

**School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey
January 2018**

Sample News Release: Local School Boards

(Local school boards can use this sample news release to announce board action on a resolution declaring January 2018 as School Board Recognition Month.)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: *Name of School District Spokesperson*
Office and home telephone numbers

(Name) Board of Education Cites School Board Recognition Month

(Date resolution was approved), 2018—The *(name)* Board of Education today called on citizens to continue working together to advance the education of all students, as it recognized the contributions of colleagues throughout the state during School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey.

“The *(name)* Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students,” read a resolution adopted by the board. “New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation’s best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments.”

Since the first School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey in 2002, the State Board of Education, the state-level public body that regulates public education, has approved resolutions to honor the work done by local school board members.

School board members in New Jersey receive no pay for their service. More than 5,000 men and women serve on New Jersey’s local boards of education, making them the largest group of public officials in the state.

“Nothing is more important than our children’s education. School board members provide countless hours of service to their communities and strive to provide the resources necessary to

meet the needs of all students,” said *(board president’s name)*, president of the *(name of local board)*. “That is why our board is joining in efforts to recognize the efforts of these volunteers throughout the state. We urge all citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staff toward the improvement of our children’s education.”

Daniel Sinclair, president of the New Jersey School Boards Association, said School Board Recognition Month is “an important way to thank current and former school board members for their dedication and service on behalf of their communities.”

“New Jersey’s local school boards are selected by their community to serve as their voice in setting goals for their schools,” he said. “School board members serve without remuneration, and dedicate extraordinary amounts of time to their communities. Additionally, board members attend training programs and many reach out to state legislators and members of Congress on behalf of local schoolchildren. We thank them for their work.”

The National School Boards Association initiated School Board Recognition Month in the early 1990s. Various other states followed suit by dedicating one month of the year to recognize the contributions of local board members.