



HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School Community,

Last evening the Board of Education approved the 2021/2022 school district budget, and I am happy to provide you with the major highlights summarized below. A copy of the full presentation is also attached, along with the newly developed residency map that we will utilize to assign incoming kindergarten transfer students to our neighborhood elementary schools. If you have any questions on the information below, please contact my office, and your support is very much appreciated.

Over Arching Themes

2020-2021 will be a "no-cut budget," We can maintain all existing positions and programs. In addition, we have accomplished other "big wins" in the areas of (1) Education, (2) Social/Emotional Wellness, (3) Communications and Community Engagement, and a (4) Path to Full-Day Kindergarten/Classroom Equity. A brief review of each category is below, and the (3) district goals that will drive our strategy for next year are:

1. Maximize Learning Acceleration (as we return to full in-person learning)
2. Build Comprehensive Social & Emotional Learning and Support
3. Prioritize Community Engagement and Communication

Education

30 Additional Minutes for Rohrer Middle School (6hrs. 40 minutes)
Teacher Coach for Math & Instructional Innovation
Purchase of Fountas and Pinnell Classroom
Part-time Educational Assistants
Additional RMS Social Studies Teacher
New Summer Offerings* (More Information Forthcoming Soon)

Social-Emotional Safety & Wellness

2 Guidance Counselors (Elementary & Middle)
Choose Love and Character Strong Programs
Additional Nursing Support
High School Weight Room Renovation
RMS APR Floor Replacement

Community Engagement and Communication

New Website Platform
K CLUB in ALL Five Elementary Schools

Communications Consultant – Shared Service
Pre-K Extended Day (Wrap Around Sections)

Future Path to Full Day K/Class Size Equity

Non-resident Tuition Program
District Membership in E3 Network
Balanced Class Sizes for Incoming Kindergarten Sections
VS/STRW- 2 Sections Each
Edison/Stoy/Jennings- 1 Section Each
Open Enrollment Choice for Smaller Class Size Solid Zones and Dotted Zones
Implementation

Grade Level Schools Map

Incoming Kindergarten students and all new students will be subject to the new solid zone/dotted zone map attached. Homes in closer proximity to a specific elementary school will be designated for students to attend a specific school. For residences that are centrally located among several schools, students will be assigned to a school-based on maintaining equitable elementary class sizes across the district. Students who have siblings will automatically be assigned to the same school as their siblings regardless of which zone they live in. We hope to make final determinations for school assignments **by July 1st. All current students in grades 1-4 will remain in the current schools should they choose to do so**, with the exemption of a segment of rising first-grade students who may need to transition to Strawbridge because of limited physical classroom space.

Current students will also have the option of transferring to another district elementary school if smaller class sizes exist, provided the parent can provide transportation.

Tentative Kindergarten Schedule 2021/2022

Jennings- AM Kindergarten/PM K-Club
Stoy-PM Kindergarten/AM K-Club
Edison- PM Kindergarten/Am K-Club
Strawbridge- AM/PM Kindergarten & K-Club
Van Sciver- AM/PM Kindergarten & K-Club

** K-Club will be available at all 5 elementary schools, and we will utilize **no mid-day bus transfer***

Future Goals of Strategic Planning

Increase Enrollment
Full Day Kindergarten
Install Turf Field on-site at High School
Maintain Existing Elementary School Configurations with Dotted Lines
Move Toward a Zero-Based Budget
Not be over-reliant on Fund Balance to Balance Budget
"LEAP" Period at RMS (Learning Extension & Advisory Period)

End of School Year Events

Parents will receive emails regarding planning for many of our end-of-year events directly from your child's school. As covid restrictions from Governor Murphy have frequently changed during the last few weeks, we are committed to providing students and families with as close to "return-to-normal" experiences and as can safely be provided. Our Elementary School Field Day will now be scheduled for Wednesday, May 26th, with a rain date of Wednesday, June 2nd. Students in grades 3-5 will be able to participate. As the Governor's guidance on outdoor gathering limits has been changing, we have continued to investigate the possibility of allowing a limited number of spectators to attend this event in person. Please stay tuned for more details from your school principal.

Thank you for your support, and have a great weekend.

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed.D.
Superintendent