

State of Michigan
State Board of Education

RESOLUTION

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON RECOGNITION PROGRAM MARCH 2002

WHEREAS, since 1982, the Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan State Board of Education have participated in the National Blue Ribbon Recognition Program; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program identifies and recognizes outstanding public schools across the state that provide students a world-class education; and

WHEREAS, the program makes research-based effectiveness criteria available to all schools so that they can assess themselves and plan school improvements that are vital to the continued success of students, staff members, and the community which the school serves; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program encourages school staff, both within and among themselves, to share information about best practices based on a common understanding of criteria related to educational success; and

WHEREAS, since the program's inception in Michigan, more than 350 Michigan schools have been honored as models of excellence and equity; and

WHEREAS, Blue Ribbon Schools consistently demonstrate sustained success in achieving these values as well as overcoming obstacles and can provide evidence of five years of improved and/or sustained student achievement; and

WHEREAS, the precepts of the Blue Ribbon Schools program are truly mirrored in the State Board of Education's strategic goal of lifting up all schools, with an emphasis on improving achievement levels in chronically underperforming schools; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education supports the National Blue Ribbon Schools Recognition Program, and encourages local school districts and community leaders to appropriately recognize that quality schools, as exemplified in the Blue Ribbon Schools Program, are vital to the health of our communities; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education encourages the United States Department of Education to continue the National Blue Ribbon Recognition Program, and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That if the United States Department of Education does not continue the National Blue Ribbon Recognition Program, that the State Board of Education will maintain the Blue Ribbon Recognition Program in Michigan.



Adopted March 14, 2002

Kathleen N. Straus, President

Thomas D. Watkins, Chairman