



**College of Human Sciences & Education**  
*University Laboratory School*

**For release after 10 a.m.**

**September 29, 2015**

**LSU Laboratory School recognized today as National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence**

The U.S. Department of Education recognized LSU Laboratory School today as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence.

University Lab is among only 285 public schools nationwide to receive the honor this year and was named, as part of the award, as one of Louisiana's exemplary high performing schools. Exemplary high performing schools are among the state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. For these schools, student subgroup performance and high school graduation rates are also at the highest level.

In a video message released at 10 a.m. this morning, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan noted of all of the Blue Ribbon school recipients, "This honor recognizes your students' accomplishments and the hard work and dedication that went into their success. Your journey has taught you collaboration, intentional instruction, and strong relationships in school and with your community. You represent excellence – in vision, in implementation, and in results – and we want to learn as much as we can from you."

University Laboratory School is a college preparatory public school serving grades kindergarten through 12 and is accredited by AdvancEd and the Louisiana Department of Education. In addition to this national award, ULS has been recognized as a school of Academic Distinction.

In 2001, U-High became the first International Baccalaureate Diploma Program school in the state of Louisiana. Today, 80 percent of Lab School students take at least one IB course. In addition, ULS high school juniors and seniors have the option of simultaneously enrolling in college and high school courses, and as a result, many ULS students graduate with many, if not all, freshman level college courses successfully completed.

All instructors at the Lab School have a master's degree or a doctorate, hold certificates in their fields of expertise and many are National Board certified and certified student teacher supervisors.

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***Continued...LSU Laboratory School receives National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award***

Founded 100 years ago this year as the University Demonstration School for what was then the LSU Teachers College, the LSU Laboratory School now operates under the auspices of Louisiana State University College of Human Sciences and Education. The ULS mission statement is "total effort in every endeavor" and the school aspires toward this goal utilizing five key functions: providing an exemplary education for its students; demonstrating a model educational environment, serving as a center for educational innovation and research, providing professional development opportunities for the state's educators and offering clinical teaching experiences for pre-service teachers.

ULS Superintendent Wade Smith, Ph.D. said of the award, "University Laboratory School has, for 100 years, provided a great service to the state of Louisiana as a model environment in terms of the education provided to not only its students but to the thousands of pre-service teaching candidates who have trained here. I think it is quite fitting that this national award has been received as the school marks this centennial year of celebration of academic distinction."

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For more information contact:

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**Twitter:**

The U.S. Department of Education recognized LSU Laboratory School today as National Blue Ribbon School. Congratulations Cub community!

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