**Welcome All,**

**This is the Township’s 6th year offering the Environmental Video contest to our High School students. It has been my honor to coordinate this contest with Ms. Karynna BarseI, who works closely with the students on their submissions and teaches Cinema, Language Arts, and English at Haddon Township High School. Without her support and dedication, this contest would not be possible. She could not be here tonight, as she was chosen by one of her students to attend a scholarship dinner which is also taking place this evening.**

**This same student is one of our winners, and unfortunately, he will not be here to accept his award.**

**Additionally, I would like to thank the Mayor and Commissioners for their continued support.**

**The video contest is held annually in conjunction with the Township’s Earth Day celebrations and is funded with the governing body’s permission through a grant from the New Jersey Clean Communities Program.**

**The purpose of the video contest is to promote environmental responsibility and engage our students in a dialogue on sustainable issues.**

**A few words about this year’s contest.**

**After viewing the documentary Bag It, the students were asked to choose an environmental issue and create a thoughtful and inspiring video.**

**Video topics included: the virtues of rain barrels, a newscast on the perils of plastics, chemical makeup of plastic bottles, the dangers of hidden plastics, ocean pollution, and a video about the humanitarian and environmental crisis in the trash dumps of Guatemala.**

**The videos were judged based upon originality, clear message, and content. We had one first place winner, a tie for second place, two teams tied for third place and one Honorable Mention. Congratulations to the students and to their families - You should all be very proud.**