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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

July 12, 2019, Piscataway, NJ -- At the July 11, 2019 meeting, the Piscataway Township Board of Education named Dr. Tom Connors as its new President and Sarah Rashid as a Board Member. Ms. Rashid replaces Alexandra Lopez, who resigned from the Board effective July 1. Ms. Adelita Deepan remains as Vice President.

After the vote, Dr. Connors presided over his first Board meeting, welcoming Superintendent Dr. Frank Ranelli and Assistant Superintendent William Baskerville to their new leadership positions in the District.

Dr. Connors has been a member of the Board of Education since 2008. Since that time, he attained the highest level of individual board member recognition by the New Jersey School Board Association (NJSBA) as a certified board leader, and represented Middlesex County on the NJSBA Board of Directors. Dr. Connors has participated in more than 150 hours of comprehensive training addressing Strategic Planning; Advocacy; Ethics, Communication, Labor Relations; School Law; Legal/ Policy; Finance; Governance; and Student Achievement. For the past five years, he chaired the Piscataway Fiscal Planning and Operations Committee focusing on district finance while striving for fairness in state funding, relentlessly urging New Jersey to fund Piscataway at agreed upon levels of the State Funding Formula. Dr. Connors is the current chairperson of the NJSBA School Finance Committee whose mission is to monitor the school funding law and its impact on all school districts in New Jersey.

Dr. Connors holds a Doctorate in Chemistry from the University of Connecticut (1986) and is a former Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Connecticut State Department of Health (1987). He has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 1982 and is retired from the Technology Division of the Colgate-Palmolive Company. Following his career at Colgate, Dr. Connors became Director of Product Development for a privately held company, Envirochem, Inc.

Dr. Connors and his wife Abby have lived in Piscataway for 32 years, and have three children who graduated from Piscataway High School. He is a former member of the Piscataway Township Environmental Advisory Committee, Piscataway Soccer Club Executive Board, and High School Superchief Marching Band Parents Association. Throughout his years in Piscataway, he coached youth sports, including baseball, basketball, and soccer.

"I congratulate Dr. Connors and Ms. Rashid on their new positions on the Piscataway Board of Education," said Dr. Ranelli. "I look forward to working with this dedicated Board to enrich educational experiences and support social and emotional growth for all students."

About Piscataway Township Schools

Serving over 7,000 students, Piscataway Township Schools provide K - 12 and preschool programming, special education instructional programs and services, as well as before and aftercare, adult education classes, youth enrichment programs, and summer youth programs. The mission of the Piscataway Township Schools is the continual development of each child's intellectual, aesthetic, social and physical abilities in a positive environment that fosters self-esteem, to help all students realize their abilities and gifts.