

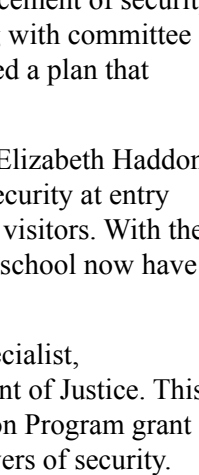


HADDONFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

... news from the Board of Education

FROM the SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Haddonfield Families, Staff and Community Members,



For the last 14 months, it may have appeared that the leadership team of Haddonfield School District has been focussed only on addressing COVID-19 and COVID-related issues. In fact, we have made progress with other district initiatives even while planning and implementing the various educational models necessitated by the pandemic.

One of the bigger accomplishments this year has been a significant enhancement of security measures, some already in place and some about to be launched. Working with committee members and district administrators, the Board of Education has developed a plan that directs funds toward improving the safety of our school community.

In the fall of 2020, new secured-entry vestibules were completed in both Elizabeth Haddon and Tatem elementary schools. These vestibules provide a high level of security at entry points, limit access to our buildings and provide a secure waiting area for visitors. With the completion of these projects, all three elementary schools and the middle school now have high-quality, secure vestibules.

In September, we announced that Sandra Horwitz, our District Safety Specialist, successfully secured a grant worth over \$500,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice. This Community-Oriented Policing (COPS) Office - School Violence Prevention Program grant will allow us to invest in several new measures that will add additional layers of security.

We are enhancing some systems already in place, such as the district-wide security cameras installed last summer. Cameras now will cover all buildings, both internally and externally. Another upgrade will be made to the swipe-card system we use to enter our buildings. These new systems are harder to bypass and connect to Bluetooth and key cards, limiting access to those individuals who should have access to our schools.

An improved lockdown system for the entire district is a new project planned for the very near future. In the event of an outside intruder, time and good communication are two of the most important factors required to respond effectively. The new system will include "panic buttons" in a multitude of methods and locations that will allow anyone, no matter where they are, to initiate a lockdown upon first observing an intruder. Within seconds, all door access will be locked, announcements made, and police alerted. The system makes notification of the danger instantaneous and is tied in with the county-approved mapping system. All of our buildings will be mapped so that, in the case of any emergency, first responders will have access to our building floor plans. In addition, shatter-resistant film will be installed on all of the first floor windows, making a forced entry through glass more difficult and time-intensive – creating a secure envelope for each building.

We are adding another level of improved communication through a new closed-circuit radio system enabling instant and secure communication between administrators, supervisors, maintenance and staff who may be outside with students.

Considered together, the several steps mentioned above will help to ensure that Haddonfield students and staff will be safer while in school. Although some may regret the reasons we have to address school security, we are proud that we have been able to implement solutions as thoroughly as we have.

Chuck Klaus,
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD NEWS

Next Board Meeting May 20, 2021 7:00 p.m.

[Log in to watch \(and call in during designated time\) Board meetings](#)

[Request in-person attendance \(limited capacity, randomly chosen\)](#) (bookmark this form)

[Submit comments prior to meeting](#) (bookmark this form)

Presentations from Recent Board Meetings:

[Posted on our website](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Coaches Needed

Please [apply here](#) for any coaching positions.

Crossing Guards

The Haddonfield Police Department seeks dependable applicants for several part-time crossing guard positions. Please consider helping our community by filling one of the available openings. Crossing guards earn \$17.61 per hour and currently work, on average, 10-15 hours per week – about 2 to 2.5 hours a day.

Applications are available at the Police Department or can be [filled out online](#).

Educational Assistants

Looking for a great part-time opportunity to become a member of the support staff in our schools? Work while your child is in school; share the same schedule and same days off.

HSD elementary schools are seeking caring, dedicated and child-centered Educational Assistants to support our students. Hours are 8:35-3:00 M-F; the start date is ASAP. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred. The hourly rate is approximately \$12/hour. If interested please [apply here](#).

