



NJDOE News

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State Board Honors March Student of the Month

Renee Winkler, a senior at Brick Township High School in Ocean County, was honored Wednesday by the State Board of Education as the March Student of the Month.

Renee is known in her community as someone who accomplishes much with a sense of maturity and grace. For instance, she recently launched a Senior Prom for disabled students in her school district. Renee, whose brother is disabled, set up the prom for about 100 other students who may have otherwise not attended the annual district dance.

Renee was also recognized by the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders with the Citizenship Award for her "genuine concern, compassion and dedication that will make a difference in the lives of many."

"Renee is truly an extraordinary human being," said her principal, Dennis Filippone. "She is articulate and dynamic – and has integrity and a bleed of humility."

Renee is heavily involved in her school community, having organized both the Thanksgiving Food Drive and a Walk-a-thon for the American Cancer Society. She is a Big Brothers, Big Sisters mentor and a school student ambassador. Renee also serves as her school's National Honor Society chapter secretary.

"Every month, we honor students who make a significant impact," said Ronald K. Butcher, the State Board president. "Renee is certainly cut from that mold. Her dedication to her high school and her fellow students should be commended and we are proud to recognize her today."

"In addition to her accomplishments and accolades, Renee is a volunteer at the Ocean Medical Center and wants to become a doctor," said Education Commissioner Lucille E. Davy. "She will certainly be an asset to New Jersey and I admire her dedication."

Renee is a straight-A student, on the distinguished honor roll and ranks seventh in her class of 394. She is also enrolled in Ocean County College through a program called "Jump Start" and is the student body representative for the district's work on its Strategic Plan.

Each month, the State Board of Education recognizes a student for his or her contributions and success in New Jersey schools. Last month, the board honored Amber Cox, a school choice student and junior at David Brearley Middle/High School in Kenilworth.