



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
UNIVERSITY CITY  
Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!

## **U.S. Secretary of Education Names The School District of University City a 2022 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability Awardee**

April 25, 2022

The School District of University City in University City, MO is among the 2022 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability Awardees. The school district was one of only two school systems in Missouri to be selected for the honor. Principia School in St. Louis County was the other Green Ribbon designee.

The School District of University City was nominated by the Missouri Environmental Education Association and was selected for the honor due its ongoing efforts in three Pillar areas to:

- Nurture well-being and joy among students, staff, families and caregivers by intensively attending to their social and emotional needs that include numerous outdoor and environmental activities
- Conserve, recycle, reuse and promote sustainability in all of its practices.
- Enable students in grades PreK-12 to explore sustainability, environmental issues and environmental social justice through integrated, hands-on outdoor and indoor learning that builds from year to year so students graduate with a solid understanding of the natural world and the environmental challenges ahead for our planet.

“As educators, we owe it to our students and our local and global community to be as responsive to and appreciative of the environment as possible. The environment includes our social-emotional well-being and support. Yes, racial equity matters! Our youth will be tasked with the restoration of our living planet while solving very real issues of scarcity, sustainability, and racially unjust systems. The U.S Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability designation is an honor that speaks to us and the future holistic wellness of our children, their children, and their grandchildren.”

Across the country, 27 schools, five districts, and four postsecondary institutions are being honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and ensure effective sustainability education. The honorees were named from a pool of candidates nominated by 19 states.

The list of all selected schools, districts, colleges, and universities, as well as their nomination packages, can be found [here](#). A report with highlights on the 36 honorees can be found [here](#). More information on the federal recognition award can be found [here](#). Resources for all schools to move toward the three Pillars can be found [here](#).

### **A Note on the Award Name for Communications**

ED's award is called "U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools" and has "District Sustainability Award" and "Postsecondary Sustainability Award" categories, in addition to the original school award. It is abbreviated ED-GRS. "Green Ribbon Schools" without the "U.S. Department of Education" is not ED's award, but instead is a separate program overseen by another organization. A selected district is a "2022 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability Awardee." There is no "National," "Award," or "Program" in the title. There is no apostrophe or hyphen after Education.