

Blue Ribbon goes to St. Germaine

"The best students in the world are learning here."

So reads a banner in the stairwell of St. Germaine Catholic School in Oak Lawn.

And they have proof of that claim.

St. Germaine was one of only 287 schools in the country and one of only 19 in Illinois recently named a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. Schools can

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KEVIN REEDY,
ST. GERMAINE
PRINCIPAL

earn the designation if their students rank in the top 10 percent on state or national tests. Such schools "serve as model schools for others," according to a Department of Education official.

It's no surprise that St. Germaine earned this honor. After all, its students come from a community where parents constantly emphasize the importance of a good education to their kids. And St. Germaine has done its best to take these kids and raise them to high-

er and higher levels.

"We have high expectations, and (students) are here to learn," St. Germaine principal Kevin Reedy said.

Reedy said that teachers have made a new push to better evaluate and meet the needs of students. A learning lab has been expanded to better challenge students and help give one-on-one instruction.

"We're looking at what kids need to succeed at their own pace," Reedy said.

St. Germaine School, located at 9735 S. Kolin Ave., opened in September 1964. The school currently serves 377 students from pre-school through eighth grade. Those students are fortunate to have teachers who care so much about their education and their well-being. But the loudest round of applause should be reserved for the students themselves. They are most responsible for the Blue Ribbon award.

And the award has already inspired them to do even better. "I feel more power to get things right," third-grader David McCormack said.

Indeed, we expect only bigger and better things from you and your classmates, David. Congratulations to you and everyone at St. Germaine School.