



## HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### Broadcast

March 17, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I trust that you all well and have adjusted to our "spring forward" time change. While missing one hour of sleep, I always enjoy the extra sunlight that comes our way at the time of the year. At Thursday's Board of Education meeting, I plan on providing the following district updates. Please see each summarized item below, and have a great day.

#### **Schedule Adjustment**

Thursday, April 1, was originally scheduled to be a district remote day when our calendar was adopted before the school year. **This day will be changed to an in-person school day for Cohort H** due to this group being behind Cohort T in the amount of in-person days.

#### **Phase III Implementation**

We have been working extremely hard to make final arrangements for the next implementation phase. Anticipated on Monday, April 12th, our schedule will be as follows:

- Haddon Township High School and Middle School will **combine cohorts** and implement **a five-day per week in-person half-day schedule** followed by remote learning in the afternoon.
- At the elementary level, we aim to **combine cohorts** to implement **4 full days** (M, T, Th, F), with **Wednesday being a half in-person** day for students.

(Note): This transition will occur on Monday, April 12th, our first day back from spring break. However, it is contingent on the arrival of some PPE equipment that we recently ordered. Since combining cohorts will reduce social distancing between students, parents will have the option of transitioning their child from in-person to remote instruction.

Likewise, an option to transition your child from full remote to in-person instruction will be made available. Should you desire to make one of these changes, please begin contacting the main office at your

child's school.

### **American Rescue Stimulus Funds**

Earlier in the week, I received some unexpected and fantastic news from our local congressman's office. Part of the recent stimulus plan signed earlier in the week includes substantial sums of money for public schools across the country. I was informed that Haddon Township will **receive \$1.2 million in federal funds to be spent over the next two and half years**. These funds are being provided to help serve students who have been negatively affected by COVID-19. Our school district will balance additional human capital support with physical infrastructure improvements to utilize these funds. However, our first priority will be to do everything we can to open schools on a regular **5 full-day per week schedule for all students in September**.

### **Internet / Network Update**

We have expanded our support network to assist us with the internet interruptions that we recently experienced. At this point, there is good and bad news. While we have developed a successful strategy to limit the interruptions to about 5 minutes, the cause for the interruption is still unknown. I will keep you updated on this latest challenge to the 2020-2021 school year.

Lastly, Happy St. Patrick's Day. This happens to be one of my favorite days of the year because it is historically the day that I put away my emergency snow folder. I am eagerly looking forward to spring and hope that you have a great week. Thank you very much for your continued support during this historic and challenging school year.

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed.D. Superintendent