



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Marketing and Communications**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Newly-Elected Congressman Josh Gottheimer Holds Press Conference at Ramapo College**

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Newly elected Representative Josh Gottheimer (NJ-5) visited Ramapo College on Thursday to discuss how he believes his district will fare under new administration in Washington, D.C.

Gottheimer, a Democrat, said he hopes to be able to successfully work with Republicans on key issues. He told a packed audience that included students, faculty, staff, members of the media, and trustees that the best way he can ensure positive change is for him to actively participate and work diligently across party lines.

"I'm in Congress to fight for our district, so that's exactly what I plan to do in the coming weeks and months," Gottheimer said, adding that he is optimistic. "You should be optimistic, too. We can get things done if we actually speak to one another."

According to Gottheimer, among his top priorities are addressing the state's ever-climbing tax rates, attracting good paying jobs and more businesses to the district, working on infrastructure, finding a suitable healthcare replacement for the Affordable Care Act should it be repealed, and standing in support of the LGBT community.

Ramapo College President Peter Mercer made the formal introductions, saying that he was pleased that the Congressman chose to visit "our campus that is rich with expertise and energy."

Gottheimer, who had visited the College previously, called Ramapo "one of the great jewels of New Jersey," and told the students, "We want you to stay here so we'll work hard to attract businesses to keep you here."

Student representatives had a chance to meet with the Congressman and Student Government President Erin McKenna presented him with a gift on behalf of the student body.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top in the Best Regional Public Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes viewed as a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,000 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers eight graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.