Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last night the Beach Haven Board of Education approved a resolution releasing Ms. Eva Maria Raleigh from her duties as Superintendent of Schools for the remainder of the school year. Because this is a personnel matter, we are precluded from commenting further. However, we are very excited to announce that in order to maintain the educational integrity of our schools, we appropriated sufficient monies to develop a cost efficient plan ensuring that our school is led by a veteran Superintendent, Mr. Richard Starodub, in collaboration with an experienced and knowledgeable Principal, Ms. Linda Downing.

Mr. Starodub comes to us as a lifelong educator, serving the students of Lacey Township. The last 20 years of his nearly three decades with Lacey Township School District, he successfully served as Superintendent of Schools until his retirement in 2011. Since his retirement, Mr. Starodub has been active providing mentorships and professional development for educators. Similarly, Linda Downing is an established retired principal from Toms River School District, who also has the unique experience of serving as a board member on the Lacey Township Board of Education. Their experience and prior professional working relationship will greatly assist the Beach Haven school community for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year.

Mr. Starodub will be working approximately one day per week, while Ms. Downing will lead the staff and serve our students. Both the Superintendent and Principal will work collaboratively to ensure that our building is covered and that the staff and students have the benefit of their constant oversight and guidance. This plan provides the Beach Haven school community the educational oversight very much needed during this transitional year, in a manner that is not cost prohibitive.

The Board will be meeting in the next month or so to discuss the search for our permanent Superintendent of Schools. This Board is committed to a process that will allow us to find the best leader for our schools in an effective manner, with an anticipated appointment of July 1, 2016. This Board is committed to hiring a Superintendent of Schools that will maintain the high goals that we have set for our community, staff and most importantly, students. We ask for your patience as we proceed through this transition period. We will provide the community with regular updates on the search for our new Superintendent as the process proceeds and details become available.

We sincerely thank Mr. Starodub and Ms. Downing for their assistance and service to Beach Haven students and look forward to working with them. We welcome them and wish them a wonderful school year with our children.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

The Beach Haven Board of Education