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PRESS RELEASE

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US Department of Education Awards
Holy Ghost Catholic School, Albuquerque
2009 Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence in Education

Holy Ghost Catholic School is the only school in Albuquerque and New Mexico's first Catholic School to receive prestigious award

8th Graders' scores in reading and math in top 10 percent of the Nation

JOIN US TODAY!

On-Site School's Student, Staff, Parent Blue Ribbon Celebration
Today, 3:00 PM - Wednesday, September 16, 2009
Holy Ghost Catholic School Playground
6201 Ross Ave. SE, Albuquerque
Contact: 505.256.1563

Albuquerque, NM—Wednesday, September 16, 2009-- Immediate Release -- The US Department of Education awards Holy Ghost Catholic School in Albuquerque the **2009 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award for Excellence in Education**. Holy Ghost Catholic School, located at 6201 Ross Ave. SE, is the only school in Albuquerque and New Mexico's first Catholic school to receive the prestigious award. Holy Ghost Catholic School is one of fifty private/parochial schools and 264 public schools in the nation to be honored in Washington D.C. on November 2-3, 2009.

These Blue Ribbon Schools have shown that all children can learn with appropriate supports. They are producing outstanding results for their students. Some have shown dramatic improvements in places where students are overcoming the challenges of poverty, and others serve as examples of consistent excellence that can be a resource for other schools. They are places where improved teaching and learning benefits every student, and where students are challenged to meet high expectations with the active support of teachers, parents and the community. U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan

Since 1982 the Blue Ribbon Schools Program has honored public and private elementary, middle and high schools that demonstrate either academic superiority (with students in the highest grade scoring in the top 10 percent on state or national assessments) or dramatic gains in student achievement for disadvantaged students. **Holy Ghost's 8th graders scores in reading and math were in the top 10 percent of the nation on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills last year.** Three other schools in New Mexico are honored for demonstrating significant improvement with a population of over 40% disadvantaged students. NCLB/Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence use data to both refine educational practice and to show evidence of student success.

Winning the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award is the "Oscar" in the field of education. Congratulations to the staff, parents and students of Holy Ghost Catholic School! Save the date of Saturday, September 26th. All are invited to Albuquerque's Bio Park @ 6:30 pm to come honor the school's extraordinary accomplishments.