



# NEWS

**Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed.D.**  
**Superintendent**



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **ALLEN FREAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECOGNIZED AS A NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

(Wyoming, DE.) Earlier this morning, Allen Frear Elementary School in Camden was recognized by Secretary of Education Arne Duncan as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School.

“Our school motto “One Team, One Goal, No Limits!” is why we are a National Blue Ribbon School,” said Tara Faircloth, principal at Allen Frear. “Working as one team, we rely on each other with the same goal: ‘Success for all students!’ There are no limits to what Allen Frear students can achieve so we strive to involve everyone on our team so students get the best education. We are so incredibly proud of being proclaimed a National Blue Ribbon school!”

“I am so pleased of the students and staff at Allen Frear and all they have accomplished in being selected as a National Blue Ribbon School,” said Caesar Rodney School District Superintendent Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald. “One of the more fascinating stories behind Allen Frear’s selection is while being judged as a National Blue Ribbon school, the school was undergoing major renovations; students had to be relocated in three separate buildings. That was a significant challenge. Yet, when you think of the tremendous efforts the staff, the students and the administrators endured in overcoming these obstacles and still be recognized as a Blue Ribbon School, today’s announcement is a validation of their commitment and hard work.”

Since the National Blue Ribbon School program began 31 years ago, three other Caesar Rodney School District schools have been chosen for this prestigious honor: Star Hill Elementary School in 2012, Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary School in 2011 and Caesar Rodney High School in 1984. “The district couldn’t be more proud of the fact that the Caesar Rodney School District has had three elementary schools recognized with this national award in consecutive years, said Dr. Fitzgerald.”

The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement.

The program recognizes schools in one of two performance categories. The first category is "Exemplary High Performing," in which schools are recognized among their state's highest performing schools, as measured by state assessments or nationally-normed tests. The second

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category is "Exemplary Improving," in which schools that have at least 40 percent of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds demonstrate the most progress in improving student achievement levels as measured by state assessments or nationally-normed tests. Allen Frear was selected in the "Exemplary High Performing" category.

Principal Faircloth and a teacher representative from Frear Elementary will be invited to attend the national awards ceremony in Washington D.C. in November.

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Students and staff of Allen Frear Elementary School rejoice after hearing news that their school has been recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School.

*“Where Educational Excellence is a Tradition”*