



Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Bill Reinhard, 410.767.0486

TWO MARYLAND SCHOOLS, ONE SYSTEM RECEIVE NATIONAL GREEN RIBBON

FEDERAL OFFICIALS TAP ALL THREE STATE NOMINEES, ALL FROM MONTGOMERY COUNTY

BALTIMORE (April 22, 2013) – Two Maryland schools and one local school system today were among the recipients of the U.S. Department of Education’s 2013 Green Ribbon Schools (GRS) Awards.

Cedar Grove Elementary and Summit Hall Elementary Schools, both in Montgomery County, as well as the Montgomery County Public School System received Green Ribbon recognition. They were the only three entities nominated this year by the Maryland State Department of Education.

U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan, along with Nancy Sutley, chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality and Bob Persiaclepe, Acting Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, made the announcement in Washington, DC, as part of an Earth Day Celebration.

Montgomery County is one of 14 inaugural honorees of the District Sustainability Award, and the two schools are among 64 schools announced as Green Ribbon Schools recipients. This is the GRS program’s second year of existence. State education agencies, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education, participated in the second year of the GRS award program. Four Maryland schools were honored with the award during the inaugural year of 2012.

“Today’s honorees are modeling a comprehensive approach to being green,” said Secretary Duncan. “They are demonstrating ways schools can simultaneously cut costs, improve health performance and equity; and provide an education geared toward the jobs of the future. In fact, the selected districts are saving millions of dollars as a result of their greening efforts. And the great thing is that the resources these honorees are using are free to all schools.”

Federal officials recognized schools that save energy, reduce costs, feature environmentally sustainable learning spaces, protect health, foster wellness, and offer environmental education to boost academic achievement and community engagement.

“These award-winning schools are emblematic of the efforts going on throughout Maryland, part of our State’s long-term commitment to environmental education and to practices that improve our world for future generations,” said State Superintendent of Schools Lillian M. Lowery.

(more)

Maryland Public Schools: ***#1 in the Nation Five Years in a Row***



Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

TWO MARYLAND SCHOOLS, ONE SYSTEM RECEIVE NATIONAL GREEN RIBBON

Page Two

The U.S. Department of Education is already looking forward to the third year of the GRS award, and will be publishing updated competition criteria this summer, once again working closely with participating states, collaborating organizations, and partner agencies.

###