

Lakeridge Junior High Named National Blue Ribbon School

- The **National Blue Ribbon Schools Program** is a United States government program created in 1982 to honor schools which have achieved high levels of performance or made significant improvements in closing the achievement gap in schools where at least 40% of the student population is classified as disadvantaged. Specifically, for the 2013-2014 award year, the Department strengthened the focus of both categories' performance criteria around subgroups within a school and improving graduation rates for all students. The award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content.
- Lakeridge Junior High was nationally recognized by U.S. Department of Education as an **Exemplary High Performing School**. To earn this recognition, Lakeridge is among the nation's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. Student subgroup performance and high school graduation rates are also at the highest levels.
- In its 32-year history, the [National Blue Ribbon Schools Program](#) has bestowed this coveted award on just under 7,900 of America's schools. This year they honored 337 public and private schools. Of the 337, only 25 middle level schools were honored, with seven found in the western United States; five from California, one in New Mexico, and Lakeridge Junior High in Utah.
- Two Utah Schools were honored this year—Lakeridge Junior High in Orem and Lincoln Elementary School in Hyrum, UT.
- This is the second National Blue Ribbon School designation for Alpine School District. Central Elementary in Pleasant Grove was honored in 2013.
- Lakeridge also earned “Best of State in Education—Public/Private Schools” awards in 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2013.
- The Department Of Education will honor 287 public and 50 private schools at a recognition ceremony on Nov. 10-11 in Washington, D.C.
- Reasons Lakeridge felt they were successful:
 - Our faculty, staff, and School Community Council work together and are committed to do whatever it takes to help all students learn.
 - We are a Professional Learning Community which means we meet in department teams to gather and analyze student learning data which allows us to diagnose and respond to learning deficiencies and improve instruction.
 - We created and implemented FLEX-- a 30 minute time period built into the school day for students who need additional time or help learning. This time allows struggling students to return to their teachers for additional instruction or attend an activity if they show they have learned the content.
 - Everyone works diligently to make sure all students are successful. This would not have been possible without out our amazing and supportive community!