



**BENCHMARK AWARD WINNERS** — Summit Assistant Superintendent of Schools Ross Kasun, Board of Education President Ann Bushe, High School Principal Paul Sears, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carolyn Deacon and Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School Principal Dr. Ted Stanik, from left, attended a ceremony at which the high school and middle school received Benchmark Schools awards.

## City schools earn Benchmark Awards

SUMMIT — For the fourth consecutive year, Summit High School and Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School were named Benchmark Schools by the Business Coalition for Educational Excellence at the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce.

Achieving the Benchmark award means that the schools have outperformed other New Jersey schools of similar size and with similar student populations as defined by low income and limited English proficiency status.

"We are thrilled and honored to have our schools named, once again, Benchmark Schools," said Summit Superintendent of Schools Carolyn Deacon in announcing the awards at the April 26 Board of Education meeting. "Our high school and middle school have

received these awards each year since the inception of the program." She congratulated Summit High School Principal Paul Sears and Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School Principal Ted Stanik on the achievements.

The awards are based on standardized test results, but, unlike a number of school ranking systems, take into consideration the student population and demographics.

Dr. Deacon, Board of Education President Ann Bushe, Dr. Stanik, Mr. Sears and Assistant Superintendent of Schools Ross Kasun attended a breakfast in Jamesburg on April 25, where the awards were presented. Washington Mutual joined the N.J. Chamber of Commerce in sponsoring the awards.

