

REVIEW

New Jersey
Association Of Student Councils

Review
January 2010



**HELPING EVERYONE
REACH EXPECTATIONS**

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NJ IS H.E.R.E.

Don't forget to visit
www.njasc.org!



WELCOME BACK!

On behalf on the NJASC, WELCOME TO 2010!! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break!

The 2009 NJASC Executive Board also wishes the very best of luck to the elected 2010 State Officers and to all New Jersey leaders in the new year.

In this issue of **The Review**, you will learn a little more about the 2010 Presidential candidates, Allentown High School successful food drive, as well as the state charity, and read a farewell from your 2009 NJASC President as well.

AND DON'T FORGET...

All of this information can also be found right on the website! Including all of our state forms, information on your state officers, past editions of **The Review**, and anything you need to know about the NJASC!

WWW.NJASC.ORG



State Charity

FAMILY *reach* FOUNDATION

Join us in our mission of hope, care, and compassion. Families fighting cancer will be forever grateful for your kindness.

Our Mission...

Our mission is to provide financial relief and heartfelt support to families fighting pediatric cancers and other life-threatening diseases. While the majority of our efforts are dedicated to families fighting *solid-tumor, pediatric-type* cancers, we extend support to families with similar medical situations and urgent, unfulfilled needs. **The focus of our current efforts is to raise funds to help eligible families pay for a variety of significant expenses that mount during the patient's treatment, including:**

- Everyday home bills that accumulate due to lost wages of parents (e.g., mortgage, utilities, insurance, etc.)
- Transportation to care centers and lodging for family members
- Child care
- Palliative care
- Other special patient needs (medical or non-medical)

“Cancer strikes families of all backgrounds and financial means. With your generosity and kindness, we help them weather the storm.”

Our goal is to help **over 1,000 families** in the next 3 to 5 years.

So what's our goal?



www.familyreach.org

“Family Reach exists to help families get through this unimaginable storm.”

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES...

Every year at the NJASC Winter Convention, speeches and elections for executive board positions are held. A student representative from each member school will listen to speeches, and vote for each candidate they feel best fits the NJASC position.

Now, the two candidates running for the position of NJASC President would like to say a little about themselves and what they have to offer the NJASC in 2010.

STEPHEN DESILETS

Hello New Jersey! I'm Stephen Desilets, one of the candidates for president of NJASC. I'm a junior at Shawnee High School, located in sunny Medford, New Jersey, where I am the president of my school. I have been involved with Student Council since 6th grade, but I also enjoy other activities, including swimming, tennis, National Honor Society, and volunteering at Virtua Hospital. These activities have opened doors for me over the last two and a half years and continue to make high school something to look forward to when I wake up each morning.

During the summer, I wake up bright and early for swim practices, lifeguarding, and my favorite part of the day, coaching the Chartwell Swim Club pre-team. However, I would have to say that the absolute best part of summer is LTC! This past summer, I had the joy of being on the Green Squad of LTC 2 and meeting some of the coolest people in New Jersey, all while learning how to become a better leader. From LTC, I learned that having goals is extremely important, so now when I set goals for myself, I fully commit to them and keep working until I achieve them. I guess you could say that I am a very determined person in this way, but I'm also outgoing, enthusiastic, and funny. I am very dedicated to my schoolwork, but on my down time I like watching movies, hanging out with friends, or just relaxing and listening to music.

I am truly thankful to my support system of family, friends, and teachers who have made so much of this possible for me. Further, I am thankful for the incredible work done by the NJASC. The fundamental leadership skills that it teaches young leaders can be applied not only in Student Council, but also in everyday life. I would be honored and privileged if given the opportunity to develop leaders throughout New Jersey, by serving as President of NJASC.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES CONTINUED..

AUDREY GREEN

Hi New Jersey! I am Audrey Green and I am running for President of the NJASC. Student Council has been a passion and priority of mine since I was first elected in 6th grade, and I have always dreamed of leading the NJASC as President. Currently, I am a junior at Seneca High School and serve as Student Council President. If elected as President of the NJASC, I will make next year the best it can possibly be for the NJASC and all of you!

I have been inspired to run for a NJASC executive position since first attending LTC in the 7th grade. It has been my privilege to return to LTC every year since then as a Junior Counselor, where I've had the opportunity to help representatives across the state develop the leadership skills they need to improve their schools and communities. I am confident I have the experience, work ethic and leadership skills to serve as President of the NJASC. and I would love to share my enthusiasm, passion and experience with other Student Councils throughout NJ.

