



# HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## Broadcast

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

I trust that this email finds everyone well and enjoying a restful and peaceful summer. Below, you will find updates from the district. Have a great weekend.

### Administrative Changes

At last evening's Board of Education meeting, three new district administrators were hired to complete our vacancies. Mr. Melvin Allen will serve as the new Assistant Principal at Haddon Township High School, Ms. Kelly Reising was selected for the role of Assistant Principal of Rohrer Middle School, and Mrs. Chantelle Shorter was appointed as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. The Board also accepted a notice of retirement effective September 30th from Ms. Liz Mennig, **who has served in various leadership roles dutifully and faithfully for 28 years. Please join me in celebrating Ms. Mennig's career contributions, as Haddon Township would not be the school district that we are today without Ms. Mennig's dedication to her work, compassion for educators and students, and ability to see and shape the "big picture " of teaching and learning over multiple decades.**

Mr. Allen and Ms. Reising most recently served as high school principals in the Kingsway and Audubon school districts, respectively, and are poised to contribute meaningfully and immediately in their selected roles. Mrs. Shorter comes to us from Mantua Township, where she and I previously served on the same administrative team in Gloucester County. **Each of the selected candidates has extensive educational professional experience, endured a rigorous multiple-round interview process, and is fully prepared to positively serve as a new member of our administrative team. Please join me in welcoming each of them to Haddon Township.**

### Enrollment

Over the last 22 months, our district enrollment has increased by (60) students, and the dotted/solid elementary zoning system has improved the balance of class sizes at our elementary schools. However, the current situation in first grade at Van Sciver School is that the class size is completely maxed in each of the (2) sections, with limited options in remaining nearby schools. Additional students residing in the solid zone of Van Sciver **present the district with the need to hire an additional first-grade teacher at Van Sciver.** Although this position was not part of the county-approved budget, the additional enrollment should continue to increase the amount of state aid provided on a per pupil basis by the state of New Jersey, which can help finance this new position over the long term. We will also allocate funds from increases in extraordinary aid and 40 thousand dollars of salary breakage from retiring staff members. "Breakage" money occurs when staff members, often at the top of the salary guide, put their notice of retirement in after the budget for the next school year has been submitted. These individuals were replaced by less experienced professionals in the same position but lower on the salary guide. Such "breakage" funds are often allocated to unbudgeted costs, such as our current anticipation of another first-grade section.

### **School Start Times**

I would like to remind you of the changes in school start and end times for next year, which are:

Haddon Township High School- **7:35 AM to 2:43 PM**

Rohrer Middle School- **8:25 AM to 2:50 PM, Morning Music (7:35 AM to 8:22 AM)**

Elementary Schools- **8:40 AM-3:10 PM**

As a reminder, the catalyst of this change is **the addition of (26) extra minutes to the high and transitioning away from the modified Physical Education and Science block schedule.** A presentation on these topics was made at the April Board of Education Meeting, which can be found here on the district's youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YH6hLi7iDc&t=1502s>. The presentation begins at the 25:00 minute mark. **The remaining times for our Child Care and Pre-k programs will be confirmed and communicated in August.**

I would like to sincerely thank you for your continued support and partnership in education. It continues to be an honor to serve as Superintendent of Schools in Haddon Township, and I am already eagerly anticipating the start of another school year.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent