

## Congressman Rothman Announces Federal Dollars for Teaneck Public Schools

(Washington, DC) — Today, Congressman Steve Rothman (D — NJ), a member of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee, announced a federal grant totaling \$90,679 for the Teaneck Public Schools. The grant, obtained through the Department of Education's Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) program, will be used by the Teaneck School District to train educators in emergency management and purchase two-way radios to communicate with the police in preparation for a crisis.

"I was delighted to help direct these federal dollars to Teaneck," said Rothman. "Even in these economically challenging times, it is important to continue to invest in keeping our children safe and our school districts on the cutting edge of emergency preparedness. This \$90,000 grant will enable Teaneck to improve its emergency response and crisis management plans and purchase the necessary equipment to successfully carry out those plans."

The purpose of the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) discretionary grant program is to provide funds for Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to improve and strengthen their emergency management plans. The REMS discretionary grant program will enable school districts to develop improved plans that address all four phases of emergency management: Prevention-Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.

"Teaneck will use the money to buy two-way radios and train several educators in emergency management procedures," said Dave Bicofsky, Director of School/Community Relations for the Teaneck School District. "I am pleased that we will implement these procedures according to a plan developed jointly by the mayor, police department, fire department and Holy Name Hospital. As always, we appreciate the Congressman's continuing support of the school district and the township."

Typical activities included in grantee programs include reviewing and revising existing emergency management plans, conducting vulnerability assessments of schools and other district facilities, providing training, organizing tabletop exercises, procuring emergency supplies, and engaging in crisis simulation drills.

###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 15, 2009

CONTACT: Carrie Giddins, 202-225-5061; 202-420-1524 (cell)