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Bayonne Board of Education

669 Avenue A

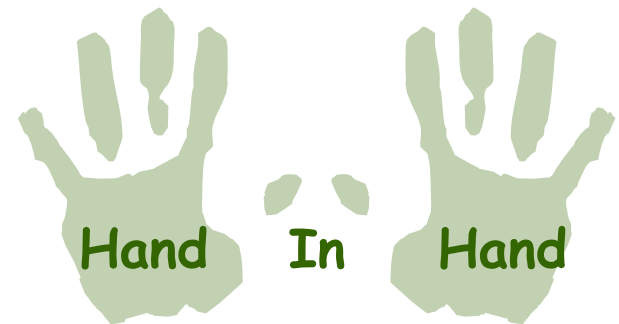
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Autism Awareness Month



Across Bayonne

**Bayonne School District
April 2011**



Bayonne Board of Education

669 Avenue A

Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

April 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

April is National Autism Awareness Month. Autism is a complex neurological disorder that affects the functioning of the brain, particularly in the areas of social interaction and communication.

The Bayonne School District recognizes Autism Awareness Month as an important opportunity to promote awareness and support the Simpson Baber Foundation for the Autistic, our partner in the Busy Bee Program for Children with Autism at Bayonne Medical Center. Busy Bee is an early-intervention program which is a collaboration of the Board of Education, the Foundation, the Bayonne Medical Center, and the City of Bayonne.

The Bayonne School District and numerous community partners planned the 7th Annual *Hand in Hand Across Bayonne* fundraising drive. I hope that each parent/child will

participate in the program by purchasing a "caring hand" for a donation of one dollar or more. The hands will be displayed throughout the schools. All contributions will be forwarded to the Foundation to benefit autism programs.

I am happy to report that last year's total contributions from teachers, parents/children, and the community was \$13,121.51. These donations provided funding for the Busy Bee Program, the Life Skills Center at Bayonne High School and Woodrow Wilson School, and other district recreational and social programs throughout the school year.

Thank you for caring! Together, we can make a difference in promoting autism awareness, hand-in-hand!

During the month of April, please help us, once again, to make a difference in the lives of children with autism.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. McGeehan

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