



# UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL - TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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*Mr. Peter A. Capodice*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

October, 2013

Message from the Superintendent:

What an exciting start to the new school year!

On September 24, 2013, the U. S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced that two of our schools were recognized as "Blue Ribbon Schools" for 2013.

- The Academy for Information Technology which accepted its initial freshman class in 2002
- The Magnet High School which accepted its initial freshman class in 1997. This was the second Blue Ribbon School award earned by the Magnet High School. Their first National Blue Ribbon School designation was in 2004

Our schools were recognized under the category "Exemplary High Performing Schools". This category includes all schools that ranked among the state's highest performing as measured by their performance on the state assessment or nationally-normed tests.

Secretary Duncan stated that "Excellence in education matters and we should honor the schools that are leading the way to prepare students for success in college and careers". Of the 236 public schools honored nationally New Jersey lead the country with nine schools earning the designation of Blue Ribbon School. It's important to note of the nine schools in New Jersey receiving the honor six were vocational-technical high schools and two were right here on our campus.

I would like to take this opportunity congratulate the students, parents, staff and building administrators of our Academy for Information Technology and Magnet High School for earning this prestigious award. Thank you all for working in unison towards educational excellence. Let me also say how proud I am of the entire UCVTS family, our remarkable accomplishments, nationally recognized schools and outstanding educational programs we offer to the students of Union County.

In my September message I said that the 2012-2013 school year would be a tough act to follow but we are off to a great start. Now add in the leadership of our Board and Education and continued support of the Board of Chosen Freeholders and we can make 2013-2014 our best ever!

Sincerely,

Peter A. Capodice  
Superintendent of Schools