



The Avalon Home and Land Owners Association

JANUARY 2011

DAVID RAUENZAHN, SUPERINTENDANT, AVALON AND STONE HARBOR SCHOOLS

Mr. Rauenzahn stated that for 3 years the two boards have worked on a plan to stem the state consolidation and regionalization efforts. As a result of these discussions a send/receive program was decided upon. Stone Harbor will receive K through 4th Grades Avalon 5th through 8th Grades.

No teachers will be let go, however, there may be some retirements and natural attrition. Bus contracts are being discussed. The schools will not participate in the School Choice program and will stick with the Tuition Program that is in place. The program will start in September 2011.

Problems that have been encountered include the mandated 2% cap; the schools do not get any state aid; transportation costs. Furniture will have to be moved from one school to the other. Teachers' contracts in each Borough are different, and the differences that have been identified have been resolved until June 2013.

The busing program will involve two buses, with students being picked up at street corners on Dune and Ocean Drives. There will be a door to door program for kindergarten students.

Each school will have a full-time nurse. The local music programs will remain.

Each district has its own budget.

An advantage is that there will be a more robust educational program and better socialization. The big difference is in the language programs and there will be a two-year transition program to bring Stone Harbor into the Avalon program.

One thing the Boards would like to do is to get children more involved in civic projects and to learn about civic responsibility – which also involves parents.

It will not be necessary to buy new technology.