



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GreenRibbonSchools



2019 Recognition Awards Ceremony

September 25, 2019

Washington, D.C.



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We thank the following organizations for their support in this event:



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May 22, 2019

Congratulations on your recognition as a 2019 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School. This award acknowledges your institution's achievements in taking a comprehensive approach to sustainability.

Your recognition affirms the commitment your school, district, or postsecondary institution has made to reducing operational costs and being a good steward of our land, all while offering inspiring, healthy, and safe instructional environments. You have found innovative ways to encourage wellness practices, from school gardens to outdoor physical activity to school-based health centers. You are also using real-world problems in your communities and around the globe to engage students in hands-on, authentic learning about the world around them, preparing them to take on the careers and challenges of the future.

Your success shows what is possible when schools engage with community partners, leverage local resources, and pursue effective innovations. The Department looks forward to celebrating your accomplishments during the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools recognition ceremony on September 25, 2019.

Sincerely,

Betsy DeVos



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September 25, 2019

Greetings, honorees:

Welcome to Washington, D.C.! I am delighted to greet you as representatives of the 2019 U.S. Department of Education (ED) Green Ribbon Schools, District Sustainability Awardees, and Postsecondary Sustainability Awardees. You are an impressive and deserving group, and we are thrilled to recognize you as the eighth cohort to receive this honor.

You have demonstrated how environmental education gets students engaged in their studies, keeps students and faculty healthy and fit, and provides a natural link to the careers of the future. Your programs allow students to develop creative thinking and collaboration skills, problem-solving abilities, STEM content knowledge, and civic and conservation values. Your healthy, safe, sustainable facilities — as well as wellness practices such as outdoor physical activity and good nutrition — are part of a successful education, from kindergarten through college levels.

Your schools, districts, and postsecondary institutions are examples of how to progress in all three award Pillars — not just one — whatever your resources. Honorees are saving millions of dollars as a result of their greening efforts, and are improving health and achievement in the process. Your students have learned how to grow, harvest, and prepare nutritious food; the benefits of outdoor physical activity; and to reduce waste production, energy, and water consumption. They also are accustomed to the systems of thinking that will be required to take on challenges of the future.

You lead as shining examples for all schools, districts, and postsecondary institutions to follow. You are the 2019 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools, District Sustainability Awardees, and Postsecondary Sustainability Awardees, showing the way to reducing environmental impact, improving health, providing effective environmental education and green career training, and, most importantly, cultivating responsible citizens and good stewards of our land.

Congratulations on earning this wonderful distinction!

Andrea Suarez Falken, Director, U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools



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About U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools

In 2011, the federal government launched U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools to recognize the most innovative green schools in the nation. Now in its seventh cycle, the award continues to recognize progress in environmental impact, health, and education. It has become a tool to encourage state education agencies to consider matters of facilities, health, and environment comprehensively and in coordination with their state health, environment, and energy counterparts.

In 2013, District Sustainability Awardees were named for the first time alongside U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools. That year also saw the first annual Green Strides Tour. In 2014, ED added a Director's Award, given to a state education agency official who has shown exemplary efforts administering U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools and advancing green schools practices in his or her state. In 2015, ED named the first postsecondary honorees, including colleges and universities from across the nation.

Notably, U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools has grown beyond its origins as a recognition award spotlighting promising practices among a handful of honorees to communicate resources available to all schools. In addition to the recognition award, the Green Strides sustainability resource hub (www.greenstrides.org), made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council, shares webinars, resources, and the work of honorees in a visual context for all to learn from them. Green Strides outreach also includes a blog, newsletter, and social media presence to facilitate the sharing of honorees' promising practices and public- and private-sector resources in the areas of facilities, health, and environment, as well as the critical collaborations that ensure that all of our nation's schools are healthier, safer, and more sustainable.

Encouraging efficient schools allows administrators to dedicate more resources to education rather than to utility costs. Healthy school environments and effective wellness practices ensure that all students learn in an environment conducive to achieving their full potential, free of the health disparities that can aggravate achievement gaps. Environmental and sustainability education helps all students engage in authentic, hands-on, project-based learning, hone critical thinking skills, and develop a thirst for learning in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). At the postsecondary level, the three

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Pillars may help to support the reduction of college costs, green career connections, and robust civic skills among graduates.

