

# STATE OF THE DISTRICT



The School District of Haverford Township



2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR





## Message from the Superintendent

The School District of Haverford Township is very pleased to present this “State of the District” report, an overview of some of the ways in which our school district is educating, inspiring, supporting, and challenging our students. What a privilege it is to do so!

Like the community in which we are based, the School District of Haverford Township has long been known as a closely-knit school family, one that is steeped in tradition and excellence. At the same time, we embrace innovation, constantly striving for impactful ways to bring education to life. From our emphasis on environmentally sustainable facilities design to compelling new elective course offerings, our school district aspires to dynamic opportunities and possibilities.

Over the last several years, enrollment in Haverford has continued to grow – an indicator that an increasing number of families are entrusting us with the education of their children. It’s a responsibility we don’t take lightly. We truly strive to be a place where all students are welcomed and embraced, where opportunities are limitless, and our students can innovate. Upon graduating, you will find our students attending four-year colleges, trade schools, the military, or immediately entering the workforce. The depth of educational programs we offer students enables them to explore varied post-graduate pathways.

Ultimately, the School District of Haverford Township is a school system that instills pride in those who live, learn, work, and teach here. We are extremely proud of our students and staff, and are grateful for the opportunity to educate 6,625 students – and growing!

In Partnership,  
Dr. Maureen Reusche, Superintendent



## TRADITION, EXCELLENCE, INNOVATION

The School District of Haverford Township is comprised of seven schools: one high school, one middle school, and five elementary schools. Approximately 6,625 students attend District schools.



Haverford High School is ranked 23rd in the state by U.S. News and World Report in its 2022 Best High School rankings.

CollegeBoard

AP®

The School District of Haverford Township placed on the College Board’s 10th Annual AP® District Honor Roll. We are one of 250 school districts in the U.S. and Canada to reach this achievement.

## Mission

The mission of the School District of Haverford Township is to educate and to inspire a community of lifelong learners who become well-rounded global citizens.



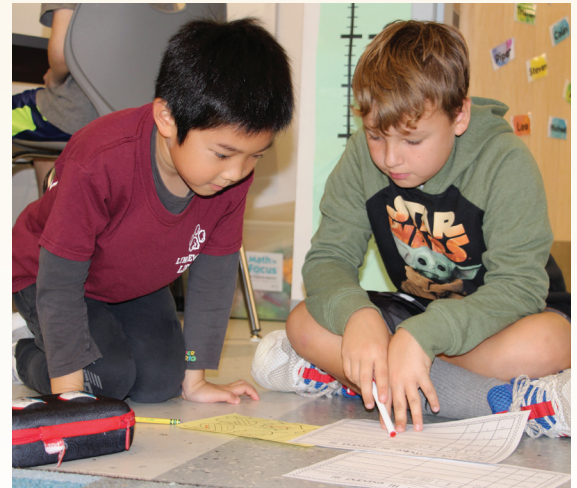
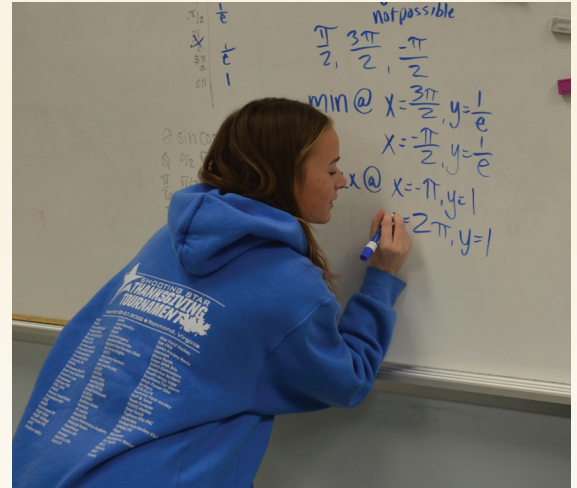
# Rooted in Tradition... Growing in Excellence

The School District of Haverford Township offers a robust, dynamic, collaborative learning environment that has earned us recognition as one of the top school districts in both the state and the nation.

*We truly believe our school district offers something for every student; a place for all to belong, with academic programs to nurture numerous interests and learning styles, and programs that offer opportunities for almost any interest.*

As a traditional Kindergarten-through-12th-grade public school system, we boast a 97-99% on-time graduation rate with 87% of our students attending college, and 13% joining the military or other post-high school careers or training. In addition to a highly-regarded college preparatory program, our dual-enrollment program with Delaware County Community College and our Delaware County Technical High School program offers students a variety of educational options.

