



NEW JERSEY ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS

Wendy Booth Sitzler

P.O. Box 968

Delran, NJ 08075

(856) 520-1164 ♦ Fax: (856) 829-7379

wbsitzler@njasc.org

Lou Miller, Brooklawn Middle School

250 Beachwood Rd.

Parsippany, NJ 07054

(609) 980-8741 ♦ Fax: (973) 784-3613

lmiller@njasc.org

*Affiliated with: National Association of Student Councils (NASC)
National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2018

Contacts:
Lou Miller
609.980.8741, lmiller@njasc.org
Wendy Booth Sitzler
856.520.1164, wbsitzler@njasc.org

NJ's STUDENT RIGHTS AND VOICE IN AFTERMATH OF PARKLAND

Remarks on student civic engagement delivered by NJ's student rep to State BOE

“Many students in schools across New Jersey have heard Parkland’s call to action and for change,” says Karan Chauhan, student representative to the New Jersey State Board of Education. While speaking at the April 4 New Jersey State Board of Education meeting in Trenton, Chauhan noted that “students have the right to live and to go to the movie theater, concerts, or even to a Board of Education meeting with a sense of security.”

In addressing the growing number of student rallies, walkouts, letters to the editor and other activities, Chauhan shared with the Board that “students are strengthening their voices in society and are becoming civically engaged, something that should be considered a critical part in one’s education.” Chauhan believes that as students “develop professional and practical skills, we must also develop civic engagement within

2018 NJASC STATE OFFICERS

President – Dominic Decker, Holy Cross Academy
Vice President – Sonit Puri, Mercer County Tech-Health Sciences
Secretary – Hetvi Patwa, Kingsway Regional HS
Treasurer – Chris Forlini, Shore Regional HS
State BOE Student Rep. – Nora Faverzani, Ocean City HS

Executive Members

Charity – Radhika Shah, Hightstown HS
Projects – Nina Gohel, Lenape HS
Publications – Madison Miller, Seneca HS
Middle Level Rep. – Geovanni Flores Peralta, Lakewood MS

our schools so that we can transition from a society where too many individuals are apathetic to the workings of their government and the issues that affect them to a society where each and every student can become an engaged citizen.” He asked that the New Jersey State Board of Education support these student efforts by taking a leadership role and providing schools with resources to properly support students in their engagement.

Chauhan concluded by referencing “Student Voice, Student Advocacy”, an initiative by the New Jersey Association of Student Councils (www.njasc.org) to provide support and reliable resources for all New Jersey students to help them become engaged while also promoting voter registration among eligible students. “We must support our student voices today, as they will be the most important voices in the years to come.”

Karan’s full remarks to the New Jersey State Board of Education can be found on the NJASC website, www.njasc.org in the new section “Student Advocacy, Student Voice”.

###

Karan Chauhan, a senior at Parsippany Hills High School, serves as the State Board of Education’s non-voting student representative, a position elected annually by New Jersey’s students since 1976 during the annual convention of the New Jersey Association of Student Councils (NJASC), which has provided leadership training and opportunities for student leaders and their faculty advisors since 1927.