

Blue Rapids school honored

(KMZA)--The Valley Heights Elementary School in Blue Rapids has been named a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School, one of four elementary schools in Kansas to receive the honor.

The announcement was made Tuesday by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Department of Education said in a release that recognition is based on a school- overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

The release says the award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in striving for - and attaining - exemplary achievement.

There were 353 schools across the country designated as 2023 National Blue Ribbon Schools—including the four in Kansas.

All Kansas schools were recognized in the Exemplary High Performing Schools category.

Now in its 40th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools program has presented about 10,000 awards to more than 9,700 schools, with some schools winning multiple awards.

In Kansas, 145 schools have been designated as National Blue Ribbon Schools since the program's inception in 1983.

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