U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools has united the federal, state, and nongovernmental organization communities around a common effort, generated thousands of positive media impressions for the green schools movement, and affected millions of students across the country, as schools have become healthier, safer, and more sustainable places to receive a 21st-century education.

The Three Pillars

At the heart of U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools are three Pillars toward which each honoree is expected to demonstrate progress. These also are the guideposts toward which the award seeks to encourage all schools to strive. Such expectations of progress in the three areas described below motivate states, districts, administrators, faculty, parents, and students to create the most productive, enriching, and efficient schools possible.

I. Reduced Environmental Impact and Costs

- Reduced or eliminated greenhouse gas emissions, using an energy audit or emissions inventory and reduction plan, cost-effective energy efficiency improvements, conservation measures, and/or on-site renewable energy, and/or purchase of green power;
- Improved water quality, efficiency, and conservation;
- Reduced solid and hazardous waste production through increased recycling, reduced consumption, and improved management, reduction, or elimination of hazardous waste; and
- Expanded use of alternative transportation, through active promotion of locally available, energy-efficient options and implementation of alternative transportation supportive projects and policies.



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II. Improved Health and Wellness

- High standards of school health, including health, nutrition, and outdoor physical education; health, counseling, and psychological services for both students and staff; family community involvement; and an integrated school environmental health program that considers occupant health and safety in all design, construction, renovation, operations, and maintenance of facilities and grounds.

III. Effective Environmental and Sustainability Education

- Interdisciplinary learning about the key relationships between dynamic environmental, energy, and human systems;
- Use of the environment and sustainability to develop STEM content knowledge and thinking skills to prepare graduates for the 21st-century technology-driven economy; and
- Development of civic engagement knowledge and skills, and students' application of these to address sustainability and environmental issues in their communities.





2019 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools, District Sustainability Awardees, and Postsecondary Sustainability Awardees

Alabama

- Troy University
Troy, AL

California

- Carrisa Plains Elementary School
Santa Margarita, CA
- Eagle Rock Elementary School
Los Angeles, CA
- Quail Lake Environmental Charter School
Clovis, CA
- St. James Academy
Solana Beach, CA
- Rialto Unified School District
Rialto, CA

Connecticut

- Weston High School
Weston, CT

Delaware

- The Jefferson School
Georgetown, DE
- Caesar Rodney School District
Wyoming, DE

Florida

- MAST Academy
Miami, FL
- FAU Lab School District
Boca Raton, FL

Georgia

- Robert W. Gadsden Elementary School

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- Savannah, GA
- Sharon Elementary School
Suwanee, GA
- Georgia College & State University
Milledgeville, GA

Hawaii

- Kapālama Elementary School
Honolulu, HI

Illinois

- Meadowview Elementary School
Grayslake, IL
- Bloomington Public School District 87
Bloomington, IL
- Loyola University Chicago
Chicago, IL

Indiana

- Goshen Community Schools
Goshen, IN

Iowa

- Davenport Community School District
Davenport, IA
- Sioux City Community School District
Sioux City, IA

Kentucky

- Tates Creek Elementary
Lexington, KY
- Saint Agnes School
Louisville, KY

Louisiana

- Brookstown Middle School
Baton Rouge, LA



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**Maryland**

- Captain James E. Daly Elementary School
Germantown, MD
- Calvert County Public Schools
Prince Frederick, MD

Massachusetts

- Boston Green Academy
Brighton, MA
- Ipswich Middle-High School
Ipswich, MA
- Wellesley Public Schools
Wellesley, MA

Michigan

- Interlochen Arts Academy
Interlochen, MI

Minnesota

- Forest Lake Area High School
Forest Lake, MN

Missouri

- Claymont Elementary School
Ballwin, MO
- Highcroft Ridge Elementary School
Chesterfield, MO
- Herculaneum High School
Herculaneum, MO
- Raintree School
St. Louis, MO

New Jersey

- Holland Brook School
Whitehouse Station, NJ
- Saint Leo the Great School
Lincroft, NJ



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**New York**

- Sanfordville Elementary School
Warwick, NY
- Warwick Valley Middle School
Warwick, NY

North Carolina

- Abbotts Creek Elementary School
Raleigh, NC
- Douglas Byrd High School
Fayetteville, NC
- Immaculata Catholic School
Durham, NC

