

# Glassboro Public Schools

560 Joseph Bowe Boulevard  
Glassboro, New Jersey 08028

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Mark J. Silverstein, MBA, Ed.D Superintendent of Schools

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June 5, 2019

Mr. Robert F. Thomas  
737 Elmhurst Place  
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Re: Failure to Attend GIS National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony

Dear Mr. Thomas:

First and foremost, congratulations on your son Ryan's honorary induction into the National Junior Honor Society. More than just an honor roll, the National Junior Honor Society, NJHS, serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship.

Chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. Admittedly, areas in which the Glassboro Board of Education, noted on our own annual self-assessment, needs improvement.

Your attached email of June 1, 2019 serves as a strong reminder to the members of the Glassboro Board of Education of their duties to go beyond basic board governance during scheduled meetings, but to support our students, faculty, and administration through participation in school and community events honoring their achievements.

I am extremely grateful that you took the time to communicate your concerns. I will read into the record your email during the upcoming BOE meeting on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 and hope that it reinforces our duty and commitment to model scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship in support of public education in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter J. Calvo", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Peter J. Calvo  
President,  
Glassboro Board of Education

Copy: Dr. Silverstein  
BOE Members

Attachment

## Abbott, Gina

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**From:** Bob T <bobt1241@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 1, 2019 9:56 AM  
**To:** Abbott, Gina  
**Subject:** Fw: Failure to Attend Ceremony

I am further requesting this letter be read into the record during the next scheduled public meeting as well as a written response from the Board.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Bob T  
**To:** [emarchese@glassboroschools.us](mailto:emarchese@glassboroschools.us)  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 01, 2019 9:42 AM  
**Subject:** Failure to Attend Ceremony

To All:

On Thursday, May 30, 2019, I attended a National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony which was held at the Glassboro Intermediate School. I trust that you are aware this ceremony is held to honor those students who have achieved and maintained the highest academic and service standards to warrant membership. Twenty eight students were awarded such an honor. Each beaming with pride and proud of their accomplishment. Family members equally as proud as we sat on the bleachers inside the gym.

As I sat in the 2nd row of the bleachers I observed the entire first row, which was marked and reserved for the Glassboro Board of Education, was vacant and remained as such for the 30 minute ceremony. Each and every one of the 9 Board of Education members failed to attend! Not 1! Why??? Was it due to not having a family member being inducted? Waste of your valuable time? Eating dinner? Or is it that you just don't care?

Your failure to attend a ceremony honoring those students was an utter disgrace and embarrassment to the community and school district. If you can not take 30 minutes out of your day to attend a function that falls within the scope of your responsibilities as a Board member then perhaps it's time for you to resign from your position.

"Leadership, Citizenship, Character, Service" are four of the mandates required for membership in such a prestigious society. Maybe you should adopt them as well.

Disgusted Parent,

Mr. Robert F. Thomas, father of Honorary Inductee and special needs student, Ryan Thomas  
737 Elmhurst Place  
Glassboro, NJ 08028

Excuses are tools of the incompetent which builds monuments of nothingness and those that specialize in their uses are seldom capable of anything else.