



NJDOE News

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State Board Recognizes March Student of the Month

The New Jersey State Board of Education today recognized Jonathan Feldman, a junior at Warren Hills Regional High School in Warren County, as the student of the month for March 2003.

Feldman, an honor roll student and co-captain of his swim team, is heavily involved in diversity education at his school — and says he wants to run for President of the United States in 2024.

"It is very obvious that (Jonathan) is an outstanding gentleman who has a bright future," William King, Warren County superintendent, wrote to Jonathan's parents, Richard Feldman and Ruth Jacobe.

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

"The State Board of Education is proud to recognize Jonathan as an outstanding student who has done his best to succeed both in his school and in the community," Board President Maud Dahme said. "We are quite impressed by his future ambitions and we are equally impressed by his school accomplishments."

"The state Department of Education is proud to join the State Board in honoring this dedicated young man," Commissioner of Education William L. Librera said. "We are impressed with Jonathan's drive to succeed. He deserves this accolade on account of his determination to lead in the myriad school activities he is involved in."

Jonathan is ranked in the top 1 percent of his class of 338 and is on the honor roll. He is involved in several community initiatives, including the St. Joseph's Youth Project, the Cystic Fibrosis Walk-a-thon and the Community Circle Steering Committee for Tolerance and Understanding.

Jonathan is also a member of his school's Diversity Committee and a representative on the Quality Education New Jersey Strategic Planning Committee. He is additionally an elected officer of four school clubs, including secretary of the National Honor Society and treasurer of the Key Club.

Jonathan's activities also include raising \$450 for the Camp Haze charity, a summer camp for children of Sept. 11 victims. He raised the money by outlining the 400-page United States History I textbook for the final exam and creating a 90-page study outline, which he sold to his peers. All proceeds went to Camp Haze.

Perhaps Jonathan's greatest accomplishment in school is his involvement in his high school's diversity initiatives. As a freshman, he worked on the committee and later wrote the grant application for a V-Free grant program that addressed violence, vandalism and/or victimization.

The school was awarded the \$2,800 grant the summer before Jonathan's sophomore year. The initiative, named the Student Interactive Mentoring (SIM) program, matches seventh-graders with 10th-grade mentors, a relationship that continues until the 10th-graders graduate.

As a sophomore, Jonathan worked to implement the SIM program and additionally worked with the Manytown and Anytown programs, both of which address diversity. In a letter to school officials, Jonathan called his Anytown experience "the BEST experience of my life."

This year, Jonathan participated in a six-week event called Community Study Circles, a forum that encourages Warren County residents to engage race relation discussions.