



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC SCHOOL WINS 3RD NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD
PRINCIPAL BOGARD ACCEPTS HONOR IN WASHINGTON D.C.

HOUSTON –St. John Paul II Catholic School (“StJPII”) has been named a 2018 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. StJPII is one among 300 public and 49 private schools receiving this honor nationally. StJPII has already twice received this honor, once in 1997 and again in 2008. Winning in 2018 makes StJPII the first and only elementary school in Houston (public or private) to receive the National Blue Ribbon School award three times, and one of only five schools in the nation to receive a third award this year. National Blue Ribbon Schools are on education’s cutting edge, pioneering innovative educational practices in the classroom and beyond.

StJPII Principal Rebecca Bogard accepted the award on behalf of StJPII in Washington D.C. on November 8, 2018. She was accompanied by Elementary Assistant Principal Suzy de Leon. During the awards ceremony, administrators heard from Secretary DeVos and shared best practices with other esteemed educators.

Earlier in the month, the StJPII student body enjoyed a patriotic assembly celebrating their hard-won achievements. The campus was adorned with festive blue ribbons, children received commemorative blue ribbon t-shirts and the students were surprised with a video montage featuring local celebrities congratulating them on their achievements. One such local dignitary was Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner who said, “I know this award is possible because the students at St. John Paul II work hard and parents and teachers showed their dedication to excellence. Continue to be a great example for other schools. I’m proud of you, the entire city is proud of you.” After the assembly, students were treated to ice cream compliments of Blue Bell Creameries.

StJPII is dedicated to working in partnership with parents to develop students into future leaders. The foundation that the faculty provides prepares StJPII students spiritually and academically to succeed and do God’s will. As a result, numerous academic scholarships are annually awarded to StJPII graduates. In addition to the rigorous academic program, StJPII has award-winning athletics, fine arts and enrichment programs to match. For more information about StJPII, please contact visit www.jp2.org/BlueRibbon. For more information about the National Blue Ribbon Schools program, please visit <http://nationalblueribbonschools.ed.gov/>.

About St. John Paul II Catholic School:

St. John Paul II Catholic School (StJPII) is an independent Catholic school located in West Houston near Katy at 1400 Parkway Plaza Drive. StJPII was established in 1988 as a private independent Catholic School, is a registered non-profit corporation in the state of Texas, and has three times been awarded National Blue Ribbon Exemplary status in 1997, 2008, and 2018. The school’s mission is to prepare all students spiritually and academically to succeed in life and to do God's will. Tuition discounts are granted to employees of Catholic organizations. More information about StJPII can be found at www.jp2.org, Facebook at www.facebook.com/jp2houston and on Twitter https://twitter.com/StJPII_Houston.

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