LUNCH ORDER REMINDER

IMPORTANT LUNCH ORDER INFORMATION

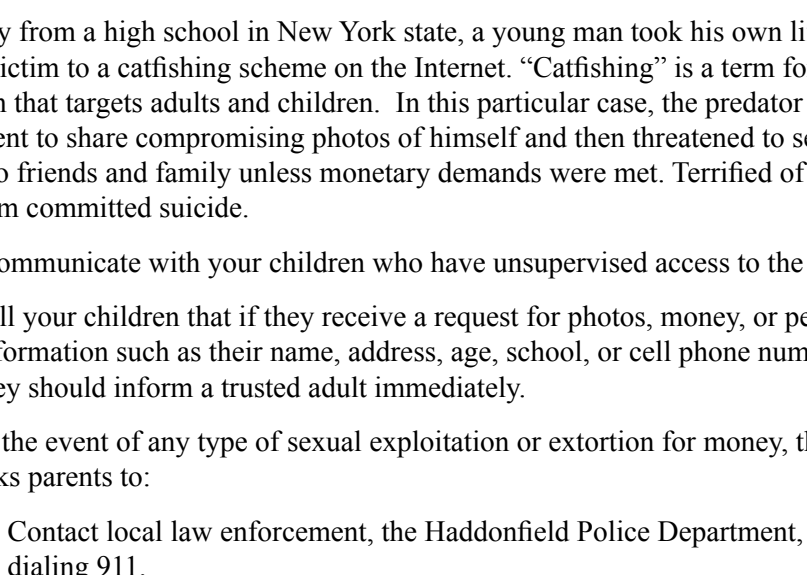
On April 14th, we sent a message from NutriServe to all parents about ordering lunches as part of the Phase III model. Here are the basics:

IN-SCHOOL STUDENTS

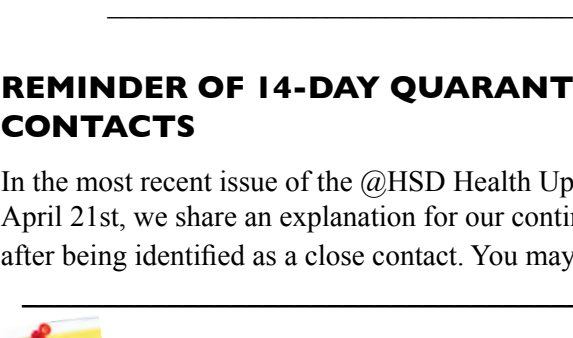
- **PLEASE ORDER by NOON on Friday for the following week.**
- [Here are the order forms](#); they include meal choices.
- All lunches are free.
- Students may still bring their own lunches.
- HMS and HMHS principals have communicated with families about students who are allowed to go off campus.

VIRTUAL STUDENTS

Virtual students may pick up seven (7) breakfasts and seven (7) lunches every week on Wednesdays between 12:00 and 1:00 at the HMS flagpole entrance.



DISTRICT NEWS



THANK YOU PHASE III LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to our dedicated and organized PTA leaders, the volunteer sign-up sheets filled rapidly to make our new Phase III lunch periods work. Volunteers like Maria Haydak (top) chose one or more lunch/recess periods to fill the needs for supervision of lunch/recess for grades 1 to 8 through June. Elementary students think their colorful trays are fun and give a thumbs-up (bottom) to the new process.

INTERNET SAFETY REMINDER

News of recent tragedies serve to remind us to be vigilant in our awareness of the potential dangers our children may face online. Please review the information below and take time to discuss Internet safety with your children in an age-appropriate way.

In a story from a high school in New York state, a young man took his own life after falling victim to a catfishing scheme on the Internet. "Catfishing" is a term for Internet extortion that targets adults and children. In this particular case, the predator persuaded the student to share compromising photos of himself and then threatened to send the photos to friends and family unless monetary demands were met. Terrified of exposure, the victim committed suicide.

