



NJDOE News

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For Release: February 6, 2008

State Board of Education Honors February Student of the Month

Charles Cappello, the principal at David Brearley Middle/High School in Kenilworth, calls Amber Cox a "focused, dependable and dedicated young lady who will make a positive contribution in any environment."

For that reason, and for her scholastic and extracurricular credentials, Cox was honored today as the State Board of Education Student of the Month for February.

A junior at Brearley High, Cox is vice president of the student council and has been involved in student government since the third grade. She is an active leader in the school's Reaching Everyone By Exposing Lies (REBEL) program – a statewide anti-tobacco movement with school chapters in all 21 counties.

"Amber Cox is a dedicated and motivated student," said Ronald K. Butcher, State Board of Education president. "She is precisely the type of leader and scholar that the State Board of Education is proud to recognize."

Cox's proudest accomplishment, according to her principal, is her role as senior editor of REBEL magazine, which helps the group's overall message of educating peers, middle and elementary school children, and other members of the community about the dangers of tobacco use. In addition to magazine work, Cox was instrumental in organizing her school's Red Ribbon Week and "Kick Butts Day."

"Amber's involvement in her school activities is truly something we should celebrate," said Education Commissioner Lucille E. Davy. "She is passionate about her beliefs and her studies. I am impressed by her work with REBEL, and I'm impressed that she is enrolled in honors courses across the board. She is a wonderful student and role model for her peers."

In addition to her REBEL work, Cox runs track and cross country, is a varsity cheerleader, and a member of the Girl Scouts of America. She is also captain of the school's color guard.

"Amber has demonstrated outstanding traits as a student, an athlete, a leader and as a humanitarian," Cappello said. "She is energetic, hardworking and a pleasure to have at our school."

Each month, the State Board of Education honors a student for his or her outstanding work as a student and leader in the school community. Last month, the board recognized Eric Delgado, a senior and National Merit Scholar at Bayonne High School in Hudson County.