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### **State Board of Education Honors Bruce Rodman, New Jersey's School Business Administrator of the Year**

Bruce N. Rodman, New Jersey's School Business Administrator of the Year for 2001, was honored at today's meeting of the State Board of Education. The board recognized Rodman for his selection by the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO).

Rodman, the business administrator for the Monmouth/Ocean Educational Services Commission for 21 years, received the award from NJASBO last month at the association's annual conference.

"I am pleased to join members of the education community in congratulating Bruce Rodman for this special distinction," said acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco. "He deserves to feel the pride and honor that comes from being singled out for excellence by an organization of his peers."

"School business administrators play a vital role in ensuring that tax dollars are targeted to the needs of students," said State Board of Education President Maud Dahme. "I commend Bruce Rodman for his dedication and many years of exemplary service."

"I know Bruce Rodman to be highly professional and always well-prepared in implementing more than 40 programs run by his Commission," Commissioner Gagliardi said. "He is a well-deserving recipient of this prestigious honor."

Rodman, a resident of Colts Neck, oversees a \$43 million budget that funds cooperative ventures among school districts in Monmouth and Ocean counties to provide a number of key services, such as telecommunications, natural gas and transportation. He developed the Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications (ACT) that led to school districts bidding collectively for telecommunications services. The program he began is now available statewide through NJASBO.

Rodman is co-chair of NJASBO's legislative committee and serves as Monmouth County's legislative chairperson. In addition, he has presented workshops on topics such as state contracting purchasing and workers compensation.

Rodman has held many positions in the local, state, and national Association of Business Officials, including program chair, treasurer, vice president and president. He is also a trustee of the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group, a nonprofit joint insurance fund that provides coverage to nearly half of New Jersey's public schools.

A scholarship will be given in Rodman's name to a high school senior in the district of his choice in the amount of \$1,500.