



## HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

I trust that everyone has had a great week. **As a reminder, there will be no school tomorrow, November 10th, or Friday, November 11th, due to the NJEA Teacher Convention.** We are already two months into another school year, and it is my pleasure to distribute the updates below.

#### **Bond Referendum Update**

As you may be aware, our district architect, Steve Becica, made a public presentation regarding project plans for an upcoming referendum next fall. Please expect the project scope to evolve over the next several weeks as we continue to identify costs and alternative options closely for the best path forward. Most recently, the district toured the former Holy Savior School and will be considering potential Pre-School expansion in addition to the extra classrooms proposed at Van Sciver and Strawbridge. Also anticipated will be some newer enhancements for some of the Visual and Performing Arts Programs. Our tentative plans should be completed by January, when we will begin scheduling community engagement meetings to solicit more feedback. As early as next week, I will be visiting schools to discuss these potential plans with the members of each faculty. Please stay tuned.

#### **High School Administrative Roles**

When Mr. Andrew Swiecicki was appointed as Principal of Rohrer Middle School this past summer, we hired Mr. Melvin Allen to fill this vacancy. However, there were also some shifts in responsibilities as **Mr. Kevin Greway assumed curriculum and instruction responsibilities, and Mr. Allen is handling student discipline and activities.** Mr. Gary O'Brien continues to serve as the building principal and manages all aspects of HTHS. All three individuals are available for questions related to the high school, but please note their respective roles so your questions can be directed appropriately.

#### **Child Care Program**

In recent weeks, I have fielded some questions asking why the elementary school playgrounds are closed during the hours of operation of our After-Care Program. In the past older students have visited the playgrounds while in use and disrupted the elementary students with inappropriate language and behaviors. It is also difficult for our staff to manage after-care and non-aftercare students as they co-mingle on the playground during free play. In the coming weeks, we will attempt to problem-solve in these areas by allowing non-aftercare students to utilize the playground, but they will be required to sign up on a list ahead of time. More information from your child's principal will be forthcoming, and I expect a trial and error period to find a "sweet spot" for inclusive yet appropriate after-school playgrounds. I appreciate your patience while we attempt to resolve this.

### **Boys Soccer**

Tonight at 6 PM, our Boys' Soccer Team will host Shore Regional in the Group I State Semifinals. Our facilities department has transported some additional bleacher seating to Recchino Field to accommodate a potentially large crowd. Please join me in wishing Coach Bonder and the Hawks the best of luck, as they are the final Fall Sports Team competing in the playoffs after a very successful all round fall season. Special thanks also to HTAA for all of the scheduling flexibility required on the turf throughout the season. Tickets for tonight's game can be purchased here <https://www.njsiaa.org/tickets>.

### **Thank You**

Because of your support, the Haddon Township Education Foundation has secured \$13,348.76 in funds for our classrooms as part of the Fall Grant Cycle. On behalf of the Board of Education, I am excited to accept these funds at our next meeting Thursday, November 17th. I also want to positively acknowledge Mr. Chris Cook, our School Board President, who will be exiting the Board in January. Chris has dutifully served on the Board for the past three years and has provided key leadership as President for the last 12 months as we successfully transitioned to a post-pandemic return to education. Please join me in applauding Mr. Cook for his dedication, service, and support for the Haddon Township School District.

### **Mark Your Calendars**

The High School Fall Play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," is scheduled for November 17th, 18th, and 19th, at 7:30 PM. Please mark your calendars now as we anticipate another amazing performance from our students and the Arts Department. Please also stay tuned for our Winter Concert Series dates and times, including the anticipated return of our elementary winter concerts, which were delayed last year until the spring due to COVID.

Thank you very much for your continued support. Have a great weekend!

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent