



HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying the fall season. I want to share several important updates and celebrations happening across our district.

Principal Retirement

Congratulations to Mr. Gary O'Brien, **who will retire as our high school principal effective January 30, 2026, following more than 30 years of distinguished service** to the Haddon Township School District. Mr. O'Brien has had an impactful leadership career, and his long-standing commitment to our students, staff, and community is deeply appreciated. His service and dedication will always be part of the proud legacy of Haddon Township High School.

I will be working closely with the Board of Education to outline next steps for a smooth, successful leadership transition, and we will keep the community informed as the process unfolds.

Safety Awareness

Last week, one of our school crossing guards was struck by a motor vehicle while on duty and hospitalized. While the injuries were serious, we are relieved to share that they were not life-threatening. This incident is a sobering reminder of the importance of vigilance and patience when traveling near our schools, whether by car, bicycle, or on foot. **Please be especially mindful during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal, when there is a high volume of both pedestrian and vehicle traffic.** The safety of our students, staff, and crossing guards depends on all of us staying alert and cautious.

Supporting Families Facing Food Insecurity

As we approach the winter months, some families in our community may face financial challenges related to the recent federal government shutdown and the expiration of SNAP benefits on November 1. Attached, you'll find a **list of county, local, and school-based resources to assist families** who may be experiencing food insecurity.

No student in Haddon Township should ever go hungry. Thanks to the generosity of our community partners and donors, we have financial support systems in place to ensure all students have access to school meals regardless of circumstances. If you or someone you know is struggling, please contact Mrs. Dana Cotter, Supervisor of Special Services, who will discreetly coordinate any necessary support so that every child continues to receive school lunches without interruption.

Celebrating the Arts

A heartfelt congratulations to our Visual and Performing Arts Department for their outstanding recent production of ***Too Many Detectives***. Nearly 80 students participated and showcased their creativity, teamwork, and talent even while adapting to a temporary performance space at the middle school.

Looking ahead, we're excited to present the High School Fall Play, ***Parody This!***, on **November 20, 21, and 22 at 7:00 p.m.** We hope you'll join us for an evening of laughter and community pride. A reminder that senior citizens attend free of charge with a Senior Pass, which can be picked up at the Board Office.

Host Family Needed for Exchange Student

We are currently seeking a host family for Federico, an exchange student from Italy accepted into our district for the second semester beginning in January. This is the first time we have not been able to successfully secure a host family, and **we are quickly facing a deadline**. Hosting a student like Federico is an excellent opportunity to bring global understanding into your home and to enrich both your family and our school community. **We have developed a proud tradition of successfully hosting international students and are currently welcoming two exchange students for the fall semester.**

Even a short-term or temporary arrangement could make a tremendous difference as we finalize placement. **Please see the attached flyer** for more information, and contact Ms. Amy Ruta at aruta@htsd.us or the agency's direct contact listed on the flyer if you or someone you know may be interested.

Thank you, as always, for your partnership, trust, and support. Our district continues to thrive because of the strength of this community and the dedication of our staff and families. Have a great night and Happy Halloween!

Thank you very much for your continued support and have a great start to summer.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent