



## HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

Please find below various updates from around the district, and have a great day.

#### **Artificial Intelligence Meeting Tonight**

Suppose you have experience working with artificial intelligence and are interested in attending tonight's meeting at 7 PM in the Media Center. In that case, we have a few spots remaining due to scheduling conflicts with some participants. Please email Amy Ruta at [Aruta@htsd.us](mailto:Aruta@htsd.us) if you would like to attend. The purpose of tonight's listening session is to share your experiences working with AI as our school district attempts to implement it thoughtfully and positively while minimizing the dangers and unintended consequences of the new technology. Whitson's food services will provide light snacks and complimentary refreshments.

#### **"Summer Projects"**

Due to some delays in materials and scheduling, a few of the summer projects were delayed, but we are now scheduled to have the work completed in the fall before the new calendar year. Please see the below update for each of these projects:

- The outdoor **RMS Basketball Court is now fully completed. Tree trimming in this area will be completed in the next few weeks.**
- Our **High School Science Labs will receive new fume hoods and tables, and the renovation will occur over winter break** and be ready when students return. This project proved very complex; special thanks to HS Department Coordinator Mr. Kevin Basile for his work in this area. Since this project came in under budget, **we may also add some tables to a middle school art room**, which will be more conducive for art class than single desks.
- **Security Improvements for the RMS vestibule and entrance are scheduled to be completed in the next few weeks.**
- We have **completed work that extended downspouts and redirected water infiltration away from Jennings, Edison, and Strawbridge Schools.** Despite heavy rains the last few days, no water has infiltrated these areas, and we are pleased with these improvements.
- **Ceiling tiles will be replaced** across schools and classrooms where a combination of HVAC units and roofs has caused some leaking.
- **Equipment for the HS television studio has been ordered** but is delayed. We are now aiming for a January 1st implementation for a dual-use television and recording studio.
- Two side basketball hoops in the Lower Gym have been replaced with fiberglass backboards.
- Special thanks to Ms. Kate Tharp Shafer, **who painted the high school cafeteria over the summer and coordinated a courtyard cleanup with groups of students.** Planning and programs for the new High School Zen Zone and other wellness activities are coming soon.

## **Bond Referendum Update**

**Next Monday, October 2nd, I will release our initial project plans to kick off our 6-month campaign for the March vote on our Referendum.** Please see some key facts about the Referendum below and stay tuned for a full video presentation next week.

- Projects were developed in the areas of **facilities and safety, future-ready programs, vocational education, handicap accessibility, and extracurricular areas/student wellness**, and based on direct feedback from a variety of surveys and focus groups in recent years.
- The Referendum outlines \$30 million worth of work, primarily renovations, and we expect state reimbursements to be approximately 26%. Based on current planning, **the average taxpayer's additional total costs will be roughly \$20 per month.**
- Projects are planned at each school, but **the overwhelming majority will occur at the High School and Middle School levels, where facility improvements, additional space, and programming are most needed.** Our last Referendum in 2014 focused primarily on elementary schools.

## **Message from HTEF**

*The Haddon Township Education Foundation is taking over the Square on Haddon Avenue from 4 PM to 10 PM on Friday, September 29th, 2023. The Haddon Township High School Jazz Band will kick off the festivities with performances by the HTHS dance and cheer teams. [Shorty Long and the Jersey Horns](#) will have you singing and dancing the night away. [Decadent Delights](#) and [Acai](#) will be dishing out their delicacies. There will be raffle prizes and a 50-50 drawing. Raffle prizes include a getaway stay in New Hampshire, a cocktail party assortment from Severino Pasta Company, a Sodastream starter kit, and more! The money raised at the event will fund grants to teachers of Haddon Township students. Want to be part of the action? Sign up*

*here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B054CADA629A3FA7-htef3/68119217>*

*If you can't volunteer, consider donating an item we can give away as a raffle prize: beer, wine, gift cards, tickets, etc.*

*For more information, visit our website: <https://htedfoundation.org>*

*Or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) @htedfoundation*

Thank you very much for your continued support and partnership, and I am very proud of our return to school.

Thank you very much for your continued support and have a great day.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent