



**SANDY GARRETT**  
**STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**  
**STATE OF OKLAHOMA**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Wednesday, September 16, 2009

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:** [Shelly Hickman](#), Public Affairs Director, (405) 521-3371

**State Superintendent congratulates Oklahoma schools named  
2009 National Blue Ribbon Schools**

OKLAHOMA CITY - State Superintendent Sandy Garrett today congratulated the six Oklahoma schools that have been named 2009 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education.

"The Blue Ribbon Program is a long-standing program and has survived the test of time because it is completely results driven," Garrett said. "To be a Blue Ribbon School, a school must be producing extraordinary results or making dramatic improvements in student achievement. We're proud that 81 schools in Oklahoma now have this distinction and are pleased to congratulate this year's worthy winners. Their staff, parents and students should be very proud!"

Garrett added that states are limited by the number of schools they can nominate by their respective populations, and that schools must make formal application.

The following 2009 winning schools from Oklahoma will be honored at an awards ceremony on Nov. 3 in Washington, D.C., and be given a Blue Ribbon flag to fly proudly at their school site:

Booker T. Washington High School in the Tulsa Public Schools (top 10 percent of the state with at least 40 percent disadvantaged students)  
West Junior High School in the Moore Public Schools (dramatic academic improvement with at least 40 percent disadvantaged students)  
Wilson Elementary in the Miami Public Schools (dramatic academic improvement with at least 40 percent disadvantaged students)  
Cheyenne Middle School in the Edmond Public Schools (schools in the top 10 percent with fewer than 40 percent disadvantaged students)  
Plainview High School in the Plainview Public Schools in Carter County (schools in the top 10 percent with fewer than 40 percent disadvantaged students)  
Roosa Elementary in the Claremore Public Schools (schools in the top 10 percent with fewer than 40 percent disadvantaged students)

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has honored public and private K-12 schools that are either academically superior in their states or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement for 27 years.

The Blue Ribbon Schools program requires schools to meet either of two assessment criteria. It recognizes schools that have at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds that dramatically improve student performance in accordance with state assessment systems; and it rewards schools that score in the top 10 percent on state assessments.

[Click here](#) for a master list of all National Blue Ribbon Schools in Oklahoma.

- SDE -