



October 1, 2018

Dear AHS School Community,

Congratulations to the Abington High School students and staff on your recent United States Department of Education 2018 National Blue Ribbon Award! Abington High School has been specifically recognized for making significant progress for closing achievement gaps among different groups of students. The recent graduation rates and the MCAS scores of the last five years enabled our school to qualify for this very prestigious award.

I am so proud of the entire school community for all of their work focused on supporting our students with disabilities, our students whose first language is not English, and our students whose family income may pose obstacles to academic achievement.

It is an exceptional distinction to be among the few "Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools" in the nation. I am honored to share in this very important achievement with all of you. I believe that efforts to close achievement gaps speak volumes about our inclusive climate and culture. Although the nation recognizes and celebrates achievement test scores, as Principal of AHS, I am just as proud of the values of tolerance, respect, kindness, humanity, and compassion consistently displayed by our students and staff.

The attached document outlines the criteria necessary for schools to be considered for the Blue Ribbon Program. In addition to the achievement score criteria, last spring, AHS submitted a comprehensive narrative to support our application.

Sincerely,

Teresa Sullivan

Teresa Sullivan, Ph.D.
Principal