized on September 16, 2022, by the U.S. Department of Education (USED) as National Blue Ribbon Schools (NBRS) for overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. The NBRS will host an awards [ceremony](#) on November 3 and 4, 2022, in Washington, D.C.

“I applaud all the honorees for the 2022 NBRS Award for creating vibrant, welcoming, and affirming school communities where students can learn, grow, reach their potential, and achieve their dreams,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. “As our country continues to recover from the pandemic, we know that our future will only be as strong as the education we provide to all of our children. Blue Ribbon Schools have gone above and beyond to keep students healthy and safe while meeting their academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. These schools show what is possible to make an enduring, positive difference in students’ lives.”

With its 39th cohort, the NBRS Program has bestowed about 10,000 awards to more than 9,000 schools. This award affirms and validates the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in striving for and attaining exemplary achievement. NBRS serve as models of

effective school practices for state and district educators and other schools throughout the nation. A NBRS emblazoned flag gracing a school's entryway or on a flagpole is a widely recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning. Up to 420 schools may be nominated each year. USED invites **[nominations](#)** from the top education official in all states, the District of Columbia, U.S. territories, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the Bureau of Indian Education.

For more information, contact Les Koch, Title I Coordinator and National Blue Ribbon Schools Wyoming State Liaison, at 307-777-6216 or les.koch1@wyo.gov.