



## HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

I trust that this update finds you all well. Please see the following updates from around the district, and have a great day.

#### **School Funding/Budget**

Unfortunately, Our current funding and school budget deficits have not changed much since my last correspondence. However, there is currently a bill that will soon be voted on by the New Jersey Senate that could restore **two-thirds** of our reduced state aid prior to the next school year. This bill was recently passed through the NJ Assembly and will require both a successful outcome in the NJ Senate and the Governor's signature before we can apply for the grant process to receive it. In the meantime, we are preparing a balanced budget, and **our public hearing is scheduled for this Thursday, May 2nd, at 6 PM at the Media Center**. Many communities have contacted me to offer support, and I am pleased to provide the link below for your participation and advocacy. By entering your information and sending a letter, you will receive feedback from every NJ Senate Budget & Appropriations Committee Member. Thank you very much.

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/pass-school-funding-bill-s3081>

#### **COVID-19 Update**

On April 16th, the NJ Department of Health adopted the updated CDC guidelines for respiratory illnesses, **removing any special protocols or requirements for the virus**. COVID-19 will now formally be treated with consistent guidelines as we utilize for other illnesses. Students should stay home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

<https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/guidance/respiratory-virus-guidance.html>

## Camden County College Dual Credit

I met virtually last week with Camden County President Dr. Lovell Pugh Basset and several members of her leadership team to express some parents' concerns recently raised about our grading scale and the fact that HTHS students who earn an 80-84 C grade are not awarded dual credit. I was pleased to learn that they are currently undergoing their own internal process and are certainly aware of various grading scales utilized in the county. I have great confidence that this situation will be rectified as the college completes its review process and plans to announce adjustments for next year that aim to provide **equitable credit for students across South Jersey regardless of grading scales.**

## Congratulations Music Department

At our last Board Meeting, we formally recognized Music Department Coordinator Mr. John Baccaro and his colleagues as they helped Haddon Township receive the honor of a "**Best Community for Music Education District,**" as selected by the NAMM Foundation. Over the past 25 years, the national BCME award has honored more than 1,000 schools in 43 states for their unwavering commitment to music education as an integral part of a well-rounded education for all students. This latest award affirms the many years and tradition of excellence we are all proud of- congratulations!

## Invitation

It is my pleasure to announce this invitation to all members of our school community from Ida's Bookshop in Collingswood for a special event on May 3rd. The distinguished author, Dr. Ghody Muhammad, will be appearing in person to discuss her book, **Unearthing Joy and Cultivating Genius**. To sign up for this free event, please utilize the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dr-gholdy-muhammad-with-dr-yolanda-sealey-ruiz-idas-bookshop-tickets-854172933237?aff=oddtcreator>

More about Dr. Muhammad can also be found here:

<https://education.uic.edu/profiles/muhammad-gholnecsar/>

## Rowing Accomplishments

Congratulations to our Varsity Rowing Program for this past weekend's outstanding accomplishments. **Four Haddon Township boats earned State Championship Distinction; a fifth boat finished as a state runner.** This program continues to succeed and evolve each year. Please join me in congratulating each of our athletes and coaches.

### State Championship Boats

Girls Varsity Quad: Maggie Dunn, Brooke Bazulis, Maddy Baranes, Gina Gerber

Boys Varsity Quad: Hans Geist, Henry Fowler, Evan Giamboy, Brendan Savell

Girls Freshman Quad: Kate Gasiorowski, Marley Thomas, Malie Brown, Leia Gerber

Boys Novice Quad: Ian O'Connor, Callum Coughlin, Tyler Currier, Christian Geist

State Runner- Runner-Up Boat

Boys Junior Varsity Quad: Ryan Henry, Anthony Gattone, Michael Gasiorowski, Gavin Dunn

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

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent