

Berkeley Heights Public Schools 345 Plainfield Ave, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922

Kim T. Feltre, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools Phone: 908-464-1718 kfeltre@bhpsnj.org

January 27, 2025

Dear Mayor Devanney,

Thank you for your warm welcome to the Berkeley Heights community and for your willingness to work with the schools for the betterment of the students. Upon sharing your letter with the Board, several Board members cited inaccuracies in the chronology of events, stating that the Board had previously made a decision and communicated it last year. The claim is that the current list of events leading to the present state is inaccurate. There is also a sentiment from at least one Board member that the non-binding referendum question contained biased language, and the Board was not afforded the opportunity to review or provide feedback.

In reference to the June 20, 2024 bullet and the statement "It was suggested by the BoE attorney that a joint meeting ..." Mr. Disler acknowledged that a joint meeting was discussed with the Township attorney on August 21, 2024, but neither attorney made a recommendation for a meeting. Mr. Disler said the two attorneys agreed to bring the idea back to their clients to decide if such a meeting was worthwhile. After that, conversations were had between the Board and Township officials.

The Lower Columbia lease agreement is a topic of discussion for the Executive Session on January 27, 2025 and has the potential to be a walk-on agenda item. I look forward to a productive discussion and am hopeful the Board and Township can come to an agreement to continue the partnership between the Township and District.

Sincerely,

Kin Forthe

Dr. Kim Feltre, Superintendent of Schools