

## Horace Mann named Benchmark School

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Bank Charter School of Red Bank, Horace Mann Number 6 School of Bayonne, and North Bergen High School of North Bergen were recognized.

On April 25, the Business Coalition for Educational Excellence (BCEE) of New Jersey Chamber of Commerce recognized Horace Mann School as a 2006 Just for the Kids New Jersey Benchmark School. This means that Horace Mann School has outperformed other schools of similar size and with similar student populations on State Assessment Tests.

Eighth grade students of Horace Mann School have shown continuous academic growth in the field of mathematics. From 2004 to 2006, there was a 44.6 percent increase in the number of students achieving a ranking of proficiency on the math portion of the test. In the area of advanced proficiency, there was a 44.4 percent increase in the number of students achieving a ranking of advanced proficiency. This growth is the result of continual reassessment of teaching strategies and the incorporation of cooperative learning and technology in the classroom.

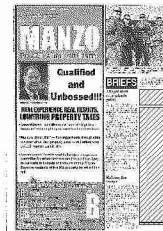
"This commitment on the part of all staff members ensures that all students achieve and are prepared for the challenges that lie ahead," said Denise Sangee, teacher.

"Horace Mann School's accomplishments represent a level of excellence that we would like all New Jersey schools to achieve," said Dana Egreczky, president, Business Coalition for Education Excellence.

Charles Costello, principal of Horace Mann School, stated, "This accomplishment reflects the tone stated in our school motto, "Creating a Spirit of Excellence For All in Academics."

"The Business Coalition for Educational Excellence is committed to ensuring that all students achieve at high levels, become productive citizens and are well prepared to succeed in the workplace," states Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan, superintendent of schools. "I commend and congratulate Principal Costello, his staff, and students for these major accomplishments!"

For the fourth year, NEWS 12 New Jersey also presented its NEWS 12 New Jersey School Bell Award to three 2006 New Jersey Just for the Kids Benchmark School. This year, Red



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