Ohio

- Graham Local Schools
St. Paris, OH

Pennsylvania

- Eden Hall Upper Elementary School
Gibsonia, PA
- State College Friends School
State College, PA
- Millersville University
Millersville, PA

South Carolina

- Dutch Fork Elementary School
Irmo, SC

Washington

- The Northwest School
Seattle, WA
- Lake Washington School District
Redmond, WA
- Lopez Island School District
Lopez Island, WA
- Oak Harbor Public Schools



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Oak Harbor, WA

West Virginia

- Junior Elementary School
Belington, WV

Wisconsin

- Schlitz Audubon Nature Preschool
Milwaukee, WI



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Director's Award

The Director's Award recognizes the exemplary efforts of a state education official to administer the U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools (ED-GRS) recognition award. The ED-GRS Director's Award is given annually to the state education agency official who does the most to advance green schools in his or her state, by running a robust competition and nomination



process; connecting schools to resources in all three Pillars; amplifying the stories of honorees; helping schools learn from one another; partnering with a variety of entities to bring more resources and expertise into schools; and exhibiting a dedication to exceptional school facilities, health, and environmental education through activities outside of the administration of the award.

ED is delighted to have named John Olson, science content specialist from the Minnesota Department of Education, as the selectee for the 2019 Director's Award. For several years now, Olson's leadership and dedication have been integral to ED-GRS's success in Minnesota, as well as to the continued momentum of the green schools movement across the nation. Olson established a permanent home for ED-GRS in his office in 2012. He hosted a highly attended ED-GRS Green Strides Tour leg in 2014. Olson successfully engaged his postsecondary counterparts in 2015, becoming the only state to nominate a full six institutions in that — the first year — of the postsecondary competition. He developed a detailed plan to sustain his efforts during his Peace Corps leave of absence in early 2016.

Olson has engaged stakeholders from peer state agencies, nonprofit and for-profit private sectors, and the higher education community in order to share sustainable best practices, select ED-GRS nominees, and celebrate honored institutions at assemblies and presentations. Such collaboration to support local programs is not found in many other programs.

In sum, Olson has modeled excellence in ED-GRS implementation for other state education authorities to follow. ED commends Olson for his work to promote environmental stewardship, health, and sustainability and for inspiring more schools to aim high.



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2019 Recognition Awards Ceremony

**U.S. Department of Commerce,
Herbert C. Hoover Building Auditorium
1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington D.C.**

Ceremony Schedule

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

1:00 p.m. — 2:00 p.m.	Security Check-in and Registration/Networking
2:00 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.	Opening Speakers
2:30 p.m. — 3:40 p.m.	Presentation of Awards
3:40 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.	Closing Speakers
4:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.	Transition to Reception
4:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.	Reception to Celebrate 2019 Honorees



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Optional Events Schedule

Tuesday, September 24 and/or Thursday, September 26, 2019

The days before and after the ceremony are good opportunities to meet with your [representative](#) and to schedule a Capitol Hill or White House tour by contacting your [senator's office](#). Explore the museums and monuments of our nation's capital with the Official National Park Service [app](#) for the National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Meet with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Non-Public Education

The Office of Non-Public Education, representing the nonpublic school community, which includes private schools and home schools, invites private school honorees to share their school's sustainability journey and experiences and also to learn about the federal education benefits and services for private school students and teachers.

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Sustainability Tour at American University

American University (AU) is the first carbon-neutral university and an accredited arboretum. Join Office of Sustainability staff on a guided campus tour of AU's LEED buildings, green roofs, renewable energy systems, and more.

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Reception to Celebrate 2019 Honorees



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The Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council will host a reception to recognize 2019 ED-Green Ribbon Schools, District Sustainability Awardees, and Postsecondary Sustainability Awardees.

Thursday, September 26, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. National Park Service Ranger-led National Memorial Walking Tour

Enjoy a walking tour of the national memorials, including the World War II Memorial, DC War Memorial, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.



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Featured Speakers



Dr. Neil Jacobs is the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction, performing the duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere. Dr. Jacobs is responsible for the strategic direction and oversight of over \$5.54 billion in annual spending, including key investments in developing a community model framework to advance U.S. weather modeling and prediction, space innovation, streamlining unmanned systems research to provide critical data across NOAA's mission areas, and

unlocking the partnership potential of non-governmental and private organizations to study our nation's oceans and promote a blue economy. Dr. Jacobs holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics and physics from the University of South Carolina and masters and doctoral degrees in atmospheric science from North Carolina State University.

