



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Wayne Township Board of Education**  
50 Nellis, Drive, Wayne, N.J. 07470

**November 10, 2016**  
For Immediate Release

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### **WAYNE HILLS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM DISQUALIFICATION IS STAYED BY NJDOE**

(WAYNE, NJ) On Wednesday November 9, 2016, parents of Wayne High School football team athletes filed an appeal of NJSIAA's decision that disqualified the Wayne Hills High School football team from all 2016 tournament play (playoffs) based on the season-long participation of ineligible players with the New Jersey Department of Education. The Wayne Township Board of Education filed a motion to intervene and joined in the appeal on behalf of the eligible players of the Wayne Hills High School football team.

One day later, on November 10, 2016, Acting Commissioner of Education, Kimberley Harrington, found the NJSIAA's decision to declare the students ineligible "...was procedurally flawed, as the students were not afforded any due process." Further, the New Jersey Department of Education stayed the forfeiture of any wins by Wayne Hills and stayed the disqualification of the Wayne Hills football team from the 2016 Football State Championships.

"I am pleased that the New Jersey Department of Education recognized the importance of fundamental due process and notice to the impacted students," said Superintendent of Schools, Mark Toback. "I am ecstatic that the harsh penalty of disqualification from the playoffs has been stayed, allowing our student athletics to once again demonstrate their hard work on the football field."

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