

## **HUMBOLDT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Every year the U. S. Department of Education seeks out and celebrates great American schools demonstrating that all students can achieve to high levels. The National Blue Ribbon School flag gracing an entry or flying overhead is a widely recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning. This coveted award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

In 2015, Taft Elementary was recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School. Taft and Mease Elementary earned a High Performing (2015) and Commendable (2016) rating on the Iowa Report Card. These ratings are based on student achievement, attendance, staff retention and college and career readiness. Taft Elementary was rated 59<sup>th</sup> in the list of 2017 Best Public Elementary Schools in Iowa. These rankings are based on rigorous analysis of key statistics and millions of reviews from students and parents using data from the U.S. Department of Education. Ranking factors include state test scores, student-teacher ratio, student diversity, teacher quality, grade school ratings, and the overall quality of the school district.