



October 12, 2016

Sister Mary L. Shulas, MPF, Principal
St. Augustine of Canterbury School
45 Henderson Road
Kendall Park, NJ 08824

Dear Sister Mary,

Congratulations on being selected as a National Blue Ribbon School! On behalf of the entire membership of the National Catholic Educational Association, I extend our best wishes and heartfelt thanks for all the work that this honor recognizes. I am most pleased to enclose with this mailing an *NCEA Presidential Award* commemorating this accomplishment.

I believe a distinction such as this one speaks loudly to solid, professional and committed leadership. Good principals make good schools! In a way, you, as well as your fine school, are a blue ribbon winner. Congratulations!

As a principal you are aware, a National Blue Ribbon School can only receive this distinction thanks to a dedicated and committed faculty and staff. Please be sure to extend our sincere congratulations to each of them as well.

Ultimately, we know that it is the students themselves in their quest for academic excellence that have made your school a National Blue Ribbon School. Congratulations to your entire student body. They bring honor to themselves as well as to their school.

I would be most remiss were I not to congratulate your school's parents. Their commitment to your school and to Catholic education is inspirational. Their sacrifices that make a Catholic education possible for their children is both noble and loving - a hallmark of good parenting.

Thank you for all you and your school community do - the ministry of Catholic education is enhanced and elevated by your efforts. The late Holy Father Saint John Paul II described Catholic schools as a "gift to God and a gift to nation" - thank you for this wonderful gift!

May God bless you in this new school year with every joy and blessing.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Burnford".

Thomas W. Burnford, D.Min.
President/CEO

cc: Ellen F. Ayoub, Superintendent

TWB/spc



Presidential Award

FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO CATHOLIC EDUCATION

TO

St. Augustine of Canterbury School

A 2016 National Blue Ribbon School

President
National Catholic Educational Association

October 12, 2016

Date