

# Runners-up deserve recognition, too!

Here is a listing of the 2002 Academic All-Star runners-up, listed alphabetically:

**Josh Anthony**  
Agape Christian Academy  
Willis

**College prospects:** Wayne State University or University of Michigan-Dearborn, to study electrical and computer engineering.

**Academic honors:** Agape all-academic honor roll; Who's Who Among American High School Students; honors student in math, science and English.

**Extracurricular activities:** Varsity baseball and basketball; National Honor Society; working part time as a cook at Denny's; working as a hospital volunteer and the Ford Science and Technology program.

**Influential teacher:** "Clark Sexton - his teaching inspires me to do my best work."

To improve public education, Anthony said he would "put God back into public schools."

Anthony is the son of Marsha Anthony.



Josh Anthony

**Catherine Auguste**  
St. Agatha High School  
Detroit

**College prospects:** Michigan State University or Wayne State University to study engineering or advertising.

**Academic honors:** Academic letter; D.A.R. "Good Citizen" award and Pastor's List honor roll.

**Extracurricular activities:** Student Council president; senior class vice president; peer mediator, National Honor Society; St. Gerard Youth Group and dance.

**Influential teacher:** "Mr. Del Johnston. He makes learning so simple and has confidence in everyone."

To improve public education, Auguste said, "I would improve the quality of the information and techniques of learning. I would also make sure the teachers are qualified to teach."

Auguste is the daughter of Adeline and Serge Auguste, and the sister of Danielle, 29.



Catherine Auguste

**Jonathan Burmeister**  
Stevenson High School  
Livonia

**College prospects:** Central Michigan University, to study music education.

**Academic honors:** National Honor Society; honor roll;



Jonathan Burmeister

academic letter; scholar athlete; instrumental music departmental award; vocal department award; Who's Who Among American High School Students; National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C., and Michigan Math Prize Competition finalist.

**Extracurricular activities:** Marching band; jazz band; symphonic band; MSBOA district and state solo and ensemble; Village Singers; barbershop quartet; men's ensemble; symphonic choir; MSVMA district and state solo and ensemble; MSVMA regional and state honors choir; the all-school musicals *Crazy for You* and *Kiss Me Kate*; one-act play, *Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread*; stage crew; International Thespian Society; varsity swim team; physics club; community service club; calculus club and chemistry club.

**Influential teacher:** "Mr. Les Prieskorn, my 10th grade English teacher, influenced me in many ways. First, he taught me that, in school, grades are not what is important, but the experience and what a student learns in class are the most important things."

To improve public education, Burmeister said, "I would give teachers more flexibility to teach their students in new and creative ways."

Burmeister is the son of Melodie and Thomas Burmeister and brother of Jim, 33, and Ted, 24.

**Scott Carr**  
Garden City High School  
Garden City

**College prospects:** Lawrence Technological University or University of Michigan to study engineering.

**Academic honors:** Scholar athlete; math and English departmental awards.

**Extracurricular activities:** Japanese club; KICK; SADD and football.

**Influential teacher:** "Keith Penski, because he is very committed to his job."

To improve public education, Carr said, "I would increase school funding and buy more computers for the schools."

Carr is the son of Suzanne Robertson and Michael Carr, and the brother of Stephen, 19; and Kimberly, 14.



Scott Carr

**Christine Cleary**  
Plymouth Christian Academy  
Plymouth

**College prospects:** Taylor University, for an undecided field of study.

**Academic honors:** National Honor Society and co-valedictorian.

**Extracurricular activities:** Varsity volleyball and varsity soccer.

**Influential teacher:** "My mom. I was home schooled for 10 years and she



Christine Cleary

taught me basically everything I know." Cleary is the daughter of Bill and Bobbie Cleary.

**Frances Deering**  
Redford Union High School  
Redford

**College prospects:** University of Michigan, to study political science and possibly become a lawyer.

**Academic honors:** Girls' State delegate; National Young Leadership Conference attendee; honor roll; second in class; Mega League All Conference Academics and all-conference in tennis.

**Extracurricular activities:** Varsity tennis captain; varsity volleyball captain; varsity track; varsity debate captain and student council class president.

**Influential teacher:** "Steve Benulieu. He has helped me, not only throughout high school, but also in choosing a college and field of study."

To improve public education, Deering said, "(I would) reduce the student-to-teacher ratio."

Deering is the daughter of Stacey Hunter and sister of Patricia, 15.



Frances Deering

**George Giroux**  
Franklin High School  
Livonia

**College prospects:** Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Massachusetts Institute of Technology or Harvard University to study political science and law.

**Academic honors:** Academic Honor Roll and National Merit Scholarship finalist.

**Extracurricular activities:** Class Council; Student Congress; German Club secretary and vice president; Boy Scouts (patrol leader and troop guide); Model United Nations and National Honor Society.

**Influential teacher:** "Dave Bjorklund, my AP calculus teacher, was the first person to show me that I can enjoy math."

To improve public education, Giroux said he would "make students more motivated about their school work."

Giroux is the son of Dexter and Lucy Giroux and brother of Justin, 15; and Alyssa, 10.



George Giroux

**Brent Habitz**  
Westland Lutheran  
Northville

**College prospects:** University of Michigan; University of Virginia or the College of William and Mary to study political science for a possible career in law.

**Academic honors:** Co-valedictorian; Valparaiso Junior Award and National

Honor Society.

**Extracurricular activities:** Student Council president; Bible study leader; varsity basketball captain; varsity baseball and chamber choir.

**Influential teacher:** "Mr. Kent Weier, for teaching me the value of preparation."

To improve public education, Habitz said he would "implement a voucher system to increase (the schools') competitiveness."

Habitz is the son of Thomas Sr. and Norma Sander and the brother of Tom, 21.



Brent Habitz

**Richard Harris**  
Bishop Borgess High School  
Detroit

**College prospects:** Morehouse College, Tuskegee University or Michigan State University to study psychology for a possible career as a psychologist.

**Academic honors:** National Honor Roll; National Honor Society; Outstanding Achievement - Honor Roll; Scholastic All Catholic Team and President's Award for Educational Excellence.

**Extracurricular activities:** Community service, prom committee; student council open house; International Society of Poets and basketball.

**Influential teacher:** "Mr. Ronald Ferenczi, because he cares for his students."

Harris is the son of Rose Harris and brother of Julius Jones, 29, and Larry Jones, 28.



Richard Harris

**Kelley Hays**  
Agape Christian Academy  
Canton

**College prospects:** Eastern Michigan University or Madonna University to study theater and pursue a career in acting or teaching drama.

**Academic honors:** Who's Who Among American High School Students; ACSI Distinguished High School Student; Superior Award from Agape Christian Academy; and Student of the Month recognized by Sen. Loren Bennett (R-Canton).

**Extracurricular activities:** National Honor Society; varsity volleyball captain; basketball and church puppet team.

**Influential teacher:** "Mr. Allen Shah, because he challenges me and encourages me to reach for my dreams."

To improve public education, Hays



Kelley Hays