



Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence (BRSE) Program

Proposed for Saginaw
United High School

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Why Blue Ribbon School of Excellence?

- **Building on a Tradition of Excellence**
- In 2019, the **Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy (SASA)** was nationally recognized as an **Exemplary High Performing Schools National Blue Ribbon School** by the **U.S. Secretary of Education**.
- We now have an opportunity to pursue a **parallel path to excellence and national distinction** at Saginaw United through the **Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence (BRSE) Program**.



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Why Blue Ribbon School of Excellence for Saginaw United?

- Saginaw United is poised for transformational growth.
- The **BRSE Framework** provides both a **clear roadmap** and **national recognition**.
- Ideal for schools seeking:
 - ✓ Validation of success
 - ✓ Targeted school improvement
 - ✓ Stronger stakeholder engagement

Why Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence for Saginaw United ?





Overview: What is Blue Ribbon School of Excellence?



Founded on **nationally recognized indicators of high-performing schools**



Offers a nationally recognized school improvement and recognition **framework**



Serves **all schools**: those improving, turning around, or elevating from great to greater



Aligns with **continuous improvement and strategic planning** goals



Based on **9 performance areas** of high-performing schools

Nine Key Assessment Categories

BRSE evaluates schools in the following areas:

1. Student Focus and Support
2. School Organization and Culture
3. Challenging Standards and Curriculum
4. Active Teaching and Learning
5. Technology Integration
6. Professional Community
7. Leadership and Educational Vitality
8. School, Family, and Community Partnerships
9. Indicators of Success






What the Process Includes

- **Online Stakeholder Survey** (English & Spanish)
- **2-Day Onsite Visit**
- **Professional Coaching & Development**
- **Comprehensive Assessment Reports**
- **Access to the BRSE National Conference**
- **Opportunities for National Recognition**



Strategic Reports & Planning Tools

- **Action Plan Blueprint**
 - ✓ **Action Plan Dataset**
 - ✓ **Total Accumulation** – Survey responses by group
 - ✓ **Areas of Strength & Critical Questions**
 - ✓ **Immediate Action, Needs Improvement, No Consensus**
 - ✓ **Student Response Analysis** (by grade)
 - ✓ **Exit Report PowerPoint** – Shareable with stakeholders
-  *These reports directly support our strategic planning, SIP goals, and continuous improvement.*

National Recognition Levels

- **Points of Light School**
🌟 **Beacon School**
🔔 **Lighthouse School** (*Highest Honor*)
- Recognizes schools that demonstrate exemplary performance in the nine areas
- Elevates school branding and district pride

