

A student at Paterson's **Eastside** High School yesterday urged the state Board of Education to recognize her school as one of the state's "exemplary high schools. "

Senior Trene Cornish, who served yesterday as a student representative to the board, praised **Eastside** Principal **Joe Clark** and his brand of strict discipline and said, "Had it not been for Mr. Clark's appointment, I would be attending a private school right now. "

Miss Cornish, the editor of the student newspaper and captain of the varsity cheerleading team at **Eastside**, said she wanted to use her appearance before the board to draw attention to the success Clark has had in improving the school.

She said the strict discipline and control that Clark maintains is necessary in a high school in which 3,500 students are enrolled in a building intended to house only 2,400.

"I came to **Eastside** at the same time as Mr. Clark," she said, adding that one of the first things Clark did was tell students exactly what was expected of them. "If you didn't want to learn, **Eastside** was not the place for you," she said.

"**Eastside** is not a Utopia, but it is an exemplary school," she said.

Clark took over as principal of the troubled **Eastside** in 1982 and quickly won praise for making the school, once described as a "cauldron of violence," safe and for improving student achievement.

CITATION (CMS STYLE)

Verdon, By Joan. "SCHOOL EXEMPLARY, STATE BOARD TOLD." *The Record (New Jersey)*, October 3, 1985: c05. *NewsBank: Access World News*. <https://infoweb-newsbank-com.atxlibrary.idm.oclc.org/apps/news/document-view?p=AWNB&docref=news/OEB27447791A2E06>.