



# MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 04, 2010

Contact: Rachel Woods  
Phone: 615.253.1960

## Tennessee Names 2010 Nominees for National Blue Ribbon Award

Nashville, TN – Six Tennessee schools will be considered for the 2010 Blue Ribbon Schools award, a national honor recognizing academic excellence. Schools nominated this year have at least 40 percent of students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and either performed in the top 10 percent in the state, or made exceptional progress in academic achievement on state assessments.

These schools are invited by the U.S. Secretary of Education to complete the award application and will be reviewed by a federal assessment panel to determine national winners.

“These schools serve as a model for other schools across our state and the nation,” Education Commissioner Timothy Webb said. “Their performance is to be commended.”

The 2010 Blue Ribbon School nominees are:

Qualification Category	Nominated School
Schools in the top 10 percent of the state with at least 40 percent disadvantaged students	Bethpage Elementary, Sumner County Cowan Elementary, Franklin County
Schools that are dramatically improving in the top 40 percent of the schools in the state with at least 40 percent disadvantaged students	Big Sandy School, Benton County Douglass School, Memphis City Schools Grundy Co. High School, Grundy County Townsend Elementary, Blount County

“The nomination of these schools recognizes the hard work of staff and students throughout the year,” said Dr. Julie McCargar, Executive Director of Federal Programs. “Students are making great gains and benefiting from a quality education.”

Winners, to be announced in the fall, will be honored at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. and receive a plaque and flag signifying their accomplishments.

For more information, contact Rachel Woods at (615) 253-1960 or [Rachel.Woods@tn.gov](mailto:Rachel.Woods@tn.gov).

###

ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER, 6TH FLOOR  
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243  
615.741.2731