

# Superintendent's Report

## ***Closing the 2009-2010 School Year***

**July 2010**

2010 will certainly be remembered as the year of sweeping budget cuts for the state's 600+ school districts. Unfortunately, 2011 may witness additional financial hardships on local taxpayers in order to close the state's growing deficit.

Although Secaucus lost 100% of our state aid and a substantial part of our surplus amounting to \$2.2 million, we adjusted and proposed a 2.5% increase to our budget, while many districts went to the 4% cap. This was well received by the voters. Their endorsement of the 2010-2011 budget allowed us to retain all of our programs and reinstate all of our teaching positions.

That being said, it's summer. We have completed another successful school year. Everyone should be proud of being a part of why we're in education: to provide every student with the best programs, instruction and support possible to prepare them for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The administration and the SEA will continue to meet during the summer and throughout next year at scheduled intervals to pro-actively address and resolve issues. Additionally, I will schedule days to be available at each school and hear staff concerns first hand.

One of the many benefits to the teaching profession is watching another class of young people, whose lives you touched, graduate and move on to the next challenge in life. Our teachers did an outstanding job. The students and their parents surely appreciate their dedication.

Another benefit is that they now have the summer to recharge their energy, spend some quality time with family and friends, and return in September ready to welcome students and begin the cycle again.

Thank you to everyone in the educational community for your effort and commitment.

Have a great summer.

*Cynthia Randina*  
*Superintendent of Schools*