Beginning in the 2022-23 school year, Personal Finance moved from an elective course to one that is required for all of our graduating seniors. "The course is designed for all students, no matter their path after high school," said Patrick Bader, Cooperative Education Teacher and Acting Department Chair for the Business Education Department. "It is designed to allow them to make financial decisions intelligently and understand how to find more information when making these decisions. The interest level of students in these financial topics is very high, and often we have real-life conversations about decisions they're trying to make right now. Assignments for this class are designed to be as interactive and relevant as possible to keep students engaged and taking ownership of their personal finance education."







## Points of Pride

- Haverford High School was selected as a “**National Banner Unified Champion School**” by Special Olympics.
- Chestnutwold Elementary School is a **National School of Character**. The program recognized Chestnutwold’s use of character development to drive a positive impact on academics, student behavior, and the school climate.
- The Haverford High School **HI-Q** academic quiz team is a three-time national champion.
- Haverford Middle School has been recognized for its outstanding commitment to visual arts education with the endorsement of the **Outstanding Visual Arts Community**.
- For eight straight years, the School District of Haverford Township has been honored with the **Best Communities for Music Education** designation from the National Association of Music Merchants.
- Dr. Jeffrey Nesbitt, K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Coordinator, was named the **Science Administrator of the Year by the Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association**.
- Haverford High School Boys basketball coach, **Keith Heinerichs**, was selected as a 2021-2022 PIAA/NFHS Coach of the Year.
- Haverford Middle School Assistant Principal Matthew D. Crater was named **Pennsylvania’s Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year** by the Pennsylvania Principals Association.
- Haverford bus driver Jim O’Toole took first place in the state’s annual **School Bus Driver Safety Competition**.
- Lynnewood Elementary School was named a **Promising School of Character** for building community with its Bigs and Littles Program.



*Miranda Hochkeppel,  
AP Art -  
National Silver  
Award Winner*

## Our Programs

**30**

Advanced  
Placement Courses

**42**

Honors  
Courses

**27**

High School  
Sports Teams

**20**

Instruments  
Studied

**150+**

Different extra-  
curricular clubs/  
activities



# Growing...

The District's multi-year facilities plan supports our enrollment growth, keeps our schools and buildings strong, and places an emphasis on efficiency and environmental stewardship. The 12-classroom expansion of our high school, along with the expanded fitness and performing arts classrooms, provides room for our expanding enrollment, and has brought beautiful, functional spaces to life.

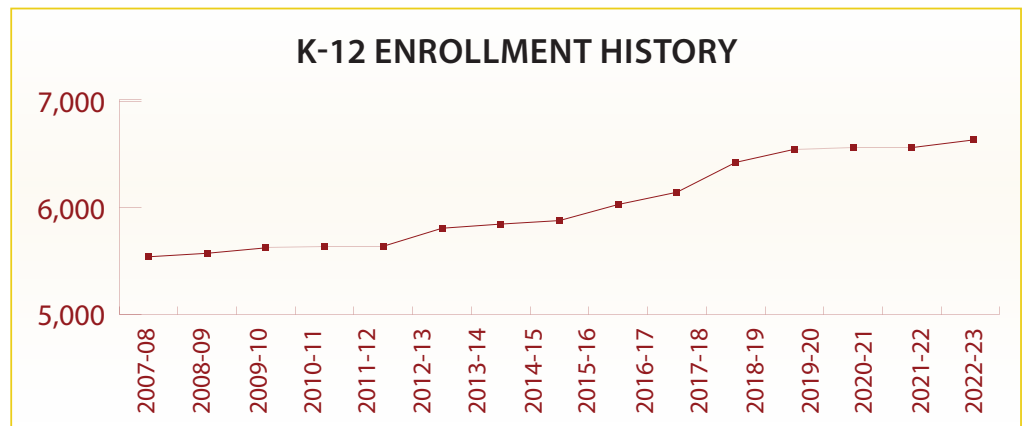


A new Lynnewood Elementary School, which opened in the fall of 2021, provides a significant amount of natural light, includes spaces that promote collaboration, and also maintains the very highest safety standards. The school was built next to the old Lynnewood, which has been converted to field space.



## Enrollment Growth

An increasing number of families are choosing the School District of Haverford Township to educate their children. While few additional new homes are built in the district, our programs and academic track record are attracting more families to the District. We are thrilled to welcome these students and continue to make plans to meet the needs of our growing student body.





