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General Counsel and Acting Clerk

"Protecting Public Health and the Environment"

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November 12, 2014

Mr. Gilman Choudhury, Parent Coordinator
Department Family & Community Engagement
Paterson Full Service Community School #5
430 Totowa Ave, Office 100A
Paterson, NJ 07502

Dear Mr. Choudhury:

At PVSC, we have always taken great pride in our two-fold mission to protect public health, as well as 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 last year 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 *the Elysian Fields Community Garden organized by Paterson Public School #5 in Paterson, NJ has been selected as one of two demonstration projects that will be sponsored this year by PVSC.* With assistance from the RCE Water Resources Program, the Elysian Fields Community Garden will receive a rainwater harvesting system. Along with the other recipient, these two cistern installations have the potential to collect approximately 110,400 gallons* of rainwater on an annual basis.

The rainwater harvesting systems will not only help to conserve water, but will also help reduce flooding and nonpoint source pollution from entering our local waterways. These green infrastructure demonstration projects will serve as an example for 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 Elysian Fields Community Garden for your efforts in creating a sustainable environment in your communities. PVSC and the RCE Water Resources Program are looking forward to working with you in installing your rainwater harvesting systems this fall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael DeFrancisci".

Michael DeFrancisci
Executive Director