

**WASHINGTON, DC** –“ Congressman Joe Courtney today congratulated eastern Connecticut schools on being recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as Blue Ribbon Schools. Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School in Madison, Hebron Elementary School and Saint Martha School in Enfield all earned the honor. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools whose students achieve at very high levels or have made significant progress and helped close gaps in achievement, especially among disadvantaged and minority students.

“These schools very much earned the Blue Ribbon status they received today,” said Congressman Courtney. “Principals Julianne Phelps, Kevin Hanlon and Sister Theresa Marie Grochowski have inspired their teachers and students to achieve more, and I am pleased that the Department of Education recognized their efforts and accomplishments. Children are our most important resource, and ensuring that they learn in a safe and productive environment is paramount.”

Congressman Courtney is a member of the House Education and Labor Committee. He is the first member of the Connecticut Congressional delegation to serve on the House Education and Labor Committee since the World War II era.