Frank Brogan serves as the Assistant Secretary of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education at the U.S. Department of Education. He brings rich experience to this role, from his time as a classroom teacher, principal, superintendent of schools, Florida Commissioner of Education, and as the Lieutenant Governor of Florida. Brogan also has led in postsecondary education; he was President of Florida Atlantic University and then Chancellor of the State University System of Florida. Most recently, he served as the Chancellor of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Brogan lives in the Washington, D.C. area with his wife, Courtney, and his son, Colby John.

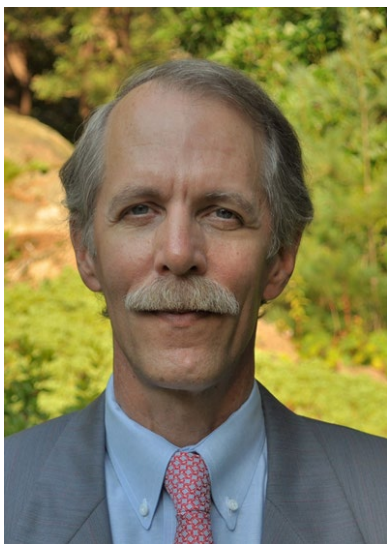


James (Jim) Elder Jr. is an expert on environmental and sustainability education policy whose work focuses on strategically advancing these fields at



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the national and state levels. He is founder and Director of the Campaign for Environmental Literacy, a network of national stakeholder groups. He has helped restore over \$100 million in federal environmental education funding cuts, and drafted and led the successful effort to pass the University Sustainability Program at ED. In addition, Elder was instrumental in the effort to create U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools. In 1980, Elder founded the School for Field Studies, building it over 17 years into the nation's leading environmental field program for undergraduates and a pioneering model for sustainability education. He has served on the boards and committees of a dozen nonprofits. He has authored numerous book chapters and papers; and he

is the recipient of an honorary doctorate from Barry University as well as the National Wildlife Federation's 2009 National Conservation Achievement Award.

Phoebe Beierle leads the School District Sustainability Network at the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council. Under her leadership, the network has expanded 65 percent, to now represent over 300 sustainability staff and advocates working at K–12 school district-level positions across the country. Beierle supports this network by providing the industry with market transformational programs, tools, and research promoting whole school sustainability.



Beierle came to the Center from Boston Public Schools (BPS), where she served as a Green Schools Fellow and then as their Sustainability Manager with the district's Facilities Department for five years. While at BPS, she leveraged \$1 million in grants, sponsorship, and donated services that supported the greening of Boston's 130 schools. A resident of Massachusetts, Beierle was influential in advocating for the state's participation in ED-GRS in 2012 and has remained actively involved in promoting the program ever since.



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Special Thanks

U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools Thanks State Green Teams

Without the dedication and leadership of these hardworking individuals, U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools would not be possible. State Green Teams have served as evaluators, coordinators, and subject matter experts, while forming partnerships with other agencies and outside organizations to nominate the best schools and districts from their states. Below we name just a few individuals from what was, in every state, a team effort.

Mary Dansak and Amanda Rylant, Alabama

Lesley Taylor and George Garcia, California

Laurel Kohl and Abby Peklo, Connecticut

Tonyea Mead, Delaware

Penny Taylor and Patricia Duncan, Florida

Keisha N. Ford-Jenrette and Sheres Johnson, Georgia

Victoria Suarez and Dann Carlson, Hawaii

Liz Kuehn and Jeff Seiler, Illinois

J. Mathew Walsh, Indiana

Rob Olson, Iowa

Billy Bennett and Wesley Bullock, Kentucky

Brian Gautreaux, Louisiana

Donna Balado, Maryland



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Matthew Deninger, Massachusetts

Ruth Anne Hodges and Erika Bolig, Michigan

John Olson and Nekey Oliver, Minnesota

Lesli Moylan and Jan Weaver, Missouri

Bernie Piaia and Allison Mulch, New Jersey

Sara Madison and Rosanne Groff, New York

Jon Long, North Carolina

Charlotte Jones-Ward, Ohio

David Bauman, Pennsylvania

Mario Carreno and Joseph DaSilva, Rhode Island

Adam Ereth, South Carolina

Elizabeth Schmitz, Washington

Robin Sizemore, West Virginia

Victoria Rydberg, Wisconsin



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Acknowledgements

This year, for the sixth year in a row, the ceremony was hosted by generous partners from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) offered the evening reception for the eighth year running. The National Park Service offered a tour for the honored guests.

At ED, U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools has benefited from the support of numerous individuals from the Office of Communications and Outreach, most especially Director of State and Local Engagement Adam Honeysett.

Ongoing thanks go to Kathrina Bridges, Jennifer Padgett, Nancy Paulu, Lizbeth Perez, Bernice Williams, and Robin Dixon-Jefferson.



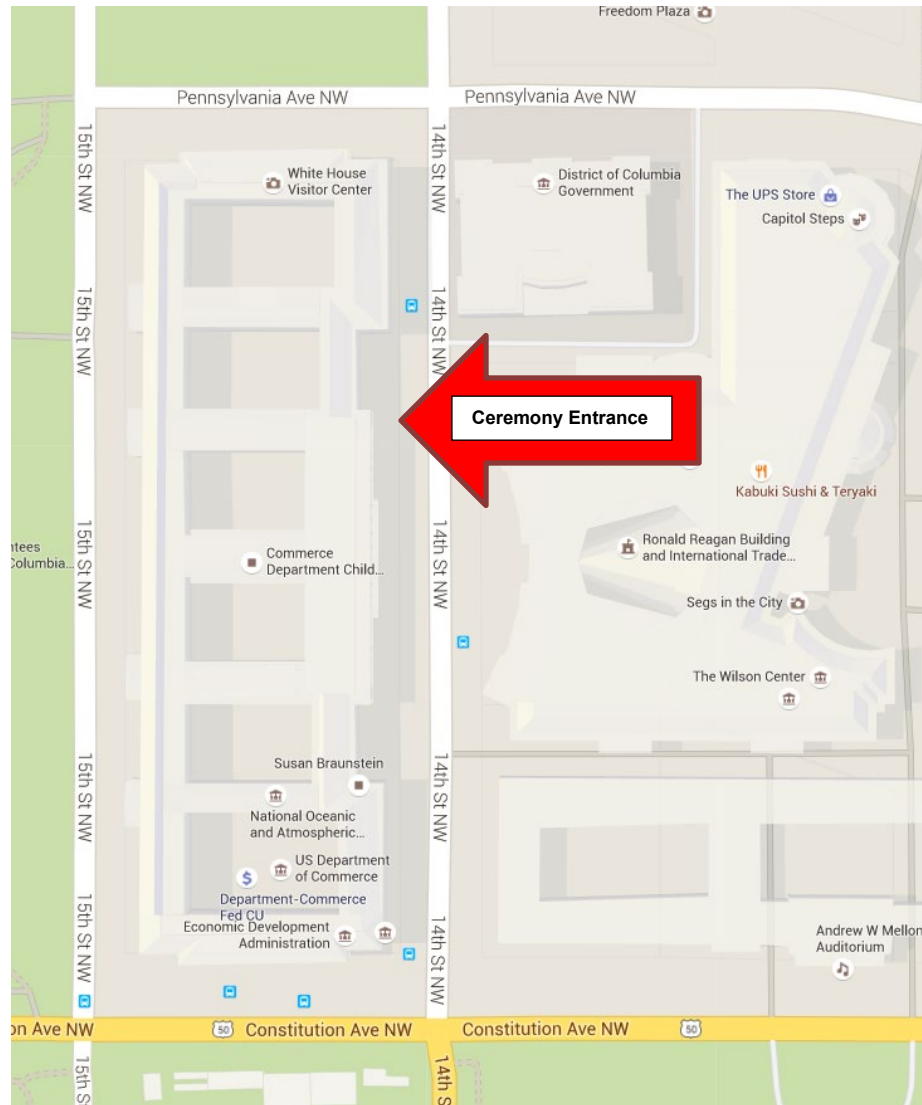
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Notes

Map



Directions

The U.S. Department of Commerce (Herbert C. Hoover) Building is located at 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington DC. Guests should enter through the main lobby located on the street level of 14th Street, in the middle of the block



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between Constitution and Pennsylvania avenues, across the street from the Ronald Reagan Building.

