



## HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

I trust that this email finds you all well and that you are beginning the transition to warmer weather. As we approach the final month of school, it will surely be a busy few weeks ahead. Please see the updates below from around the district and have a great day.

#### **School Budget/Programs**

Thank you very much to all the parents and community members who wrote letters to our legislators advocating for the restoration of our state aid. Although only 45% (\$362,000) was returned, more dialogue opportunities with our representatives in Trenton have now been created. Following my testimony before the State Senate Committee, I have shared similar sentiments with New Jersey Department of Education officials regarding the current funding formula and its timing, which applies to general state and special education aid. Nevertheless, at last week's meeting of the Board of Education, it was possible to restore the following positions and programs for the next school year with the recaptured funds: **School Nurse, School Counselor, HS Mandarin Chinese, District Media Specialist, and Network Technician**. These restorations will significantly enhance the learning environment and support our students' academic and personal well-being.

#### **Exchange Students**

We continue to work with multiple international student agencies to **boost enrollment, add diversity, and increase revenue**. We have had much success with this program in recent years and are excited about the future. For next year, as part of our J-1 program, we have student applications from Denmark (2), Slovakia, Italy, and Spain, which are attached. For our F-1 program, we have applications from India and Russia. For more information about our foreign exchange program, please visit our website here: <https://www.haddontwpschools.com/domain/484>. The student profiles attached to this email will soon be posted on the website for your consideration. If you are interested in becoming a host family, please contact our register, Ms. Alexis Gray, at [Aggray@htsd.us](mailto:Aggray@htsd.us) or the agency listed on the application.

**Note: A host family stipend** of \$4500 will be paid for **F-1 students only**. J-1 students are part of an intergovernmental program that does not permit stipends. Essentially, host families agree to provide the international student with a place to sleep and any meals that are normally provided to other family members.

## Noteworthy Accomplishments

Please join me in applauding the following list of noteworthy accomplishments from around the district. As we approach the conclusion of the school year, there will be more individuals to acknowledge, but this is a great start:

- RMS Science Teacher Ms. Colleen Kelly has been named the Crumble Cookie Teacher of the Year from over 60,000 national nominees.
- HTHS students Scarlett Steele and Lily Adkins will represent the SJ Rowing Club at Youth Nationals. Lily was also the recent recipient of the Ronald McDonald House Kim Hill Scholarship, which is awarded to a childhood cancer survivor based on academic, athletic, and community accomplishments.
- Congratulations to our Girls' Varsity Lacrosse Team, which earned its first-ever Division Championship and was victorious in today's first-round playoff game.
- HTHS student Celia Deninno was awarded the New Jersey Buildings and Grounds \$1,000 scholarship for her commitment, skill, and passion for the trades.
- Thank you to the high school PTA, who recently secured a \$16,000 furniture donation for the teacher workrooms.

## Memorial Day

Please consider joining us and bringing your child to the Westmont Fire Company in observance of Memorial Day on **Monday, May 27th at 10am**. Members of our high school choir will perform along with some student musicians. The significance of this day of sacrifice can sometimes be lost in the busyness of the end of the year. However, its meaning is essential to recognize and observe. On behalf of the Board of Education, **thank you to all of our community veterans!**

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent