



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

September 28, 2017

Dear Principal of *North Kossuth Elementary School*:

Congratulations! *North Kossuth Elementary School* in *North Kossuth Community School District* has been designated an *Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing National Blue Ribbon School for 2017* by U. S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. Your school is one of **342** schools in the nation and one of **5** schools from *Iowa* to be recognized in 2017. Enclosed is your school's official letter of designation for your records.

We are looking forward to celebrating your school's success at the awards ceremony on Monday, November 6 and Tuesday, November 7. We have a number of activities planned for the two days. Ceremonial events and activities begin the afternoon of Monday, November 6 and culminate in the awards lunch and presentation on Tuesday, November 7. We anticipate that all activities will wrap up at about 4:00 pm on Tuesday. Please visit <https://www.nationalblueribbonsschools.ed.gov> to check on ceremony updates and/or for additional information about celebrating your recognition.

We realize that Tuesday, November 7 is Election Day for statewide offices in some states. If applicable, please consider voting early or by absentee ballot. We do apologize for this inconvenience.

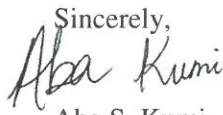
Each school representative is responsible for travel, hotel reservations, and expenses, and must present photo identification at registration. Each school may be represented by the building principal and one teacher (or staff member) at the ceremony. School District superintendents will receive a separate invitation and will be included as part of the official school representatives if they choose to attend the ceremony.

Due to our limited budget for this year's awards ceremony, it is not possible to increase the number of school representatives beyond two persons. The only exception applies to schools that have indicated that the principal at the time of nomination is no longer the current principal (in which case the principal at the time of nomination/application is also invited). We will not have an overflow room for additional school supporters.

Within a few days of receipt of this letter, you will receive an email from Judy Cercone with a link to download the official camera-ready 2017 National Blue Ribbon School logo in jpg and printer friendly eps formats. If you need the logo in another format, please email Judy at [jcercone@rmcres.com](mailto:jcercone@rmcres.com) with your request. When using the program's logo, the year must be clearly displayed. All references to your National Blue Ribbon School status on signs, banners, letterheads, etc., must clearly show the year of recognition, that is, 2017. The official National Blue Ribbon School logo cannot be modified.

The list of all 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools is available on the U. S. Department of Education's website at <https://www.ed.gov/nationalblueribbonsschools>.

We hope you find your time in Washington, DC professionally rewarding as well as exciting. If you have any questions, please call me on 202-401-1767 or email me at [aba.kumi@ed.gov](mailto:aba.kumi@ed.gov). Congratulations!

Sincerely,  
  
Aba S. Kumi  
Director

Enclosures

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[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

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