



HADDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Broadcast

Dear Haddon Township School District Community,

Good Afternoon Haddon Township Families and Staff,

As we move through the heart of winter and toward the promise of more warmth in spring, I want to share several important updates with you. There is a great deal happening across our district right now, much of it exciting, some of it requires flexibility, and I truly appreciate the partnership and support our community continues to show. Please see the update below and have a great night.

HTEF Trivia Night March 6

Please mark your calendars for Friday evening, March 6, when the Haddon Township Education Foundation will host its first-ever Trivia Night in our high school cafeteria. This is an opportunity to connect, laugh together, and invest directly in an organization that **directly supports our classrooms**. I encourage families, staff, alumni, and community members to form a team, attend, or support the event in any way you can.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

For questions, email hatedfoundation@gmail.com. **This is an adult and teen event with teams of up to 6 people able to register.**

Construction Progress and Event Adjustments

We are making steady progress on construction projects at both the middle school and high school. Major renovations are nearing completion, and the transformation of these spaces is exciting to see firsthand. That said, in order to allow sufficient work to be completed, particularly related to ADA accessibility and the installation of new bathrooms, **our High School musical, Newsies, originally scheduled for February 26, 27, and 28, will be postponed exactly 30 days.**

The new performance schedule will be:

March 26 at 7:00 PM

March 27 at 7:00 PM

March 28 at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM

We know how much time and heart our students and staff have poured into this production. This delay ensures the space will be accessible for everyone, and we look forward to a fantastic show.

Additionally, our Media Center Grand Re-Opening Ceremony will now take place at our March 19th Board of Education meeting, when the space will be fully equipped and operational.

Our Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 19th, will still be held in the new Media Center space. The work will be sufficiently complete for occupancy, but we will reserve the official ribbon-cutting and celebration until everything is entirely finished.

School Safety Collaboration

Our administrative team continues to collaborate proactively with the Haddon Township Police Department to plan and execute a variety of school safety drills. In the coming weeks and months, members of HTPD will be on-site during drills to observe and provide feedback. This partnership allows us to continually refine and strengthen our procedures. Protecting the physical safety of our students and staff remains our number one priority. Along those lines, and in light of recent community concerns, **I want to reiterate that ICE agents will not be permitted to enter our school buildings unless they present a judicial warrant. Our schools remain places of safety, stability, and support for every child.**

State Aid and Budget Outlook

We are approaching the time of year when state aid figures are announced. Last week, I was notified that the Governor's Budget Address, typically delivered in mid-February, will likely be **delayed until March 10th, with official district and state aid numbers to follow shortly thereafter.** Please know that we are actively engaged in every possible advocacy effort to avoid further cuts. We remain committed to maintaining and building the strong educational programs our community expects and our students deserve. Sustainable funding will be critical to doing so, and we will continue to communicate transparently as more information becomes available.

HTEF Part II

A reminder to all teachers and full-time staff that the HTEF Spring Grant cycle is open. Proposals are due to your building principal by April 17. Longtime HT educator Mr. Joe Burke will be visiting faculty rooms over the coming weeks during lunch periods to assist teachers who are interested in the grant writing process. He will help teachers develop and submit innovative, competitive proposals. Please remember that HTEF prioritizes creative classroom experiences. Grants will no longer cover field trips or classroom furniture.

Snow Day Make Up- February 16

This Monday, February 16, originally scheduled as a day off in observance of Presidents Day, will now be an official snow day make-up, and **school will be in session.** We understand that some families may have made prior travel plans. For those seeking relief for absences that may not meet the traditional excused criteria, we are being flexible with coding student absences for that day. **No unexcused absences will be counted toward truancy or non-credit status, provided documentation can be submitted indicating that prior**

plans had been made. I appreciate your understanding as we balance state requirements with family realities.

Child Care Program Update

We are making strong progress toward partnering with the **Right at School Organization** to operate our summer recreation & before/after care programs, and there is positive news to share. All current district aides currently working in child care will be offered positions with Right at School. Also, **the summer rec scheduling flexibility that proved difficult for our district last summer WILL be accommodated by this organization.** Finally, we are exploring the possibility of **extending our summer rec program into August** and remain optimistic about this partnership. More details will be shared soon.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools. There is a great deal to be proud of in our school district, and much more ahead. Have a great day.

-Sincerely,

Robert J. Fisicaro, Ed. D. Superintendent