Over the years I have participated in a variety of school activities, ranging from track, to robotics, to cheerleading. I have organized and led food drives, toy drives and many other community service activities bringing our schools and communities together. While I learned something new in each of these activities, the real benefit was getting to meet different people and learning that despite our different preferences in music, sports, arts or friends, we still have a lot in common. Plus, all activities are better and more fun when we all get involved!

If elected, I will work my hardest to lead NJASC state level projects, bring more attention and participation to LTC and LTC2 and assist local Student Councils with new ideas to meet the needs of their school and community. It would be an honor to lead the diverse and extraordinary community of New Jersey Student Councils at the state level and create new opportunities for all of us work together. Please vote for me, Audrey Green!

DON'T FORGET!...

Information on the elected 2010 State Board will be available on www.njasc.org soon after the elections take place.

2009 PRESIDENTIAL FAREWELL

GOODBYE FROM YOUR 2009 NJASC PRESIDENT.

ALEX GALLEGO

Dearest NJ leaders,

It's weird to accept the fact that already one year has come and gone. I knew from experience that a term goes by quickly, but I never realized it was this quick.

The NJASC has made such a significant impact that to explain it in words and not pictures and stories is nearly impossible, but I'll try just for you guys. Since middle school, student council has become to me something that I never thought it would. Some people see others that are heavily involved in student leadership as "nerds" or "geeks", and with that I say, go ahead. If making a difference in someone's life, setting an example, and having fun while leading makes me a nerd, then I'm the biggest one in the box and I'm proud of it. The NJASC has taught me, and everyone else, that you can give back to your community AND have fun at the same time. The reward of knowing that you have directly, or indirectly, impacted someone's future has the reward that no one can take away. Thankfully, I have gotten the opportunity to do that because of the NJASC..

The amazing people I got to meet and work with all year round was more than I expected and the memories I leave with are unforgettable. I learned to be a team player and work on an executive board that's on a much grander scale. I've experienced the hard work and teamwork that this responsibility entails. But most importantly, I've experienced laughter, happiness, and success. This year has been incredible. I've grown as a person, a friend, but most importantly, as a leader.

To my advisors, thank you for your inspiration. To my fellow SOs, love you guys and thank you for what you've done not only for me, but for everyone. To the leaders of NJ, in the words of Dory, just keep swimming, just keep swimming! Hopefully, while we were HERE, we helped you change for the better or inspire someone else. NJ was HERE, but it'll always be in my heart. Good luck to next year's elected officers and thank you all for an amazing year. With that said - Gallego, out.

ALLENTOWN FOOD DRIVE

Allentown High School submitted an article to *The Review* to show the NJASC how successful their latest holiday food drive turned out.

Great job Allentown!

Recently, Allentown High School played host to a holiday food drive sponsored by The Allentown chapters of National Honors Society and Student Council. This was a food drive the like of which Allentown High School has never seen before. Two shopping carts roved through the hallways every morning in an ever increasing effort to receive as much food as possible. Every homeroom in the school was competing to bring in the most cans and other items for the less fortunate to help them during the Thanksgiving season.



The homeroom that brought in the most food came from behind like a mysterious horse in the night bringing in close to 400 items in the two last days. Mr. Magnus, the teacher in this homeroom, inspired his students to help their fellow Americans and give people a chance for thanks during this very bleak looking Thanksgiving season. Contributors brought in over 1000 items and on one day managed to fill the entire main office lobby.

Allentown High School has played host to many food drives in the past but none received such a response level. From daily homeroom visits to loud speaker announcements, knowledge of this food drive was spread rapidly throughout the school. Hopefully it will not take until next November to see such a grand outreach to help those in need. May we all remember these students who missed parts of their first period classes to collect these items, what a sacrifice they made. I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday season and we will see another such turnout at the Thanksgiving food drive next year.



Coming up...

-Spring Awards Program
Thursday May 13, 2010
Six Flags Great Adventure

-NASC National Conference
June 25—July 1, 2010
Indianapolis, Indiana

-LTC

Session 1: Wed.-Sat. July 14-17

Session 2: Sun.-Wed. July 18-21

Special Thanks...

Thank you to everyone who made 2009 a wonderful year and amazing experience for the 2009 NJASC board and all of NJ leaders . Our incredible advisors Lou and Wendy, who pour so much into making the NJASC a great organization. Also, thank you to everyone who have attended the NJASC conferences, LTC, and have continuously been a great part of the New Jersey Association Of Student Councils.

Questions or comments or articles for **The Review?**

Don't hesitate to contact me and I will be sure to help you in any way!

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