# Growing Greener...

## School Buses

A continuously growing number of Haverford's school buses run on propane, a much cleaner fuel choice that eliminates the fumes and noise of a diesel bus. We are one of just two districts in Delaware County that have turned to propane, one of the cleanest-burning fuels available for buses. As bus engines in the 70+ bus fleet reach the end of their lifespan, the District replaces them with ones that can run on propane.



## Sustainability

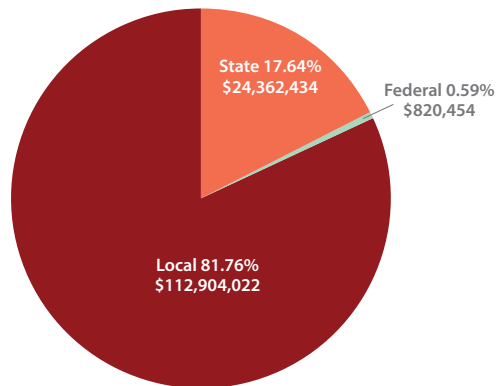
The new 'green roof' at our high school is home to trays of plants that soak up rainwater, reducing stormwater runoff. Energy-saving LED lighting in many of our buildings and all parking lots has helped to reduce long-term electric costs, and high-efficiency boilers and chillers installed in some of our schools keep our climates comfortable at reduced costs. The District has consciously chosen numerous sustainable options that both reduce expenses and promote environmental responsibility.

## Finances

Pennsylvania's schools are funded primarily by local tax revenue. Our school district has worked hard to maintain fiscal responsibility and to contain costs, while also providing a high-quality, dynamic, and robust education.

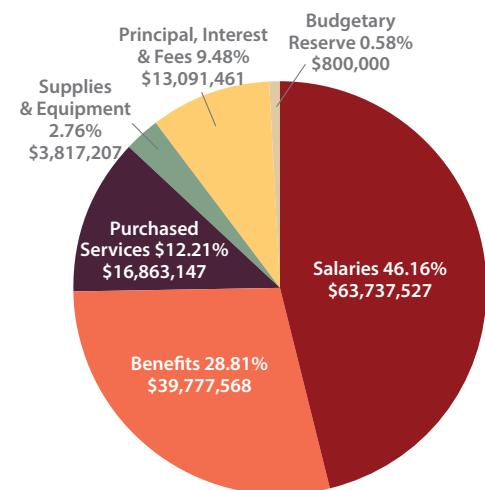
### 2022-2023 Revenue Budget

TOTAL \$138,086,910



### 2022-2023 Expenditure Budget (by object)

TOTAL \$138,086,910



## Innovation

### DISCOVER Day

Nearly 1,000 students, parents, staff members, and community members converge on Haverford High School each November for DISCOVER Day, hours of hands-on science fun and exploration – run by students, for students. The Haverford Science Academy has been hosting this wildly popular event since 2017. Science classrooms are transformed into learning labs where students of all ages and their families are encouraged to test experiments and get involved with hands-on presentation designed by students. From 'make and takes,' to a classroom fossil dig, an inflatable planetarium, a bug show, marine touch tanks, the science of ice cream, and floor-to-ceiling bubbles – the day is full of zany science, and the explanations behind all of it. Dr. Tomaszewski is joined by Anatomy and Biology teacher Becky Mortland in organizing DISCOVER Day and the Science Academy, which also holds Elementary Science Days at the District's elementaries, as well as a speaker series at the high school.



*"The entire day feels like magic. It's so great to see everyone in the community so excited about science, and to see our students so enthusiastic about sharing their projects and knowledge." – Jeremy Tomaszewski*



# Tradition



## Hi-Q

Since 1963, Haverford High School has participated in Delaware County Hi-Q, the oldest continuous academic quiz competition in the United States. Hi-Q is an interdisciplinary and interscholastic quiz competition among 21 schools in Delaware County and three other states. Questions prepared from 14 subjects cover standard high school course content as well as general scholastic knowledge that students are expected to have acquired. Haverford High School has won Hi-Q 12 times since 1963 and is a three-time National Champion (2017, 2018, and 2022).

## Turkey Bowl

In November 2022 we celebrated the 100th year of Delaware County's longest-running high school Thanksgiving football rivalry game: Haverford HS Fords vs Upper Darby Royals.

## Jazz Festival

42nd Annual Jazz Festival: This wonderful night of music features the Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Lab Band, and Jazz Combo from Haverford High School, and the Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Fords from Haverford Middle School with a guest Artist-in-Residence, who performs with all of the ensembles. The Evening of Jazz is a family-friendly event - a great way to introduce children to the jazz program and a lovely opportunity for friends and relatives to see these young musicians play.



## Elementary Track Meet

Fourth and fifth graders from across the school district come together each May in a district-wide track meet. The tradition has been in existence for at least 39 years. It builds camaraderie, school spirit, and friendly competition as students look forward to coming together as one class at the middle and high schools.



## Social for Older Adults

Older Americans Month (OAM) is celebrated every May. OAM is a time for us to acknowledge the contributions and achievements of older Americans, highlight important trends, and strengthen our commitment to honoring our older citizens. Haverford Middle School students chose to honor local older adults with an annual social. The HMS community is sponsoring the Social for Older Adults on Friday, May 5th from 5-7 PM, an evening to enjoy light fare, dancing, and socializing. Please share the invitation with your friends and neighbors.





## *A Proud History of Excellence in Athletics*

Haverford School District has a proud history of excellence in athletics. Our student-athletes are routinely recognized as some of the best in the state. We are also extremely proud of our Unified Sports teams.



### *Unified Sports*



A model for true inclusion, Unified Sports has gained significant popularity in Haverford. The program brings regular education and special education students together under the umbrella of the Special Olympics. At Haverford High School, Unified Bocce, Unified Basketball, and Unified Track and Field Teams are thriving with about 20 members on each team. At the middle school, a new Unified Basketball Team brings hundreds of students to the court to cheer for players. Students practice, prepare and play together in competitions that exemplify our District's values. Our Unified Sports athletes are an integral part of our high school student-athlete advisory committee, and our Haverford Unified Bocce team is routinely ranked among the best in the region.

### *High School Sports Media Club*

Haverford Sports Media (HSM) is a student-led and operated media group that encompasses student broadcasters, journalists, photographers, videographers, web designers, social media publicists, and statisticians. HSM students learn valuable professional, technological, and communication skills, and have an opportunity to participate in sports expansively. While the group's main operations involve live broadcasting of varsity sporting events, the impact of this group has helped to promote a district-wide culture of positivity, appreciation, and excellence. With an emphasis on Title IX and equal opportunity, HSM highlights all sports, including those that don't normally receive newspaper headlines.



SCAN ME



## ***Excellence in all we do***

### ***Beyond the classroom walls***

Engaging our hearts and minds with service to others and ourselves, our commitment to service is unwavering. Each of our schools engages in a variety of fundraising and other service opportunities.

Each year, the Haverford High School National Honor Society supports local families in need with a gift drive and funds raised for food and other supplies. Through a number of fundraisers and donations, close to 40 families are supported.

The High School's Diaper Dry've Club also raises funds to purchase diapers for local families in need. They have collected more than 10,000 diapers during their fall drive – quite an accomplishment!

### ***Extracurricular engagement for our students begins early.***

Our elementary schools offer a variety of activities to match their interests and expand their minds, hearts, and skills:

- Flag Football
- Chess Club
- Field Hockey
- Marine Biology
- Floor Hockey
- Art Club
- Track
- Eco-Action Club
- Theatre
- Running Club
- Book Club
- And More

Haverford Middle School offers an even wider range of extra-curriculars. From traditional academic clubs like Math Club to theater, several types of music and vocal ensembles, art, Irish dance, fitness, student government, and even a Harry Potter Club, there is truly an activity for everyone.

At the High School, students engage in activities ranging from a wide variety of award-winning musical ensembles to athletics, recreational activities like bowling, Best Buddies that pair students with neurodiverse peers, Model United Nations, and the Haverford Eagles Autism program. More than 600 high school students participate in these extra-curricular activities every school year.



# 45+

**High School extra  
curricular activities**



# *Supporting Student Health and Nurturing Our Minds*

## *Mental Health Supports*

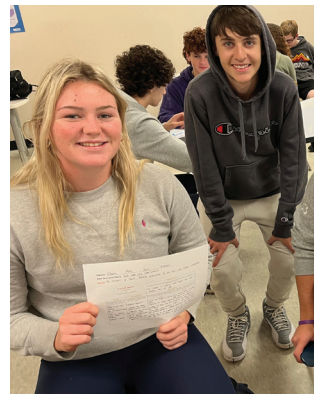
The District values the social and emotional wellness of all students and actively works to provide supportive, proactive, and positive resources. Elementary students learn social-emotional wellness skills through bi-weekly classes with their school counselors. Secondary students attend developmental guidance classes and participate in and plan wellness days for students. Student Assistance programs connect families with outside resources for additional support. With parent/guardian permission, students in grades three, six, and nine take a short survey to determine who might demonstrate mental health needs. Those who qualify are invited to participate in small groups with a licensed professional counselor for a 6-week intervention program.

