



## HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

As we approach the end of the year, I want to wish each of you a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year. This season is a time for reflection, connection, and gratitude, and I extend my heartfelt thanks for your continued partnership in supporting our students and schools.

Below are some important updates from across the district.

#### **Engage with the Board of Education: January 2 Dinner at Rexy's REXY'S RESTAURANT** **(see attached)**

We are excited to invite **all** parents, staff, and community members to a New Year dinner hosted by the Board of Education. Originally shared with groups like HTEF, the Zone PTA, and others, this invitation **is now open until Friday** to the entire community and teaching staff.



**Date:** Tuesday, January 2



**Location:** REXY'S REXY'S RESTAURANT

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, December 20, by 4:00 PM

We have many spots still available, but your seat must be reserved no later than Friday at 4 pm. Please see the attached flyer for event details and note that the **\$37 payment** is being collected via Venmo by the HTEF. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with the Board and celebrate the New Year together.

### **New Mental Health Resource at Rohrer Middle School**

Starting in January, we will implement **Clayful**, a new mental health resource at Rohrer Middle School designed to support students. Clayful will provide a platform for students to seek assistance with mental health challenges, even outside of school hours. At the Board of Education meeting on **Thursday at 7:00 PM**, I will provide an overview of this initiative. Parent consent will be required for student participation. We are excited about this program's potential to enhance our support for students' mental and emotional health and encourage you to learn more by reviewing the website below. I will also be sharing more information with you soon.

<https://www.clayfulhealth.com/>

### **Crazy Eights Math Club for Elementary Schools**

We are launching a weekly **Crazy Eights Math Club** to support students who need extra help in math or demonstrate giftedness in the subject. Participation is limited to 16 students per school. The aim is to enhance math fact fluency and foundational skills, which will be differentiated by student level. This initiative is part of a broader effort to address math achievement gaps and ensure our students continue to excel across subjects. I will share additional details about our invitation process after the new year.

<https://crazy8sclub.org/>

### **Elevator Repairs and Concerns**

The high school elevator is nearly fully repaired and should be operational by the start of the new year. Unfortunately, sourcing parts and repairs for elevators across the district has been challenging. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience caused by elevator malfunctions and are committed to finding long-term solutions to prevent disruptions for students and staff who rely on these services.

### **Progress on Bond Referendum Projects**

Planning for various bond referendum projects continues:

- High school tennis court reconstruction
- Turf field installation
- New media center planning
- Emerging technologies lab construction
- Pole barn for additional storage
- More

Most recently, a team of district officials, architects, and engineers visited Van Sciver School to observe concerns with dismissal procedures in preparation for summer 2025 construction. We are committed to ensuring student safety and will keep the community updated as these projects progress.

### **Proposed Attendance Policy Changes**

On Thursday evening, I will present recommendations to align attendance procedures across elementary, middle, and high school levels. The proposed changes include the following, which essentially align the elementary and middle school with our current high school procedures.

- **Excused absences:** Doctor's notes, religious holidays, and immediate family bereavements.
- **Unexcused absences:** Most other absences without physician documentation.

Students will be permitted a maximum of **12 unexcused absences** before truancy concerns arise, with **30 combined absences** (excused and unexcused) to avoid credit loss or consideration for grade-level retention or summer school programming depending on the learning deficits present.

### **Updates to District Billing Procedures**

We are addressing delays in billing for childcare and summer recreation programs. In the future, the district will transition to an **electronic payment system** to simplify payments for these programs, similar to the system used for school lunches.

### **Partnership with All-Star Karate School**

We are pleased to announce a rental agreement with All-Star Karate to use Strawbridge School during the summer of 2025. This collaboration will generate significant revenue for the district and may offer parents a new camp option for August, **complementing** our summer recreation program, which often reaches capacity.

<https://www.southjerseysummercamps.com/sales-page1733343086066>

### **Winter Concert Series**

Our winter concerts have been inspiring so far, and more is to come. Thank you to all involved for all the hard work, passion, and commitment to the visual and performing arts.

As always, thank you for your partnership and support. I look forward to seeing many of you at the January 2 dinner, Thursday's Board meeting, Concerts, Winter Sports, and other upcoming district events. Wishing you and your family a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year!

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent

YOU ARE INVITED TO A

*New Year Celebration  
with Haddon Township  
Board of Education*

JAN 2 7 PM

(COCKTAILS: 6:30 PM)  
REXY'S RESTAURANT

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH  
MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD, BOE OFFICE  
EMPLOYEES, AND OTHER VITAL COMMUNITY  
PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS.

(SPOUSES & SIGNIFICANT OTHERS ARE INVITED)

*Come & Celebrate!*

RSVP TO HTEF VENMO BY DEC. 20TH

Haddon Twp Edu Fdn (HTEF)  
@htedfoundation



**venmo**

COST OF THE EVENT IS \$37 PER  
PERSON INCLUDING ENTREES  
AND NON-ALCOHOLIC  
BEVERAGES