



## **NJDOE News**

**For More Information Contact the Public Information Office:**

**Tom Rosenthal**

**Richard Vespucci**

**Jon Zlock**

**609-292-1126**

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### **State Board of Education Recognizes January Student of the Month**

The State Board of Education today recognized Andrew Pedro, a junior at Parsippany-Hills High School in Morris County, as its January student of the month.

As a sophomore last year, Andrew demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in his school when he coordinated Parsippany Hills High School's first "Unity Day," an effort to bring the more than 80 different cultures represented in the school together. School officials lauded Pedro for his dedication to such a daunting task.

"The State Board of Education is proud to recognize Andrew Pedro this month as both an outstanding student leader and an example of the many fine students not only in Morris County, but across the state," Board President Maud Dahme said. "The State Board is confident that he will continue his success in the future."

The State Board honored Andrew at its regular monthly meeting in Trenton as part of its program that recognizes a student or group of students for accomplishments in community service, the arts, academics and sports.

School officials said Andrew's work for Unity Day was "truly a credit to the outstanding young man that he is." Commissioner of Education William L. Librera agrees.

"To undertake such a challenge as a sophomore speaks volumes of Andrew's character," Librera said. "He is a bright young man with great leadership skills. I expect he'll go far."

In addition to his efforts as a sophomore, Andrew was elected to serve as First Vice President of the Student Council this year — the highest position a junior may hold. He is also president of the Technology Student Association Club and is a member of the varsity swim team.

This year, Andrew is also campaigning for the office of President of the New Jersey State Association of Student Councils.