



HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

I hope this email finds you well. Many exciting things are happening around our district, and it is my pleasure to share this community update. You can find a video of last night's meeting of the Board of Education on our district's youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GexdQFPus8>, and a summary of the information is below with presentations attached. Have a great weekend!

Potential Bond Referendum

As a result of the feedback collected in recent years in the form of surveys, focus groups, and shared vision planning, we are strongly considering a bond referendum campaign and a vote for the fall of 2023. The purpose of a bond is to borrow funds that can exclusively be utilized for major projects to improve the physical infrastructure of a district. We believe three key areas will significantly help us improve the overall educational experience in Haddon Township. Below is a **summary** of our ideas as part of the upcoming referendum. You will find a detailed scope of the work in the attached presentation. In the coming weeks, you will receive more information about community engagement opportunities around these projects.

Early Childhood Education

Addition of a minimum of six classrooms to transition to full-day Kindergarten (6.5 hrs/instructional) and provide Full Day Pre-K options

Safety

Water Remediation Across the District
Bus Loop /Additional Parking at Van Sciver
Security Vestibules/Enhancements at RMS/Edison/Jennings
Parent Pick Up & Drop Off/Road Cut Out at HTHS @ Corner of Ivy and Pyle
Roof Replacement @ RMS (with solar energy option)
High School Stadium Repair
Handicap Accessibility at Rechino

Community and Programs

Robotics/Emerging Technologies Labs @ HTHS
Mind Body Studio @ HTHS
Relocation of the Wrestling Room as an Auxiliary Gym
Turf Field, Safety Lights, Safety Netting, Fencing Replacement
Small Group Counseling Areas @ RMS for Mental Health and Special Education Services
Outdoor Learning Courtyard @ HTHS
Technology Upgrades
Modular Visitor Stands that will allow Seating to Face the Baseball Field

(Please note that we are still in the process of these projects. With your input, we will make choices within each category, and all factors, including costs and future ramifications, will be considered.)

District Data

Assistant Superintendent Mrs. Shorter discussed the results of last year's standardized assessments. The complete presentation is attached. We are proud to prove our recent math outcomes, as our district outperformed state averages in all grade levels in math compared to 2019, when this was not the case. Please join me in congratulating your children and students for demonstrating growth, effort, and improvement in this subject area. Because this was the first NJSLA test since 2019, some other inferences are more challenging. The data also demonstrates opportunities for growth and improvement but will prove more valuable next year when we can utilize it as a baseline. Instead of state or other district comparisons, **our "gold standard" will always be to compare students to themselves one year at a time.**

Athletic Special Acknowledgments/Recognitions

District Employee and Assistant Lacrosse Coach Ms. Julie Sullivan was recently inducted into the Syracuse University Athletic Hall of Fame, and her jersey (**# 9**) **was retired**. Please join me in congratulating Julie, as this honor is among the highest of accomplishments in sports at any level.

Congratulations to Mr. George and the entire athletic department. Haddon Township has earned the Colonial Conference Sportsmanship Award. Our athletes are recognized for more than achievements; our Haddon Township student-athletes were **honored specifically for their spirit and character in competition.**

Congratulations to our Girls' Tennis Team, South Jersey Group I Champions. Boys' Soccer has also advanced to the South Jersey Coaches' Association Tournament finals. Our Football Team is 6-1, with the Homecoming Game scheduled for tomorrow at 10:30 AM vs. Cherry Hill East. In Girls' Cross Country, student-athlete **Meghan Lex broke the Holmdel Course School Record** previously set by Annika Merkh with a time of 19:57. Congratulations, Meghan!

Boys' Cross Country also won the SJTCA Open, Field Hockey enjoyed a signature win vs. cross-town rival Haddonfield, and The HT Rowing Club attended the Navy Day Regatta. Girls' Soccer will begin playoffs on October 26th. Good Luck!

Visual and Performing Arts

Congratulations to our Madrigals, who earned a **4th place ribbon out of 42 student groups** for their performance at The Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire.

Congratulations to student Alex Constantakos; her artwork was selected for the Saddler's Woods Enchanted Pumpkin Walk. Runners-up in this contest were Ileana Kline and Madison Baranes.

Thank you to all RMS students who participated in the recent hit fall play, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

Mark Your Calendars

The Zone PTA-sponsored Meet the Candidates Night is next Thursday, **October 27th**, in the High School Auditorium at 7:30 PM.

Shannon Newell's Broadway Night is **November 4th** at 7:30 PM.

The HS Fall Play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," is on the stage **November 17, 18 & 19th** (tickets are \$5 and will be sold at the door).

Thank you very much for your continued support and your partnership in education.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent