



HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

I am excited to share several important updates regarding our district's ongoing projects, budget advocacy, and community initiatives. Our commitment to helping all students thrive remains steadfast, and I am proud of the progress we continue to make together.

Bond Referendum Planning and Projects

Our bond referendum projects are taking shape, and I am pleased to announce that the first phase of major construction is currently underway with our tennis courts. This upgrade will feature **state-of-the-art post-tension concrete** and will be completed in two stages:

- **Phase 1:** Concrete installation will take place, and temporary lining will be applied so that the courts can be utilized in the spring season.
- **Phase 2:** After the boys' tennis season concludes, the final coat and color scheme will be applied. We anticipate the entire project will be completed by mid-summer.

Middle School Roof and Solar Panel Update

We recently received the unfortunate news that the planned roof replacement at the middle school will not be eligible to include solar panels as initially intended. PSEG has denied this request because the local energy grid is already at capacity. While this is disappointing, we remain committed to exploring other energy-efficient opportunities for our district.

State Aid and Budget Advocacy

It has been about a year since we first faced the unexpected challenge of a significant budget deficit due to a decline in state aid for the current school year. On **February 27th**, Governor Murphy will deliver this year's budget address. We have worked tirelessly to advocate for the complete restoration of last year's funding cuts. Our advocacy efforts have taken us across the state, and tonight, **HTBOE President Ms. Kellie Hinkle** is hosting constituents from 13 school districts that have been similarly affected. This meeting, part of the **NJ Fair Funding Collective**, will help finalize our preparations for the critical weeks ahead.

<https://njffc.org/>

Haddon Township Education Foundation Updates

The **Haddon Township Education Foundation** remains a vital resource for our district, particularly in challenging financial times. We remind our teachers and staff that all grant applications are due to your principal by **March 28th**. Additionally, community members should note that our ever-popular **10-Week Club Raffle Fundraiser** will kick off on **April 15th**. Your continued support makes a meaningful difference in our students' educational experiences.

Haddon Township High School Musical

Please mark your calendars and come out to support **Haddon Township High School's musical, Urinetown**. This promises to be another outstanding production, with shows scheduled for **February 27th, 28th, and March 1st**. Please see the attached flyer with a barcode for ordering tickets.

Community Engagement Forums

One of our district goals is to engage our community continuously. Alongside a few members of the **Board of Education**, I will host parents and community members in **open-forum discussions**. I'd like you to please stay tuned for these events that are coming soon in the spring. The first topic of discussion will be **"School Safety."** Meeting locations and times will vary to accommodate different schedules, but all parents, guardians, and community members interested in this dialogue are encouraged to attend. This initiative will be the first in a **community gathering series**, which will continue into next fall with future topics including **"Cell Phones"** and **"Artificial Intelligence."** We value our community members as partners in education and look forward to these meaningful discussions.

Police Presence at Schools

You may have noticed a **routine police presence** around our schools during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times. Some have inquired whether there is a reason for concern. This presence is strictly **proactive**, and we **welcome and appreciate** the support of our local law enforcement. Ensuring the safety of our students and staff is our top priority. Please know that we have robust communication systems in a school emergency to notify parents **immediately and effectively**.

Closing Thoughts

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our dedicated educators, staff, students, parents, and community members. Your continued support, engagement, and collaboration make Haddon Township special. Together, we are continuing to build a strong, forward-thinking district that values education, safety, and community involvement.

Thank you for being part of this year's journey. I look forward to the exciting months ahead.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent