

New Jersey Association  
of Student Councils

# Review

Issue 3  
January 2009



New Jersey is IDEAL

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Be sure to visit  
[www.njasc.org](http://www.njasc.org)!



# *Welcome back...*

On behalf of the 2008 NJASC Executive Board, I would like to say *welcome to 2009!* We all hope you had a great holiday! Also, we hope to see you at the Winter Convention on January 8, 2009. At the Winter Convention, you will be saying goodbye to the current NJASC officers and saying hello to the 2009 Executive Board! Although this change will bring an end to our board, we hope that you will remember 2008 as a fun year, one that inspired you to reach your full leadership potential. Remember, New Jersey will always be IDEAL. Finally, we would all like to thank everyone who made 2008 possible and memorable for us. To those of you that voted for us, supported us at our conferences, flew to Texas for nationals with us, and came to LTC - thank you. This year wouldn't have been possible without you.

## It's on the website!

Don't forget that all information about the NJASC can be found at [www.njasc.org](http://www.njasc.org). Pictures from LTC, all of our forms, and all past editions of the Review can also be found on the website!

# 2009 Presidential Candidates

At the Winter Convention, all candidates running for a position on the 2009 Executive Board will give their speeches. One representative from each school will be allowed to vote for their favorite candidates. Now, the two candidates running for the position of President for the NJASC would like to say a little bit about themselves before voting takes place at the Winter Convention. Information on the new 2009 board will be available on [www.njasc.org](http://www.njasc.org) after the election takes place.

## *Elizabeth Kerian*

Hello Everyone! My name is **Elizabeth Kerian** and I am running for president of the NJASC executive board. I live in historic Flemington and I am a sophomore at Hunterdon Central Regional High school. I am a very dedicated student committed to being the very best I can be. I plan to become a research biologist or a politician but I'll be happy doing anything that will make the world a better place. I've always loved to do things for my school and community which is why I became involved in various clubs and activities. I've been active in Student Government since sixth grade and this year I serve as my schools student council secretary. As secretary my job is to organize council documents and write minutes, however I always try to help in any way I can, including contributing ideas to help our council function better. This year, I've had a great time helping our council raise money during football games in the snack shack. Aside from student council, I am a very active Girl Scout working towards my gold award, and I also like to volunteer at my county library. In my spare time, I love to read, be with my friends and family and when I'm lucky - go skiing! I really love to help people because I truly believe that every person can make a difference if they try hard enough. I think being a state officer would be a great opportunity because not only can I help NJASC but I also get to help some wonderful charities to attain their goals. I would love the ability to help organize LTC and give other kids a way to discover how much fun leadership can be! Overall, I am a very dedicated and organized person ready to help NJASC in any way I can! See you at the 2009 Winter Conference!

## *Presidential Candidates continued:*

### *Alex Gallego*

Hey, NJASC! I'm **Alex Gallego** & I am honored to have this awesome opportunity to be candidate running for the position of your next NJASC President. First off, I'm a Junior at Parsippany Hills High School. Its a (somewhat) small town in Morris County, in the best part of the state, North Jersey of course! But on a serious note, most of you might know me already or have seen me before. If you've been to LTC, I've been a staff member for the past 4 years. The last 3 years I've been a JC and in 2005, I was the Middle Level Representative. Student leadership, or leadership in general, has always been a huge chunk of my life. I find happiness and reward in helping others, even if it means personal sacrifices. I've been involved in student Council since 6th grade and it continues to take over my life, & I love it. I am the current President of the Student Council at Par Hills, the first Junior to accomplish this. Leadership is not just an in-school thing for me. I have volunteered at soccer camps coaching little kids, helping at the Winter Special Olympics, wrapping gifts for children in need, & the list goes on. I've been playing soccer since I was 4 years old, and I bring a lot of my leadership skills onto the field. In addition, I am an active part of my school's Drama Club. I have played lead roles in my school's production of "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying," "Aida," and other productions of "Annie" and "The Wizard of Oz." However, I don't want to be looked at only as the short kid involved in 1,000 things (it's an exaggeration, trust me, good things come in small packages). I also want to be seen as a great person who's charismatic, outgoing, friendly, focused, and determined. I can be a little silly and goofy at times, but I know when it's time to get to business. I find I keep a balance between the two =). So there ya' go New Jersey! There's Alex Gallego in a nutshell. Hopefully you can help me, help you. See you soon!

# *Parents of Autistic Children*

This year's state charity, which was announced at the Spring Awards Program, is Parents of Autistic Children (POAC). POAC was formed in 1999 as a nonprofit organization and has a proven track record of providing services to children with autism, their families, and the professionals who serve them. While many organizations exist to find a cause and cure for this developmental disability, POAC has focused its attention and resources on how best to help the children and families who are struggling with autism today. So much research has been done over the past 5 decades and it has yielded teaching techniques that have been proven effective with this population. Getting this information into the hands of those who need it is one of the core goals of POAC.

## **Contact Information:**

Parents Of Autistic Children

1999 Route 88 East Brick, NJ 08724

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# Goodbye from your 2008 NJASC President

*Jeffery Desilets*

In my life there have been few things that I have enjoyed more than working with NJASC. After six years of being an active member, I'm so glad that I have had the opportunity to truly impact the organization, alongside my other fellow officers. But while I hope that the organization has benefited from my work, it in no way compares to how the organization has benefited me throughout my term. P.O.A.C. has shown me the importance of charity and how much impact the student council's of New Jersey have on the well being of the community. LTC has reinforced my values for hard work and, of course, every project is dependent on the cooperation of all the student leaders in the state. I have not only learned about the true value of charity, hard work, and cooperation, but I feel that for the first time in my life, I have truly experienced leadership. I once preached that it is individuality that makes a leader, and I feel that I know now, more than ever, what that truly means.

As the organization progresses into another year wrought with its own challenges and projects, I'm sure that it will adhere to the NJASC mentality of equality, community activism, student representation, and of course, leadership and individuality. To do anything else just wouldn't be I.D.E.A.L.

*Sincerely,*

*Jeffery Desilets*



*Special  
thanks to:*

I'd like to thank everyone who made this past year possible for the 2008 Board. Our wonderful advisors, Lou and Wendy, made this a great year for everyone. Thank you to everyone who voted for us, attended our conferences, went to LTC, and supported us this year. We appreciate all of your help!

*Coming Up...*

Spring Awards Program

Thursday May 7, 2009

Six Flags Great Adventure

NASC National Conference

June 27-30, 2009

Highlands Ranch High School

Denver, Colorado

54th Annual LTC

July 15-18 & 19-22, 2009

The College of New Jersey