If you are arriving by Metro, you can get off at Metro Center on the Red Line, take the 13th Street exit, then walk south (down the hill) for one block to Pennsylvania Avenue and over to the Commerce Building. Or, if you are taking the Orange/Blue Line, you can get off at Federal Triangle, using the 12th Street exit, and then walk two blocks west to 14th Street. You may also take the Silver line to either of these stops from Dulles airport.

Ceremony Day Notes

All guests should be ready to show a picture ID and arrive between 1:15–1:30 p.m. to allow sufficient time to get in, get registered, and be seated. Arriving early also allows you time to network with other 2019 honorees.

Each honoree may send a maximum of five registered representatives. Please do not bring unregistered guests. Individuals not registered for the ceremony will not be able to gain access to the facility.

Food and Drink

No food or drink is permitted in the auditorium, and therefore we suggest having lunch before the ceremony. One nearby option is the Ronald Reagan Building food court, but there are many lunch possibilities in downtown Washington.

Livestream Viewing and Social Media

Those who wish to watch the ceremony from home can do so from 2–4:00 p.m. ET on the U.S. Department of Education's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [YouTube](#). We encourage you to tweet about your visit and ceremony attendance with @EDGreenRibbon using the hashtags #EDGreenRibbon and #EDGRSCeremony.

Reception

The evening reception is being offered by the Center for Green Schools at the USGBC. It will be held at the Hart Senate Office Building, on the Ninth floor, Room 902 (access via North Elevators), from 4:30–6:30 p.m. Please enter the Hart building at the door on Second Street NE between Constitution Avenue and C Street. This event will bring together members of the green school

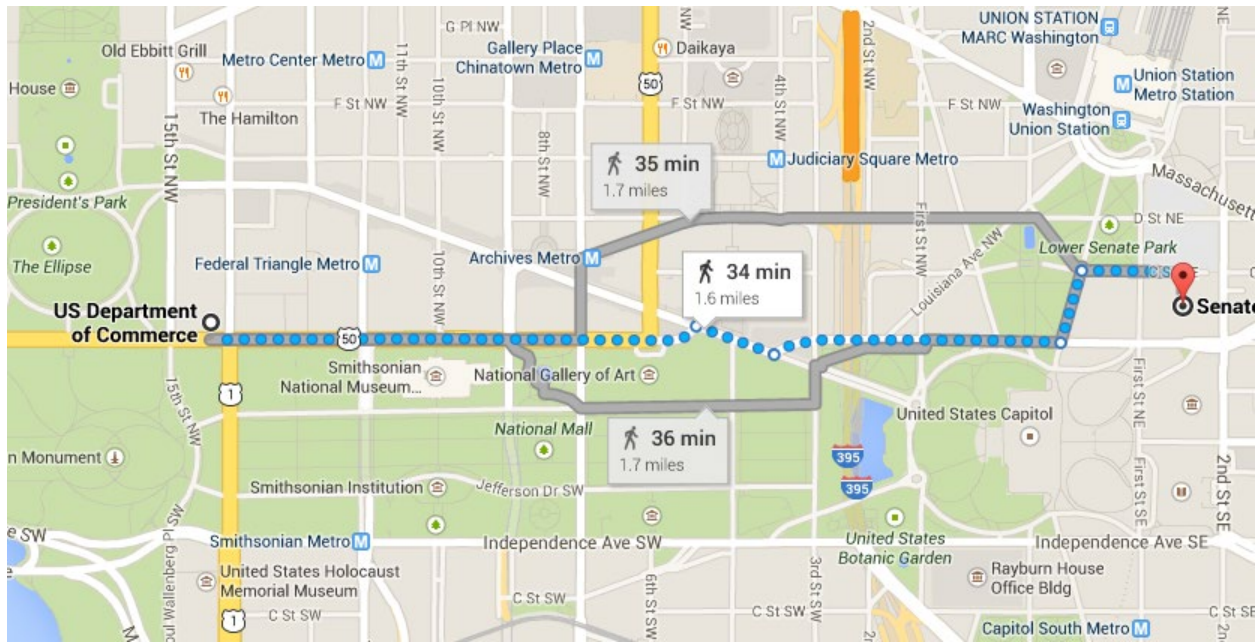


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community to congratulate the 2019 honorees of this national award. Honorees are encouraged to network with other honorees. Refreshments will be served.



