



# FAIR LAWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**A STATEMENT FROM MR. NICHOLAS J. NORCIA, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

## **MILNES RECOGNIZED AS A 2020 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE**

**FAIR LAWN, N.J. (Sept. 24, 2020)** - H.B. Milnes Elementary School is the recipient of the 2020 National Blue Ribbon School award for high performance, which was announced earlier today by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE). The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance and is the highest honor a school can receive from the DOE.

Milnes was honored today in a videotaped announcement by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. (YouTube link below and for quick viewing, scroll to 19:32). Milnes was among 367 schools honored today from across the country.

"I am so proud of the positive school culture that we have here at Milnes School. All staff members are committed to helping our students learn, grow, and achieve academically, socially, and emotionally," said Principal Stephanie Primavera, who gathered with teachers in the Milnes' media center to watch the announcement.

"All of the credit is really due to the hard work of our teachers, students and supportive parents. I'd also like to thank our committee, who tirelessly worked putting together our application," added Primavera.

In February 2020, Milnes School was notified they had been nominated as a Blue Ribbon school for high achievement.

"I like to congratulate Milnes School on their 2020 National Blue Ribbon School award and for their commitment to creating a climate centered around establishing and maintaining high academic expectations," said Superintendent Nick Norcia.

Schools win recognition in one of two performance categories:

- Exemplary High Performing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.
- Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school's student groups and all students.

The 2020 National Blue Ribbon Schools Awards Ceremony will be held virtually on Nov. 12 and Nov. 13.

YouTube 2020 Blue Ribbon School [Video](#).