



The Launchpad to Success 

Oriole Lane Elementary School Named 2017 National Blue Ribbon School

The U.S. Department of Education has named Oriole Lane Elementary School in the Mequon-Thiensville School District a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School, placing it among the nation's highest performing schools.

Since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education has recognized schools that demonstrate overall academic excellence or notable progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Only about 8,500 schools nationwide have received the designation since the inception of the program. Oriole Lane is the third school in the Mequon-Thiensville School District to earn the honor, joining Homestead High School (2004) and Lake Shore Middle School (2015).

“It is our job as educators to ignite each student’s potential,” said Matthew Joynt, superintendent of schools. “In our quest to achieve that mission we are constantly seeking opportunities to improve. This award affirms the work of the Oriole Lane Elementary School community in striving to provide the tools and resources necessary to launch each student on his or her path to success.”

Oriole Lane earned its recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School for closing gaps in achievement by creating a learning environment where all students are supported in mastering rigorous content. Oriole Lane educators leverage research and best practices in order to identify areas of support or extension for each child. Educators use professional learning communities to analyze student work, review data, develop measurable goals for individual students and create action plans for success. As a result of this intentional focus, Oriole Lane has seen measurable success in closing gaps in achievement among student groups. On the most recent Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Report Card, Oriole Lane achieved the second-highest overall score for a 4K-5 school in Wisconsin, with a score of 95.7.

“By understanding and knowing each child, Oriole Lane teachers are able to provide each child with the tools he or she needs to succeed,” said Mary Jo Tye, principal of Oriole Lane. “Our students are mastering challenging content as they prepare to take on the world. I am so proud of our entire community of students, educators, parents and our community for embracing and empowering our shared purpose.”

The Department of Education will honor its 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools in Washington, D.C. this November. Oriole Lane will also celebrate the recognition with a ceremony this November. Details forthcoming.

For more information on the U.S. Department of Education’s Blue Ribbon Schools program, visit <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/index.html>.