

## FAIR HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

224 Hance Road Fair Haven, New Jersey 07704-3198



SEAN McNEIL SUPERINTENDENT (732) 747-2294 mcneils@fairhaven.edu

FAX (732) 747-7441 FRANK GRIPP BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR (732) 747-2294 grippf@fairhaven.edu

## Dear Fair Haven Families,

We hope you are all enjoying a wonderful summer!

The Fair Haven Board of Education and the Fair Haven Borough Council have collaboratively decided to implement a shared service initiative that will facilitate the placement of Special Law Enforcement Officers at each school for the 2023-2024 school year.

We recognize that welcoming armed Special Law Enforcement Officers as a daily presence at our schools may feel strange for some, and may feel like an absolute necessity to others. While we appreciate the different perspectives regarding this subject, we have decided that this is a logical and prudent step representative of our commitment to ensuring the safety of our students and staff which is, and always will be, our number one priority.

Over the years, we have worked diligently to upgrade our school facilities with the latest state of the art enhancements designed to keep our students and staff safe. We have also engaged in rigorous training and comprehensive security audits to ensure that our emergency protocols are as sound and efficient as possible. This recent decision to bolster our school security through the presence of law enforcement personnel is an additional layer of protection. It reflects our community's dedication to taking every available precaution to maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff so they remain as safe as possible while they enjoy their daily school experiences.

It is important to note that our wonderful new officers will not be tasked with addressing any student disciplinary issues or concerns. Such responsibilities will continue to rest with our dedicated school staff and administration. Our newly appointed officers are here to support our ability to keep our staff as well as our community's most cherished treasures, our children, safe.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Fair Haven Board of Education, the Fair Haven Borough Council, and the Fair Haven Police Department for all of their hard work and collaboration on this important matter; and most of all for coming together on behalf of our beautiful community to add this layer of service and protection for our schools.

We will be hosting a community presentation early in the school year where we look forward to sharing more information about our new Special Law Enforcement Officers as well as other important information related to school safety. Stay tuned for further updates regarding the date and time of this presentation.

Enjoy the rest of your summer Fair Haven and we look forward to seeing you at the Fair!

Sincerely,

Sean McNeil Superintendent of Schools

Geri Albin Pagano President, Fair Haven Board of Education Theresa Casagrande Borough Administrator

Josh Halpern Mayor, Borough of Fair Haven