



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF BAYONNE

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JAMES DAVIS, MAYOR

William Lawson, President
Bayonne Board of Education
669 Avenue A
Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

November 30, 2015

Dear Mr. Lawson,

As you are aware, the teachers' contract with the Bayonne Board of Education expired this past July. Although both sides have met on several occasions to negotiate a new contract, I have been advised that no agreement has been reached by the parties. I understand firsthand the need to balance the requests of the teachers while respecting the taxpayer. Furthermore, through discussions with the Board administration, I have been made aware that the school budget for the current year contains appropriations sufficient to cover salary increases which would move all of the teachers along the steps contained in the expired contract. This would not require raising additional funds through taxation as the necessary monies are already available.

Based on this information, I ask that the Board of Education pass a resolution authorizing the Administration to move all of the teachers within the district to the step that they would be entitled to under the existing guide effective July 1, 2015. While I am aware that there is no obligation on the Board to honor this request, and that the union must also agree to the move, I am confident that this act would go a long way in demonstrating our commitment to the education of our children and restore some of the faith that was lost during prior negotiations.

This request notwithstanding, I trust that both sides can continue to meet and work towards an amicable resolution of the current contract dispute.

Regards,

James M. Davis
Mayor

Cc: File