## *Multi-Tiered System of Supports*

At the elementary level, Haverford has implemented a Multi-Tiered System of Supports, known as MTSS. This is a system by which our teams of educators closely monitor our students' academic and behavioral needs. Our educators then quickly respond with tiers of support, so students don't fall far behind and challenges are addressed before they become too large.

## *New High School Course Offerings Blend Real-World Relevance and Rigor*

High School electives are continually updated, based on student interest. Recently a number of new courses have been added, including Introduction to Sports Management, Introduction to Data Science, Interior Design, Fitness and Sport, Italian Cinema, and Co-Op Education (on-the-job work experience.)



## *Fitness Center*

When the new, expanded Fitness Center at Haverford High School opened at the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, students and staff were amazed at the possibilities in the new space, which is three times larger than the old center. “We actually saw jaws drop when some of our students saw it for the first time,” said Josh Fidler, Department Chair for Physical Education at the high school. “There are so many things for them to try, and if we can get a student interested in even one aspect of fitness that we offer here, they can just run with it. This is a place where lifetime fitness can truly take hold.”

The new Fitness Center boasts 3,000 square feet of dynamic space, including a 1,000-square-foot turf field where students can practice drills and agility work. Fidler worked collaboratively with the District's PE team to help design the space. It includes 10 rowing machines, four double half power racks, 16 different weight machines, and five other various types of cardio pieces, along with free weights and a wide variety of fitness equipment such as medicine balls, bands, myofascial release rollers, vertical jump testers, and more. The Fitness Center is used throughout the day – both before, during, and after school - for team sports workouts and PE classes.







Since 2004, the Education Foundation has been focused on funding innovative learning opportunities that inspire our students to reach their potential. Led by an all-volunteer Board of Directors, the Foundation is an independent tax-exempt organization that raises funds and provides grants to enhance the District's curriculum and extra-curricular activities. The Foundation has awarded more than 200 grants and has raised more than \$350,000.

Teachers and students submit applications for grants that have funded projects ranging from the legacy mural at Chatham Park Elementary School to the creation of a freshwater aquarium at Haverford Middle School, to a pedal-powered charging station at the high school. The Foundation has funded grants to purchase technology like 3D printers, and to fund assemblies from organizations like the Franklin Institute. There truly is no limit to the creativity of the grants, and the potential they can unlock.

## Our Employees

The School District of Haverford Township employs 1,135 people, many of whom live in the school district. More than 90% of our faculty and administration hold advanced degrees. Every one of our employees is committed to our students and makes a difference in their lives on a daily basis.



## School Board

*Thank you to our volunteer, elected School Board members who spend countless hours supporting our school district.*



Seated (left to right):

Antoinette Snodgrass, ESQ., Vice President, Bridget Wiedeman, Board President, Dr. Maureen Reusche, Superintendent, Lawrence A. Feinberg  
 Standing (left to right): Laura M. Crispin, Ph.D., Dave Schwartz, Latanya S. H. King, PsyD, Kristin Larsen Ed.D., Kimberly McKay, Ph.D., LSW, M.Ed., Danielle Camaratta Vitale



## ***Haverford School District Strategic Plan***

**2020 - 2025**

Our strategic plan was developed in partnership with our staff, parents, students, and community. It guides our work as we strive to meet three major goals:

### ***Goal 1: Prepare Contemporary Citizens***

Modernize and expand learning experiences to prepare students as critical thinkers, problem-solvers, and innovative designers within a complex global society.

### ***Goal 2: Social/Emotional Wellness***

Produce a community of empathetic and resilient learners with skills to socially and emotionally flourish. Research shows that students who have a greater sense of belonging and self-esteem are better able to engage in the classroom and tend to have great academic success.

### ***Goal 3: Diversity and Inclusion***

Establish a culturally diverse and inclusive educational experience that develops socio-cultural proficiency.



**The School District of Haverford Township**

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