



# NEWS

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DR. DIANNA R. WENTZELL, COMMISSIONER

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## **Gov. Malloy and Commissioner Wentzell Commend Three Connecticut Schools Awarded Prestigious National Blue Ribbon Distinction**

### **Schools in Bolton, Groton, and Newington Recognized for Exemplary Academic Performance**

(HARTFORD, CT) - Governor Dannel P. Malloy and State Education Commissioner Dianna R. Wentzell today announced that three Connecticut schools in Bolton, Groton, and Newington have been distinguished by the U.S. Department of Education as 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program is an annual award recognizing schools for their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps between student subgroups.

"Every student deserves the kind of education that allows them to thrive and prepares them for success in life. And with exemplar schools like Anna Reynolds School in Newington, Bolton High School, and Charles Barnum School in Groton inspiring a love of learning in our students, it's no wonder that we have record high graduation rates and students who are among the best readers in the nation," said Governor Malloy. "We congratulate these three schools and look for opportunities to share their successful strategies with schools across the state."

"Today we celebrate three exemplary Connecticut schools that are equipping students with the skills and knowledge they need to rise to their potential and achieve their dreams," said Commissioner Wentzell. "Every child deserves an excellent education, and these communities of parents, educators, and other key partners have worked tirelessly to make this a reality for their students. Congratulations to these schools and thank you for your commitment to helping all kids succeed."

Newington's Anna Reynolds School and Bolton High School received honors in the Exemplary High Performing Schools category for high student achievement and graduation rates.

Groton's Charles Barnum School was recognized as an Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing School for its track record of closing achievement gaps between subgroups.

For more information about the program, please visit the USED's [National Blue Ribbon Schools Program webpage](#).

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