Please communicate with your children who have unsupervised access to the Internet:

- Tell your children that if they receive a request for photos, money, or personal information such as their name, address, age, school, or cell phone number, that they should inform a trusted adult immediately.
- In the event of any type of sexual exploitation or extortion for money, the FBI asks parents to:
 - a. Contact local law enforcement, the Haddonfield Police Department, by dialing 911.
 - b. Contact the local FBI field office in Philadelphia at 215-418-4000 or submit a tip online by searching "Philadelphia FBI" or "Tips FBI"
 - c. File a report with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at 1-800-843-5678 or online at [www.cybermissing.org](#)
 - d. Try to keep all original documents, emails, text messages, websites or webpages, and logs of communication. Do not delete anything before law enforcement is able to review it.
 - e. Tell law enforcement everything about the online encounters. It may be uncomfortable or embarrassing, but having all of the facts helps them to do their best to find and stop the offender.

If you or someone you know might be at risk of suicide, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-8255, text TALK to 741741, or search for "SpeakingofSuicide.com/resources" for additional information.

Adapted from an article in "Campus Safety," Robin Hattersley-Gray, 4/20/2021.



HMS SEAPERCH TEAM WINS REGIONAL COMPETITION

CONGRATULATIONS to our SeaPerch Team! On April 23, 2021, the "Haddonfield Naval Engineers" won the Greater Philadelphia SeaPerch Regional Championship, finishing first in both the Presentation and Make a Splash categories, and ended the day as the Middle School champs!

HMS has had a SeaPerch team for the last 11 years. A typical SeaPerch challenge requires students to build an ROV or remote-operated vehicle that can function underwater. The competition would normally take place at a swimming pool where each team of students would direct the ROVs to accomplish a particular task successfully. Due to COVID restrictions, this year's teams had to build a virtual vehicle that would clean up the "trash islands" in our oceans. Even though the team operated under COVID restrictions since September, meaning they were forced to meet virtually until early February, the team created a working prototype that was able to address a significant, real-world problem.

"Collaboration and flexibility were the keys to our success," said Kevin Kozak, eighth-grade science teacher and advisor to the Sea Perch team for 11 years. "They have been working hard since September to accomplish their goals."

Judges of this competition included naval engineers, naval officers, and professors from Temple University.

Next ... on to the international championship June 4th and 5th!

TEACHER RECOGNIZED BY SEESAW

Congratulations to Jen Harding, a third-grade teacher at Tatem, who was recently contacted by Seesaw, a classroom app used widely throughout the United States. Harding is one of 12 Seesaw Ambassadors selected to create a demo video on how she transitioned to using Seesaw in the classroom as more and more students returned to in-school learning.

From the Seesaw representative:

"Jen, I'm consistently inspired by the activities you've shared to the Seesaw Community Library and wanted to first thank you for your contributions which keep the library a trusted resource for educators and students around the world. You're invited to share one way that you use Seesaw in the classroom with your students. To be more specific, you'll create a 2-3 minute video showing how you facilitated this idea in a remote learning environment and how you're still using Seesaw to facilitate this idea in your classroom environment."

Harding created a video demonstrating how she uses Seesaw for math stations. [Enjoy her video here.](#)

REMINDER OF 14-DAY QUARANTINE FOR CLOSE CONTACTS

In the most recent issue of the @HSD Health Update newsletter, emailed to you on April 21st, we share an explanation for our continued policy of a 14-day quarantine after being identified as a close contact. You may [review this article on our website.](#)



MONTHLY ANXIETY TIP:

It is important to avoid unnecessary accommodations.

It is your instinct as a parent to protect your child from stressful situations. Accommodation occurs when we, as adults, change our behavior to allow a child to avoid an anxiety-provoking situation or experience. However, if we always protect our children from experiencing anxiety: (1.) they miss out on opportunities to learn that feared situations may not be as bad as they are anticipating, and (2.) they are not afforded the opportunity to develop coping skills or confidence in their own ability to cope with anxiety.

