

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) announced that the U.S. Department of Education selected Whitehall Elementary School in Bowie, MD as one of six 2012 Maryland Blue Ribbon Schools. The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private schools that are academically superior or have shown dramatic improvement in student achievement to high levels.

“I am honored to congratulate Whitehall Elementary School for its exceptional service to its students here in Prince George’s County,” **said Congressman Hoyer**. “Today’s recognition by the Department of Education distinguishes Whitehall Elementary as a leader in education across the country. On the heels of two very distinguished awards in education just last week, Maryland schools are working to ensure the best opportunities possible for all of our students. The teachers, administrators, students and their parents should all be commended for elevating the performance of Whitehall Elementary to a level deserving of this prestigious honor.”

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program is part of a larger U.S. Department of Education effort to identify and disseminate knowledge about best school leadership and teaching practices. Since 1982, schools throughout the nation have been identified and honored for attaining and maintaining high academic goals. All recognized schools are now eligible for the distinguished honor of National Blue Ribbon school designees.

For more information on the Blue Ribbon School program, [click here](#) .