

## NEWS RELEASE

# QSAC Results have been Shared with the Haddonfield School District

### Results of the 2018-19 QSAC Evaluation

Haddonfield, N.J., June 12 – According to the N.J. Department of Education (DOE) website, “The New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) is the Department of Education's monitoring and district self-evaluation system for public school districts. The system shifts the monitoring and evaluation focus from compliance to assistance, capacity-building and improvement. It is a single comprehensive accountability system that consolidates and incorporates the monitoring requirements of applicable state laws and programs and complements federally required improvements. The system focuses on monitoring and evaluating school districts in five key components that, based on research, have been identified to be key factors in effective school districts. These components are Instruction & Program, Fiscal, Governance, Operations and Personnel.”

The last time Haddonfield was evaluated by the state of New Jersey was in 2008, and that review was called the New Jersey Quality Assurance Annual Review. The Haddonfield School District (HSD) has never been evaluated through the QSAC process because then-Governor Christie deemed HSD to be a high-performing school district as a result of PARCC test scores. However, when Governor Murphy took office, he ordered all New Jersey school districts to be reviewed to ensure they are following federal and state laws. Between October and February of the 2018-19 school year, Haddonfield's five components, enumerated above, were reviewed by state officials.

The results of that review were delivered to the District on June 6, 2019. New Jersey school districts need to score 80% in each of the five areas (underlined in paragraph one above) to “pass” those components. The highest possible score in a given area is 100%. A score below 80% in any area requires corrective action, necessitates further review and signals the need for growth. The Haddonfield School District scored as follows: Instructional Program – 63%; Fiscal Business Office – 75%; Board Governance – 78%; Operations/Facilities – 75%; and Personnel/HR Management – 46%.

“Simply put, we did not pass any area of the QSAC review and will need to undergo future reviews yearly until we reach proficiency in all areas,” said BOE President Adam Sangillo. “While we are saddened by these scores, we are not surprised. Members of our Board of Education have been told by various individuals over the past 15 to 18 months that many systems are not in their proper place within the District. No one wants to see a great district like Haddonfield receive low marks, but I do want the public to know that our Board started our corrective action plan on this two years ago, which motivated our search for an experienced superintendent of schools to lead our district. Dr. Lawrence Mussoline has been a superintendent of schools for 19 years in Pennsylvania and one year in New Jersey. Our Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Charles Klaus, has been a respected member of our district family for over 25 years. With Mr. Klaus's knowledge of the culture of Haddonfield and Dr. Mussoline's knowledge of the systems needed to be in place for highly reliable school systems

to function well, we have been proactively addressing the issues brought to light today by the QSAC process.”

Superintendent Dr. Lawrence Mussoline said, “I started my work on this on day one. We know that we have a great school district here, but we also have to check every box in this state-run quality assurance review. We are already addressing many of the issues needing attention by imbedding proper protocols within the organization. Once those systems are in place, we will achieve the necessary scores to be deemed an excellent New Jersey school district though the QSAC process. Like all obstacles in life, the results of this review help us continually improve. In fact, we relish the opportunity to focus on every area that measures our truly excellent school district.”