



PRESS RELEASE



**Souderton Charter School Collaborative
Souderton, Pennsylvania
September 24, 2013**

**SOUDERTON CHARTER SCHOOL COLLABORATIVE RECOGNIZED BY
U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION
AS A 2013 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan today recognized Souderton Charter School Collaborative (SCSC) as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School. SCSC was awarded the Blue Ribbon honor in the Exemplary High Performing category based on its consistent academic excellence. SCSC is among only 286 schools across the U.S. to receive the 2013 award.

Wendy Ormsby and Jennifer Arevalo, the school's co-Directors, shared the news with entire school body at 9am this morning when Secretary Duncan made the announcement via a live video stream. Ormsby said, "We are proud to be recognized as making a difference in the lives of our students and impacting the larger landscape of public education." Arevalo said, "Our success is the result of the innovation and passion that originates from our entire school community."

Dawn Farrell, a parent, stated “There is no other school like SCSC. I hope that with this award, other schools take notice and learn more about how this school has reinvented education for each and every child.”

SCSC opened in 2000 and is a public charter school located at 110 East Broad Street, Souderton, Pennsylvania. SCSC offers a hands-on, project-based curriculum, combining a rigorous academic curriculum with an emphasis on innovation and individualized learning for every child.

“Excellence in education matters and we should honor the schools that are leading the way to prepare students for success in college and careers,” said Secretary Duncan. “National Blue Ribbon schools represent examples of educational excellence, and their work reflects the belief that every child in America deserves a world-class education.”

To select National Blue Ribbon Schools, the Department requested nominations from the top education official in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and the Bureau of Indian Education. The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) nominates private schools. A total of 420 schools nationwide may be nominated, with allocations determined by the numbers of K-12 students and schools in each jurisdiction. The Secretary of Education invites nominated schools to submit an application for possible recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School.

The Department will honor 236 public and 50 private schools at the national recognition ceremony on Nov. 18-19 in Washington, D.C.

NOTE TO EDITORS: A list of the 2013 National Blue Ribbon Schools is available at <http://www.ed.gov/nationalblueribbonsschools>.