



NJDOE News

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New Jersey Wins National Award for Excellence in International Education

New Jersey has been awarded the Asia Society's 2009 Goldman Sachs Foundation Prize for Excellence in International Education by a state.

Commissioner of Education Lucille E. Davy accepted the prestigious national award on behalf of Governor Jon S. Corzine and the New Jersey Department of Education at a ceremony today the Asia Society's headquarters in New York.

The annual awards program, launched in 2003, recognizes outstanding achievement by educators and others in promoting cultural awareness, world history and a global curriculum as crucial to the development of students as they prepare to enter the 21st century workforce. Awards are presented in four categories: State, Elementary/Middle School, High School and Media and Technology.

"We no longer operate in a regional or even a national economy, and our students need to leave high school with a set of skills that allows them to function internationally," said Commissioner Davy in accepting the award. "They have to know other languages, they have to understand other cultures and they have to be ready to work with people from other countries in order to create their own shared future.

"Governor Corzine understands this better than anyone, and he insisted on making it one of the key elements in New Jersey secondary school transformation efforts," the Commissioner said. "He has been the department's staunchest supporter in our efforts to develop a world-class workforce by helping our students attain the skills and education they need to compete in a global economy."

Commissioner Davy noted that New Jersey received the award because of the state's efforts in making international education a state policy priority, especially with respect to curriculum and student standards.

"The hallmark of our revised 2009 core standards in all nine curriculum areas is the infusion of international and global knowledge and skills, 21st century skills and use of technological tools as well as cross-curricular integration in all content areas," the Commissioner said.

In choosing New Jersey for the award, the judges also cited the state leadership efforts apparent in Governor Corzine's *Economic Growth Strategy for the State of New Jersey 2007*, which identified global education as one of its six priority areas.

Also noted were New Jersey's numerous programs to enhance educators' understanding through teacher preparation and professional development on the integration of 21st century knowledge and skills and the infusion of global perspectives and dimensions into instruction in all content areas.

The state will also be launching a program in partnership with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and the Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey to increase the number of students achieving a higher level of language proficiency, and is working to increase teacher capacity for critical need languages, such as Chinese.

The following New Jersey schools and school districts are among those with outstanding international education programs in a variety of areas. Reporters and editors should contact the schools directly.

Bergen Academies
Contact: Superintendent Robert Aloia, 201-343-6000

Vernon Township High School
Contact: Peggy Stewart, Social Studies Teacher (2005 New Jersey Teacher of the Year)

Peggystewart28@yahoo.com

973-764-2960 Ext. 2294

Passaic Valley Regional High School, Little Falls

Contact: Matthew Conforth, Director of Education Technology

pvmconforth@yahoo.com

973-890-2500 Ext. 2541

Edison School District

Contact: Martin Smith, World Languages Supervisor

732-650-5200

Glassboro High School

Contact: Patricia Yanez, Spanish Teacher

856-881-2200

Click on <http://www.glassboroschools.us/7672046145819420/site/default.asp> to find out more about international education at Glassboro High School.

Woodcliff Lake School District

Contact: Superintendent Peter Lisi

201-391-6570

Click on <http://www.woodcliff-lake.com/woodcliffakeschools/site/default.asp> and scroll to the *Journey to Japan* or *China Adventure* to see how the Woodcliff Lake School District is integrating international education into their curriculum.

Princeton Regional and West Windsor School Districts

Contact: Priscilla Russel (Princeton) 609-806-4320

Rosanne Zeppieri (West Windsor) 609-716-5300 X5282