



BAYONNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Administration Building  
669 AVENUE A  
BAYONNE, NEW JERSEY 07002

PATRICIA L. McGEEHAN, Ed.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT

Tel: (201) 858-5817  
Fax: (201) 858-6289

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To All Those Who Served During Hurricane Sandy,

It has been almost a month since Hurricane Sandy's presence was felt in Bayonne. The time Sandy spent with us can be seen in the damage done to our homes, businesses and most of all, in the lives of our citizens. Memories of this horrific storm will not be soon forgotten.

From amidst the devastation, Hurricane Sandy brought forth a cadre of personnel who put their own lives on hold in order to help those in need throughout the city. Some of these individuals were Board of Education and City of Bayonne employees, while others were volunteers who came to schools and evacuation sites out of the sense of compassion for their fellow citizens. Leaving their own homes and families, they put their lives at risk to help others.

We extend our thanks and commendation:

- To Mayor Mark Smith who maintained constant communication with the citizens of Bayonne throughout the hurricane period, reporting on weather conditions, evacuations taking place and electrical outages throughout the city. His phone messages served as a life line for many individuals at home and alone in the dark.
- To the first responders who risked their lives to rescue others from the rising waters along our shore line.
- To the school bus drivers who transported evacuees before, during and after the storms to shelters at Midtown Community and Nicholas Oresko Schools.
- To the members of our Repair Department under the direction of Michael Kubert and Lou Pacyna who worked around the clock in our schools and shelters.
- To Mickey McCabe, McCabe Ambulance and the EMT's who cared for the sick and injured in our two shelters and provided continuous care and compassion to those in need.
- To the school administrators who directed shelter personnel for 24 hours each day for a period of 10 days.
- To Chief Ralph Scianni and the police officers who insured a safe orderly shelter for evacuees and who handled many emotional situations with compassion and understanding.
- To our Emergency Management personnel, Fire Chief Gregory Rogers and Deputy Fire Chief Keith Weaver, City of Bayonne who directed operations, working closely with FEMA and our city offices.

- To Rocky Coviello of the Bayonne Diner and the many companies and individual citizens, who supplied the basic necessities of food and clothing to our shelter guests. Three meals each day were provided along with special treats supplied by area bakeries.
- To Dr. Spektor of the Bayonne Medical Center, who visited the shelters and provided needed care to the sick and elderly.
- To the Police Explorers who put their training into practice, these outstanding, young men and women will soon join the ranks of “Bayonne’s Finest” and make us all proud.

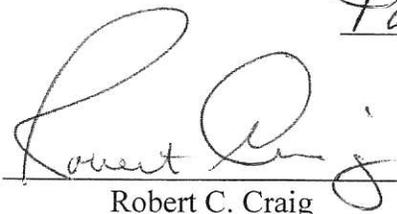
To all those who came forth and touched the lives of the young and not so young in our city, **WE THANK YOU!**

During these difficult times, when so many individuals step forward in service to others, the words of the late Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. come to mind:

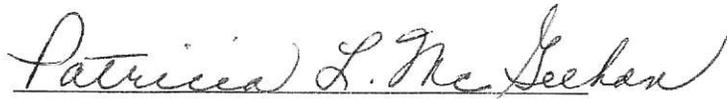
***“Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don’t have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love.”***

Today as our shelters are closed and the winds of Sandy have left our shores, many of our citizens are still in need. May the spirit which was felt during the storm continue and may volunteerism and service to others flourish throughout our city.

Thank you and God Bless you for all you did and for all you will do in the years ahead.



Robert C. Craig  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools



Patricia L. McGeehan, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



Leo J. Smith, Jr.  
Assistant Superintendent for Business/  
School Business Administrator