



## **NJDOE News**

**Contact: Richard Vespucci**  
**For Release: May 1, 2002**

### **State Board of Education Recognizes Student from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School**

The State Board of Education today honored a senior from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School for service to his community and for his overall academic achievement. The student, David Baumwoll, has excelled in the classroom, is the current president of New Jersey DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), and is president of his senior class. When his best friend was diagnosed with cancer, David founded the Student Movement Against Cancer.

"David Baumwoll has distinguished himself as a well-rounded, highly focused young man," said State Board of Education President Maud Dahme. "He has managed to achieve much personal success without losing sight of the needs of others in his community.

"David is another example of the shining young adults who will lead our society in the future," Dahme said.

David, a resident of Scotch Plains, is ranked in the top 10 percent of his senior class. He has consistently been named to the honor roll throughout his high school career. In addition to serving as senior class president, David also was class president in his sophomore and freshman years.

Last year, David was selected to attend the New Jersey Boy's State conference, where he was elected county president and appointed to the Supreme Court. He has edited his school newspaper's opinion section for the past two years. He was chosen to attend the National Student Leadership Conference last year. In addition, he was selected to participate in the Presidential Classroom Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.

His extracurricular activities include playing on the varsity baseball and indoor track teams. He also played for his school's football team. He has been a member of the Spanish National Honor Society since 2000 and a member of his school's yearbook staff since 1999.

David's accomplishments include state, regional and national awards for his participation in DECA.

David is a graduate of Akiba Academy, a Hebrew high school, and serves as a "Big Brother" at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School to help incoming freshmen adjust to their new school.

"What sets David apart from other students is his genuine caring and ability to put into action ways to improve the quality of life for the people around him," said Dr. Carol B. Choye, superintendent of Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools. "David truly cares about people."

Dr. Choye noted that, within three months of founding the Student Movement Against Cancer, David and his friends raised more than \$13,000 for the American Cancer Society. David discussed his ideas about broadening the movement nationally when he attended the Presidential Classroom. In addition, plans are being made to continue his anti-cancer movement after he graduates.

David has participated in a wide variety of volunteer and community service activities, including: working as a volunteer at a local nursing home, delivering food baskets for needy families at Thanksgiving and working at a Thanksgiving Day Dinner for the homeless and less fortunate, participating in a Christmas toy drive and participating in a walk-a-thon for cancer. In addition, he volunteered in a project to help senior citizens learn how to use a computer and he served as the MC of his community's Memorial Day Parade.

The State Board hosted David Baumwoll today as part of its recognition program to honor each month a student or group of students for accomplishments in areas such as community service, the arts, academics and sports.