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PRESS RELEASE

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HALF DAY SCHOOL & DANIEL WRIGHT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN LINCOLNSHIRE BOTH NAMED AS ONE OF THE BEST IN THE NATION

U.S. Secretary of Education, John B. King, Jr., announced today that both Half Day School and Daniel Wright Junior High School in Lincolnshire, Illinois have been named a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School. Both schools are part of Lincolnshire-Prairie View School District 103 and are among 279 public and 50 private schools receiving this honor.

Schools are nominated for the award by the state department of education, and then complete a comprehensive application about school practices. Schools may apply for status as Exemplary High Performing—among the top schools in a state—or Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing—schools making the fastest progress in the their state in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

During November, Principal Jill Mau and school librarian Patty Lathrop will represent Half Day School, and Principal Michelle Blackley and 7th/8th grade teacher Heather Santella will represent Daniel Wright Junior High School, along with Superintendent Scott H. Warren, Ed.D. at a two-day awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., to celebrate their hard-won achievements. Special school and district-wide celebrations will follow soon thereafter.

Upon the announcement of the recognitions, Dr. Scott Warren shared, “We are incredibly proud of our entire learning community on receiving these recognitions for exemplary high performing schools—among the best in Illinois and the entire country. Our teachers and staff form the foundations for our students, Early Childhood through 8th grade, to achieve their potential. Our parents and community partners continue to propel our District to the top. We are grateful for the strong bonds and dedication to excellence across our entire learning community—as we prepare District 103 children for success in the 21st Century. We are honored with the recognitions as 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools and share our success with the entire District 103 community.”

For more information about Half Day School, please visit the school homepage at www.hd.d103.org. Additional background on Daniel Wright Junior High School is accessible at www.dw.d103.org. For more information about the National Blue Ribbon Schools program, please visit <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs/index.html>.

Half Day School and Daniel Wright Junior High School are part of Lincolnshire-Prairie View School District 103, a nationally recognized elementary district for excellence in education located in Lake County, Illinois. District 103 includes the following schools: Laura B. Sprague School for students in Early Childhood-grade 2; Half Day School for students in grades 3-4; and Daniel Wright Junior High School for students in grades 5-8. The District’s mission is to *provide innovative learning experiences which empower each student to excel and make a difference in a diverse and interconnected world*. For additional information about District 103, please visit www.d103.org.

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