KENNETH J. LUCIANIN THOMAS TUCCI, JR. Commissioners



MICHAEL DeFRANCISCI Executive Director

GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI General Counsel and Acting Clerk

## "Protecting Public Health and the Environment"

600 Wilson Avenue Newark, New Jersey 07105 P (973) 817-5700 F (973) 817-5738 www.nj.gov/pvsc

June 10, 2015

Mr. Robert Zika, Principal Lincoln Middle School 121 Beech Street Kearny, NJ 07032

Dear Mr. Zika:

At PVSC, we have always taken great pride in our two-fold mission of "Protecting public health and the environment." Our commitment to this mission is reflected in the many partnerships we have with federal, state, and local agencies. More specifically, PVSC forged a partnership with the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE) Water Resources Program to identify and address water quality issues within PVSC's service area. PVSC has been collaborating with Rutgers to pilot a Green Infrastructure Municipal Outreach and Technical Assistance Program, where we have worked with several communities in showcasing how rain gardens, rainwater harvesting systems, and other "green" technologies can reduce flooding and other hazards to our local waterways.

As part of our commitment and responsibility in protecting and preserving our waterways, it brings me great pleasure to announce that <u>Lincoln Middle School in Kearny</u>, NJ has been selected as one of two school demonstration projects that will be sponsored this year by <u>PVSC</u>. With assistance from RCE Water Resources Program, green infrastructure demonstration projects will be installed in the interior courtyard area of Lincoln Middle School.

These green infrastructure practices will not only help reduce flooding and nonpoint source pollution from entering our local waterways, but will also enhance the school experience for the students of Lincoln Middle School. The green infrastructure demonstration projects will serve as an example for school and community members to engage and learn about green infrastructure and how we can reduce storm water runoff into our waterways together.

Congratulations to all those involved at the Lincoln Middle School for your efforts in creating a sustainable environment in your community. PVSC and the RCE Water Resources Program are looking forward to working with you to transform your courtyard with green infrastructure practices this summer.

Sincerely, UR Lehr

Michael DeFrancisci Executive Director

cc: Ms. Patricia Blood, Superintendent of Schools