



Fleener Cophy pictured with her plaque and education board members photo provided

Florida Board of Education Honors FSW Student

Pam Stewart, the education commissioner of Florida, recently recognized outstanding college students during the State Board of Education meeting at LaBelle High School. Fleener Cophy, a freshman at Florida SouthWestern State College, was one of the students honored.

"It was an honor to recognize Fleener Cophy with the Commissioner's Leadership Award at the March State Board of Education meeting," said Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart. "The struggles that she has faced would be enough for some to give up, but Fleener has pursued her dreams relentlessly. I commend her for her hard work, and I

am grateful for the high school teacher who ignited her passion for education and public service. I hope that her story motivates others to be a positive force in the life of a Florida student."

Cophy struggled academically in high school until a history teacher inspired her. After starting at FSW last fall, she worked hard and now has a 4.0 GPA while being very involved on FSW's Collier Campus in Naples. She is a student assistant for the college's adjunct faculty, senator for Student Government Association (SGA) and chairs the judiciary committee. Cophy has been invited to join Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. After she earns her associate in arts degree at FSW, her plans are to transfer to a university to major in political science and minor in political philosophy. Ultimately, she wants to attend law school.

Visit www.fsw.edu for more information.✪

Assembly Awards Four Scholarships To Local Students



From left, William Yarley, Tasnim Thakur, Kelsey Parker, Zachary Clark and Steven Cook photo provided

The Speakers Assembly of Southwest Florida awarded four \$2,500 scholarships to local students at its April 6 luncheon. The students, all seniors at area high schools, are Zachary Clark (Estero High School), Kelsey Parker (Fort Myers High School), Tasnim Thakur (Fort Myers High School) and William Yarley (Fort Myers High School).

The students were interviewed and selected for the scholarships by a Speakers

Assembly committee. At the luncheon, they met with speaker Steven Cook, who presented on the topic of Protest, Democracy and Violence in the New Middle East.

Membership applications for the 2018-19 season of eight speaking events between November and April are available at www.speakersassembly.com. Call 948-7909 for more information.✪

Batch 1 Student Assignments For 2018-19 Year

The School District of Lee County recently reported that 84.9 percent of

Parents who have questions about the student assignment program can call the Student Assignment Office at 337-8247. For more information, visit www.leeschools.net.✪

Nominations For