



2018 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS, DISTRICT SUSTAINABILITY AWARDEES, AND POSTSECONDARY SUSTAINABILITY AWARDEES ANNOUNCED

FOR RELEASE: Sept. 18, 2018
Contact: Press Office

U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Honorees from the Illinois Green Alliance Announced

Award Honors Schools, Districts, and Postsecondary Institutions for Reducing Environmental Impact and Costs, Improving Health and Wellness, Offering Effective Sustainability Education

The U.S. Department of Education today released the names of the 2018 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools, District Sustainability Awardees, and Postsecondary Sustainability Awardees. 46 schools, 6 districts, and 6 colleges from Illinois are among the 2018 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS).

Across the country, 46 schools, six districts, and six postsecondary institutions are being honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and ensure effective sustainability education.

Wolcott School, located in Chicago, was nominated by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE); Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE); and the Illinois Green Alliance, a nonprofit that works to make the region sustainable, profitable and healthy.

Wolcott School is an exemplary college preparatory high school for students with learning differences, tailored to the strengths and aspirations of each student. Employing best practices, our expert faculty is committed to helping each student achieve academically, communicate effectively, and grow socially as well as develop the self-awareness, confidence, and resilience to thrive in college and beyond

“I’m overjoyed and thankful to be a part of the phenomenal team of students, staff, and faculty that helped us win this award. I hope that our accomplishment serves as a model for our country to inspire our students to work hard, take risks and to overcome challenges in order to achieve greater things. I look forward to our brighter future together to empower our students to make a positive change in the world,” said Kenny Bae, Physics and Environmental Science instructor.



GreenRibbonSchools



“I was surprised we received a letter of recognition from Betsy DeVos and Bruce Rauner. I’m very thankful for their support. I hope that more schools across the country can strive for the three pillars to become a Green Ribbon School”, he said.

The honorees were named from a pool of candidates nominated by 25 states and the Department of Defense Department of Education Activity. The selectees include 40 public schools, including two magnet schools and two charter schools, as well as six nonpublic schools. Forty-five percent of the 2018 honorees serve a disadvantaged student body.

The list of all selected schools, districts, colleges, and universities, as well as their nomination packages, can be found [here](#). A report with highlights on the honorees can be found [here](#). More information on the federal recognition award can be found [here](#). Resources for all schools to move toward the three Pillars can be found [here](#).

