

News release



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Cascade High School student elected governor at Evergreen Boys State



On June 19, Michael Cizek, [Cascade High School](#) soon-to-be senior, was elected as the 74th Governor at Evergreen Boys State at [Central Washington University](#).

For one week each year, [Evergreen Boys State](#), part of Boys Nation founded by the American Legion in 1935, brings together more than 230 of the top 2012-13 high school juniors from across Washington to learn leadership skills, practice good citizenship and create a mock Washington city, county and state government.

After he was elected, Cizek served as the Boys State senior official. He reviewed and then signed or vetoed legislation drafted and approved by the Boys State Senate and House of Representatives. He will continue to serve as Evergreen Boys State Governor until a new governor is elected next summer.

Students were treated to presentations from elected officials from throughout the state, including Yakima Mayor Micah Cawley, Representative Hans Zeiger (25th Legislative District), Snohomish County Councilman John Koster, and former Attorney General and EBS Alumnus Rob McKenna.

Hotly debated issues this year included marijuana laws, gun control, transportation funding, charter schools and the very controversial topic of zombie civil rights (students had a little fun, too). Cizek received a scholarship for his election to the governor position and was sponsored by [Lynnwood American Legion Post 181](#).

Cizek is active at Cascade High School. He serves as a drum major for Cascade Sound, the high school marching band, has varsity-lettered three years on the swim and dive team and has played baseball for three years for the Bruins. He is a member of the National Honor Society. He also attends classes at Everett Community College through the Running Start program. Cizek is a student leader for Northshore Christian Church's middle school youth program as well as having served as work crew for Young Life.

"As a program of [The American Legion](#), Boys State (and [Girls State](#)) developed from the concept that our youth should be offered a better perspective of the practical operation of government; that the individual is an integral part and commensurately responsible for the character and success of his government. As such, it is an activity of high educational value, born out of a need for youth training in practical citizenship," explained Raymond Ochs, assistant director Boys State.

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