



**State Board of Education Honors Students for
Outstanding Academic and Community Achievements**

For Immediate Release

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Trenton, NJ – Thirteen students from high schools and a middle school were honored today for outstanding academic and community achievements by the New Jersey State Board of Education in Trenton. Accompanied by their Executive County Superintendent, the superintendent of their district, local school officials, family and friends, the students were formally recognized for academic success as well as leadership qualities and volunteerism both at school and within their communities.

Acting Commissioner Chris Cerf said the students represent some of the finest young people in the Garden State. “Through self-discipline and determination, kindness and conscientiousness, they have proven to themselves, their families and their teachers that they have the qualities necessary to achieve success in school and in life,” Acting Commissioner Cerf said.

State Board President Arcelio Aponte said students are selected on the basis of scholarship, stewardship and leadership. “The students honored today by the State Board of Education represent the best and brightest in New Jersey’s public schools,” said President Arcelio Aponte. “Their achievements in the classroom, on the athletic field and in their communities exemplify the level of dedication, talent and motivation that can be found in classrooms throughout the state.”

Students who received honors are listed below. To see the award presentation photos [click here](#).

Atlantic County - Ceili Burdhimo, Egg Harbor Township High School
Bergen County - Alexandra Schulsinger and Scott Nolasco, Northern Highlands Regional High School
Cumberland County - Megan Hallquist and Steven Cirri, Cumberland Regional High School
Essex County - Tevan Denis, Essex County Vocational-Technical Schools, Bloomfield Tech Campus
Gloucester County - Sarah McAlister, Delsea Regional High School
Hudson County - Mervy Michael and Christian Ugaz, Union City High School
Middlesex County - County Hansel Rodriguez, North Brunswick Township High School
Ocean County - Andrew Ruff, Point Pleasant Borough High School
Somerset County - Courtney Smith, Bedminster Township School
Sussex County - Brandi Braico and Brittany Vrindten, Glen Meadow Middle School