To: Parents, Staff and Community

From: Michael Wermers, President, Board of Education

Date: July 18, 2018

Re: School Calendars for 2018-19 and 2019-20

Many of you have contacted the School Board and received an email from me, so you probably already know that TUSD and the Torrance Teachers Association (TTA) have been in negotiations for over a year. Among the issues discussed have been salary, a pre-Labor Day start calendar and technical language in the written contract.

This past spring, negotiations continued, and included a meeting with a state mediator on March 14, 2018, a Factfinding hearing on May 4, 2018 and a post-Factfinding negotiations session on June 4, 2018. The Board of Education also held an input session on the school calendar at the Torrance High Auditorium on June 13, 2018 to allow the public to share their opinion on a school calendar with a pre-Labor Day start. The Factfinding Panel recommended that a pre-Labor Day calendar be implemented for the 2018-19 school year, however, we believe that is not a reasonable timeline for our families or employees.

At our meeting on July 16, 2018, the Board of Education took action to implement recommendations from the Factfinding Panel report that includes calendars for 2018-19 (post-Labor Day start) and 2019-20 (pre-Labor Day start) as well as an on-schedule salary increase of 1% effective January 1, 2018, and 1% effective July 1, 2018 for employees represented by the TTA.

All of us on the School Board are looking forward to the coming school years and offering our children the best education possible. We are confident we are moving forward in creating an exciting future for our students.