



## HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### Broadcast

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to take a moment to communicate and reflect on the past year and look to the future. I am extremely proud to be your superintendent. I have realized just how special our community is by the way you all prioritized and cared for everyone involved during our most challenging times. Despite the adversity, pain, stress, disappointment, and uncertainty, several valuable lessons have been learned. Come September; we will not be traveling back to 2019. Instead, we will apply many of the lessons learned during the past year to build a bigger and brighter future for our students.

1. First and foremost, we learned that nothing could replace the value of a physical person in front of students.
2. Deeply affirming relationships can often be the key to student success.
3. We will not overuse technology just for the sake of it but instead will wisely leverage it for students to innovate, create, and demonstrate their individual and group learning.
4. Likewise, technology will continue to improve and enhance staff collaboration and efficiencies across school buildings and grade levels.
5. We will aim to accelerate social/emotional learning and character development/leadership to affirm and value the human experience of public school education.
6. Personalized, individual learning is also recognized as a powerful bright spot of the past school year and something that we will aspire to build on.

Finally, while we must continue collaborating with the New Jersey Department of Health, the reopening plan that I will present to the Board of Education on Thursday evening will call for 5 full days of school with lunches for all 1st through 12th-grade students and half days for Kindergarten/Pre-K. I hope that masks will be voluntary, but we are awaiting summer guidance on this topic. In the meantime, I have composed my own personal "Top Ten" list of phrases that I hope never speak or hear again:

1. "Unprecedented Times"
2. "New Normal"
3. "My Computer is Glitching"
4. "Mask-Up"
5. "Zoom Bomb"

6. "I Forgot My Mask"
7. "Excuse Me, and I Think You are Muted"
8. "Cohort"
9. "Synchronous/Asynchronous"
10. "Excuse Me, Can I Use the Bathroom?" (In my own home while on a zoom)

As updates arise, I will continue to communicate with you over the summer months. I also want to extend my special appreciation to members of our teaching and support staff, nurses, bus drivers, special service providers, district administration, and members of the Board of Education for your collective and fearless efforts over the past ten months. Parents, thank you also for your patience and understanding throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Please enjoy a happy and healthy summer.

-Regards,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed.D.  
Superintendent