WALKING DIRECTIONS to ED-Green Ribbon Schools Celebration Reception

The distance is 1.6 miles, approximately 35 minutes, from the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20230.

1. Head east on Constitution Avenue NW toward 14th Street NW (0.8 miles).
2. Turn right onto Constitution Avenue NW/Pennsylvania Avenue NW (0.1 miles).
3. Turn left onto Constitution Avenue NW (0.6 miles).
4. Take a slight left onto Constitution Avenue NE (341 feet).
5. Turn left onto Second Street NE (destination will be on your left in 318 feet).



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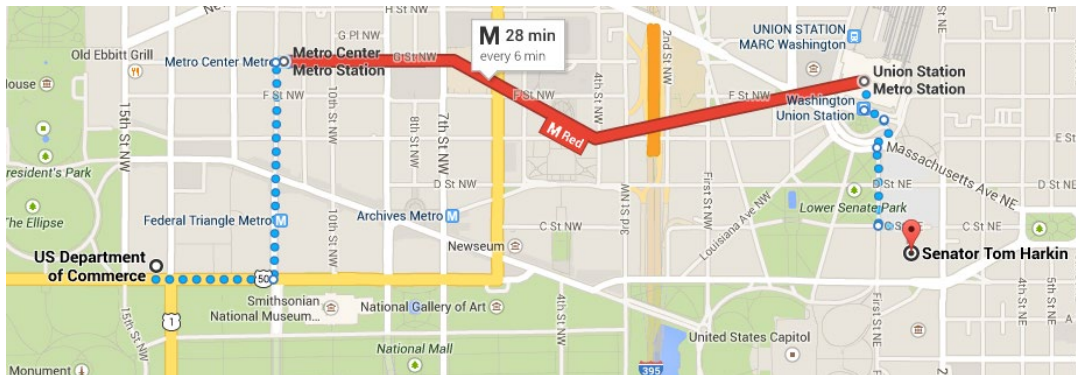


6. Once inside, use the North Elevators to access the Ninth floor.



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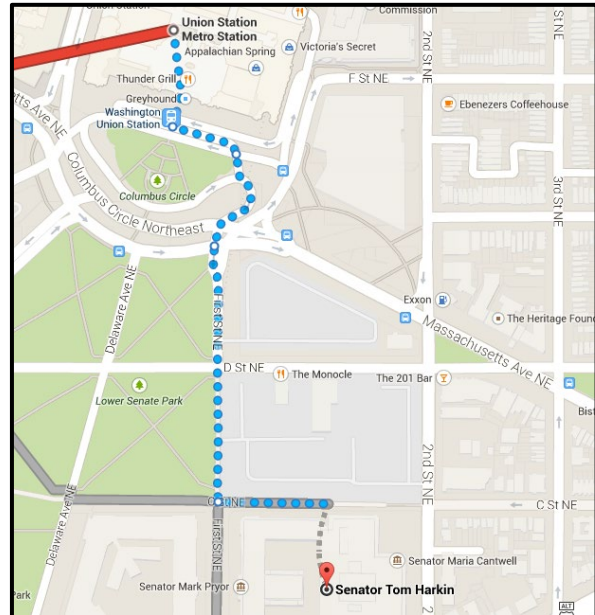




METRO DIRECTIONS to ED-Green Ribbon Schools Celebration Reception

From U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20230

- Walk to Metro Center Metro Station (About 15 minutes, 0.7 miles):
 1. Head east on Constitution Avenue NW toward 14th Street NW.
 2. Turn left onto 12th Street NW (0.4 miles).
 3. Turn right onto G Street NW (20 feet).
- Get on the Metro at the Metro Center Station, using the Red Line toward Silver Spring (six minutes, three stops). This will cost approximately \$2.00.
- Exit at the Union Station stop.
- Walk to the Hart Senate Office Building (about 8 minutes, 0.4 miles):
 1. When you exit Union Station, head left (southeast) around Columbus Circle towards First Street NE. You can also walk through Columbus Circle.



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2. Make a slight left to turn down First Street NE. You should be walking south.
3. After 0.2 miles, turn left onto C Street NE (this will be your second left).
4. The Hart Senate Office Building will be on your right. You should be able to enter off of C Street or Second Street.
5. Once inside, use the North Elevators to access the Ninth floor.



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