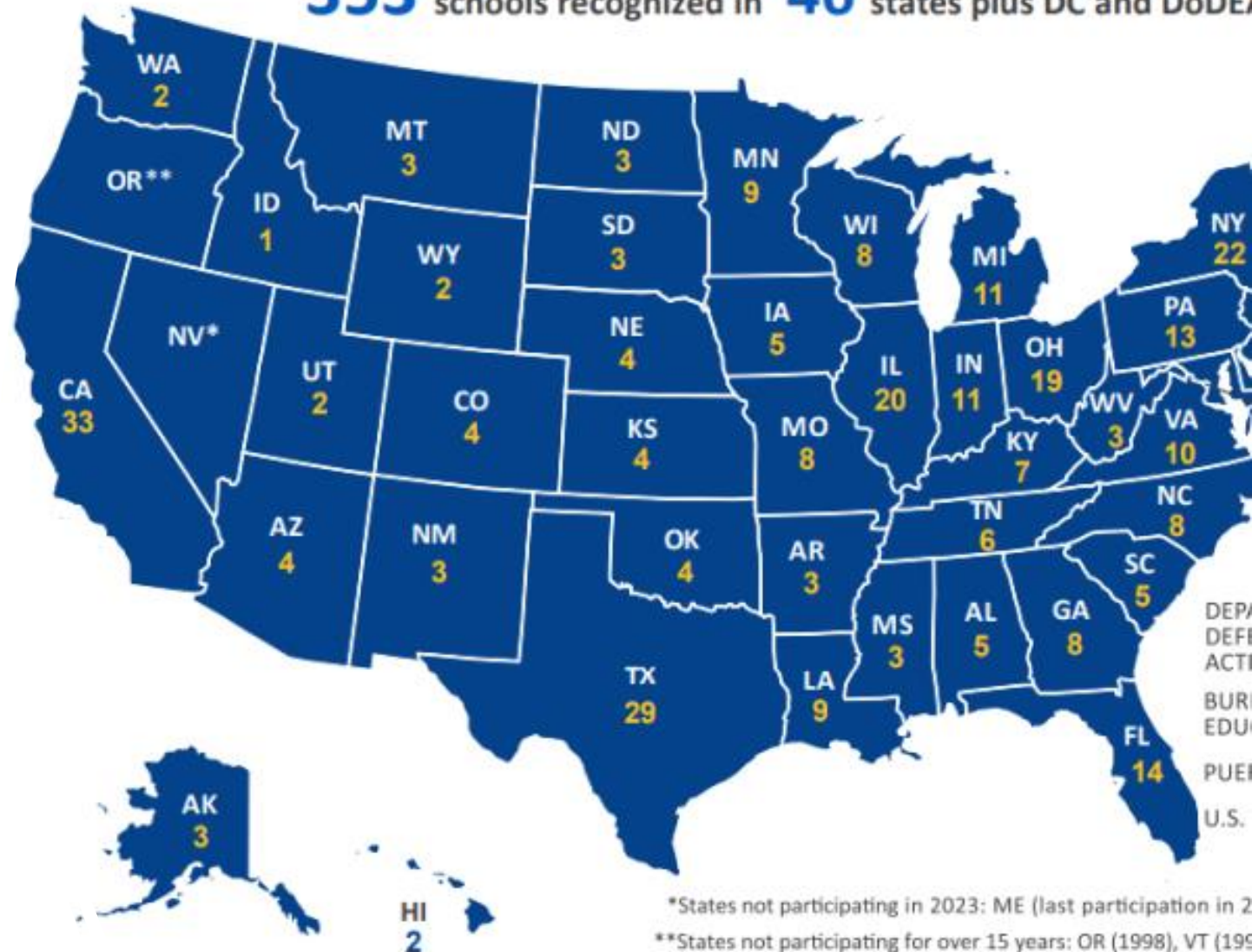


Premier National Conference



- **BRSE National Conference**
- Nearly 100 breakout sessions
- 100+ sessions featuring award-winning schools
- Led by experienced principals and instructional leaders
- Opportunity for Saginaw United staff to attend and present
- Learn from **best practices** nationwide
- Showcases **award-winning schools**
- Professional development aligned to the **nine performance areas**
- Opportunities for networking and shared practices

353 schools recognized in 46 states plus DC and DoDEA



Investment and Funding

- **Program Cost:**
- \$7,900 for individual school
- \$6,500 per school for multi-school participation
- Eligible for Title I and School Improvement Funding
- 💡 Cost-effective compared to national school reform programs

*States not participating in 2023: ME (last participation in 2019)

**States not participating for over 15 years: OR (1998), VT (1995)



Anticipated Outcomes for Saginaw United

- Cultivates a **culture of excellence**
- Establishes a **culture of continuous improvement**
- Promotes **shared leadership and accountability**
- Provides **external validation** for current efforts
- Aligns improvement with **measurable benchmarks**
- Engages students, families, and staff in the process
- Supports leadership and professional community development
- Aligns with our vision of becoming a **premier high school** in Michigan
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- Positions Saginaw United for **state and national recognition**

Sample Timeline

- **Fall 2025** – Initiate stakeholder surveys
- **Winter 2026** – Conduct 2-day site visit
- **Spring 2026** – Receive reports and exit presentation
- **Summer 2026** – Attend BRSE National Conference
- **2026–2027** – Implement strategic improvement actions

“Excellence is not an act, but a habit.” – Aristotle



ANY
QUESTIONS?

