



# HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

We have finally reached the finish line. It continues to be an honor and a privilege to serve as Superintendent of Schools, and I applaud all your collective efforts. There is no doubt that the strength of our school district is our community and that the strength of the community is our school district. Add into the formula our dedicated staff, selfless civic leaders, and volunteers, and it is easy to understand how we can close out another successful year. Please see the below updates from around the district, and a video link of last night's meeting of the Board of Education can be found below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBsDtySbMLQ>

### **Juneteenth**

The district will be closed on Monday, June 19th, in observance of Juneteenth. Summer Recreation will be open, and activities will include educational components of this historical holiday. While the state of NJ designates today for Juneteenth, the federal holiday is observed on Monday, which is more conducive to observing for our school calendar.

### **World Language Update**

Ms. Christine Barry was approved as a Mandarin Chinese/ESL next year, and we will build a new program in this area. **2023- 20204 8th graders will be able to select again from the updated list of four languages:** Spanish, German, French, and Mandarin Chinese via a survey that the administration will soon distribute electronically.

I am confident that we will support the continuation of Latin instruction through a mixed-model delivery method in Latin 3, 4, and AP. For students entering Latin 2, we will likely ask them to consider a different language, but a firm decision in this area has yet to be made. **In a few weeks, we will host a Zoom meeting for parents of students who are in Latin courses so we can update you on our planning. Please stay tuned for the date and time.**

## Recognition

Last night's meeting included a large student and staff recognition component, and it was a pleasure to:

- Honor the 2023 Boys Tennis State Championship Team for the highest possible achievement in NJSIAA High School Athletics
- Recognize Board of Education Student Representatives Nathan Birdwell and Ava Moran for significant yearly contributions
- Welcome Brady Eagen and Savannah Grunmeier as next year's student representatives to the BOE
- Applaud the Haddon Township Education Association's leadership, service, and another year of fantastic teaching for students
- Promote part-time employees Desmona Burch, Lauren Warner, and Eric DiCrescenzo to full-time teaching positions for the next school year

## Contracts

- The district approved a new long-term lease with Apple computers and hardware, including a robust warranty on hardware for the first three years.
- **We will be changing Food Service Vendors from Nutriserve to Whitsons** beginning next school and thank Nutriserve for their partnership through the past several years. Information about our new food service provider can be found here. <https://www.whitsons.com/>
- In preparation for the final stages of bond planning and our community campaign, **we recently adopted a new district architect, the Spiezie Group.** <https://www.spiezie.com/>

## Summer Projects

We have a very ambitious list of summer projects. Some of our great aims include:

- Implementing a dual-use television and recording studio at HTHS
- Improving the security of the entrance at RMS
- Installing a Rutgers Grant sponsored Rain Garden at Edison School
- Upgrading the outdoor basketball court and area at RMS
- Improving landscaping and fields around the HTHS courtyard, greenhouse, and baseball field, in addition to the soccer field at Van Sciver
- Installing camera systems and hardware at various locations so that many more HTHS varsity athletic home games will be broadcast on Livestream
- Making upgrades to our high school science labs

**Due to the increase in recent inflation and a short window of time, we are still determining how many of these will be completed by the opening of the school year, but the above list represents our highest intentions.**

## Planning Ahead

For students who plan on riding their bicycles to school next year, **we will begin enforcing our policy that requires a helmet for all students in accordance with the state law.**

Please consider purchasing your child's bike helmet over the summer as a required proactive safety item.

I look forward to tonight's commencement (location still pending) to close the school year and the busy summer ahead. I hope each of you has a happy and healthy break and quickly settles into a new rhythm of life that only summer months uniquely offer. Thank you very much for all of your continued support throughout the year and have a great summer.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent