**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Rachael Kapperman Marketing & Communications Specialist Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools (605) 575-3366 rkapperman@ogknights.org



**RELEASE DATE:** September 16, 2022

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## HOLY SPIRIT ELEMENTARY NAMED NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

*Sioux Falls, SD:* One of the Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools, Holy Spirit Elementary, has been named a 2022 Exemplary High Performing National Blue Ribbon School Awardee. The U.S. Department of Education made the announcement today (Sept. 16, 2022). This is the highest honor a school can receive from The U.S. Department of Education. Holy Spirit Elementary is one of four South Dakota Schools to be selected for the award this year.

To be recognized for this honor,

- That the achievement of the school's students in the most recently completed school year tested places the school in the top 15 percent in the nation in reading (or English language arts) and mathematics as measured by a nationally normed test or in the top 15 percent of its state as measured by a state test. If a non-public school administers both state test and nationally normed tests, the school must be in the top 15 percent for both tests.
- Disaggregated results for student groups, including students from disadvantaged backgrounds, must be similar to the results for all students tested.

The Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools elementary schools work efficiently as a system, teaching the same rigorous curriculum that provides strong foundational skills for continuing education into O'Gorman Junior High and O'Gorman High School.

Regan Manning, Principal of Holy Spirit Elementary shares his excitement on behalf of the school. "Being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School is a great honor, it affirms the hard work and dedication of all our students, faculty and parents here at Holy Spirit Elementary."

The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) is able to nominate only 50 non-public schools annually for this distinguished recognition. We are so delighted that Holy Spirit Elementary received this honor as there are more than 138,600 schools in the United States, and more than 34,500 of those are non-public schools.

To celebrate this honor, Holy Spirit Elementary will have an assembly at a later time in October, which will be announced soon. More information will be sent as details come together.

For more information, contact Rachael Kapperman, Marketing & Communications Specialist, at Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools Development Office. (605) 575-3366 or rkapperman@ogknights.org.

**About Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools:** Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools was started in 1905 and is located in Sioux Falls, South Dakota but serves more than the Sioux Falls population. It is made up of six elementary schools, a junior high and a high school and our system welcomes children from all communities. Bishop O'Gorman Catholic Schools is a Christ-centered community providing a financially-viable, world-class education for an increasing number of children whose mission is to form a community of faith and learning by promoting a Catholic way of life through Gospel values and academic excellence.



#