

# Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

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For Immediate Release

**Contact: Rikki Traylor**  
**ORSSAB Secretary**  
**(423) 690-8432**

## Oak Ridge SSAB Welcomes Student Representative

**Oak Ridge, Tenn. - June 15, 1999** -Anne-Marie Wiest, a rising senior at Oak Ridge High School, broke new ground at the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) when she recently became the Board's first student representative. ORSSAB is a local advisory committee chartered under the DOE Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board.

"We're very pleased to have her," said Steve Kopp, leader of the Public Outreach Team, which spearheaded the effort to bring a student onto the Board. "We've been working toward this since last fall, when several of our members reported back to the Board about the students who had participated in the national Intersite Discussions sponsored by the League of Women Voters. Our members came away with a very positive impression of the way the students conducted themselves and a real appreciation for the perspective the young people brought to the proceedings."

ORSSAB Chair Bill Pardue echoed Kopp's sentiments. "Anne-Marie's generation will be greatly affected by the decisions we make today," he said, "so it's imperative to involve them in environmental decision-making now. We're very grateful to her for taking the time to participate in our meetings."

Anne-Marie's participation on the Board stems from her interest in science and environmental management. She is in the Advanced Placement Environmental Science class at Oak Ridge High School and was a member of the school's junior team that participated in "Envirothon"—a hands-on environmental science competition held on the local, state, and national level. This summer she will be assisting school biology instructor Fred Holtzclaw with research on species biodiversity.

Anne-Marie plays piccolo and flute in the concert and marching bands. She enjoys horseback riding and in her spare time helps out with Girl Scout clinics on horsemanship. After graduation next year she plans to pursue a career in biology or the environmental field.

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