

***Brackman Graduation  
June 23, 2010***

**Good evening everyone. It is again a pleasure and an honor to be here tonight to speak before the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class of the Russell O. Brackman Middle School. I would like to thank the Barnegat Township Board of Education and the school administration for inviting me & the Township Committee here this evening.**

**Today is a very important day for the students graduating from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. After today and your summer vacation, you will move on to your final four years of your basic education. During those years you will formulate your path to your future. You will decide on which subjects you will study and what you will major in should you continue on to higher education. Many of the decisions that were made for you up to this point will now be made by you with the help and guidance of your family, your teachers and your counselors.**

**You are now young adults and you will soon come of age to drive, to vote and to make your own decisions. The decisions you will make will mold the rest of your lives, whether it's college, the military or entering the workforce. Don't be afraid to seek the help from the people around you. They are all here to see that you succeed. With their help and your determination, I'm certain you will find your high school years to be rich and rewarding and something you will cherish for the rest of your lives.**

**As your Mayor, and on behalf of the entire Township Committee, I congratulate you today on achieving this most important step in your education and wish you all the best as you move on to your final four years at the Barnegat High School.**

**Thank you, may God Bless you all and have a great summer,**

**Jeffrey M. Melchiondo  
Mayor, Barnegat Township**