So you might ask, what accommodations are helpful? Accommodations should (1.) help achieve a goal, rather than remove expectations, (2.) ask "what does this child need to be successful?" rather than "what does this child need to be less upset?" and (3.) be a moving target, with a goal to remove accommodations when they are no longer needed to be successful.

LATEST INFORMATION re PHASE III on our WEBSITE

[Phase III Plan and Schedules](#)

LATEST INFORMATION re COVID-19 on our WEBSITE

All HSD Health [general messages](#) are posted on our website.

All HSD Health [COVID+ messages](#) are posted on our website.

Active [COVID+ Dashboard](#)

DON'T MISS:

HMHS Presents "Gypsy"

April 30 (7:30 pm), May 1 (7:30 pm) and May 2 (2:00 pm). We will be live-streaming each performance in real time. Details have been posted [on our website.](#)

FOLLOW us on SOCIAL MEDIA

DISTRICT Facebook: "[Haddonfield School District](#)" and Twitter: "[@HaddonSchools.](#)"

SCHOOL STORIES

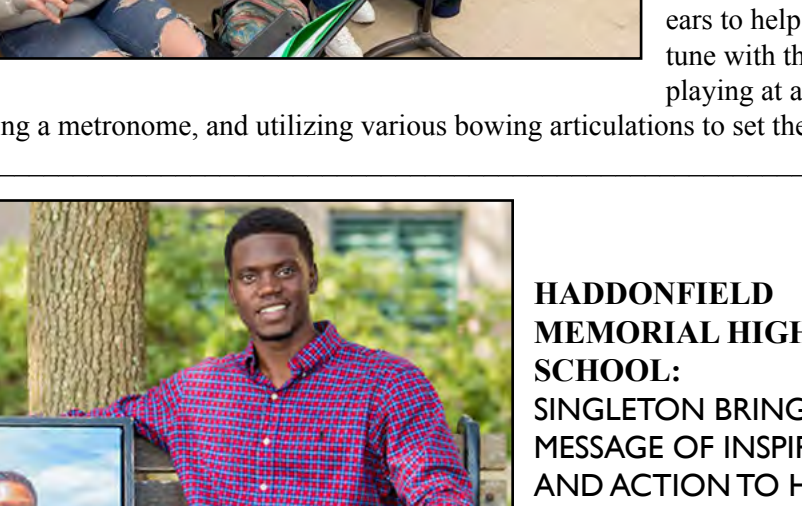
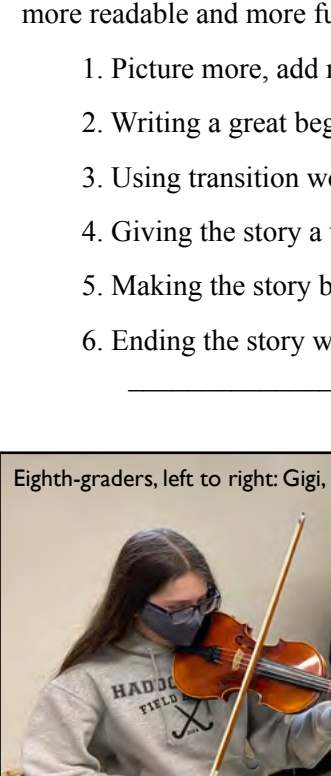
CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Fourth-graders completed a Reading History unit in which they researched and studied the causes of the American Revolution, as well as one area that interested them the most, such as spies, women, African Americans' roles in the revolution, significant battles, or particular individuals. With all of their newly acquired knowledge, they moved on to a correlating writing unit, Bringing History to Life! Here they wrote nonfiction books about the American Revolution with chapters that included causes of the revolution, their expert topic, a narrative from the first-person perspective of someone living during the revolution, and a final essay.



ELIZABETH HADDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

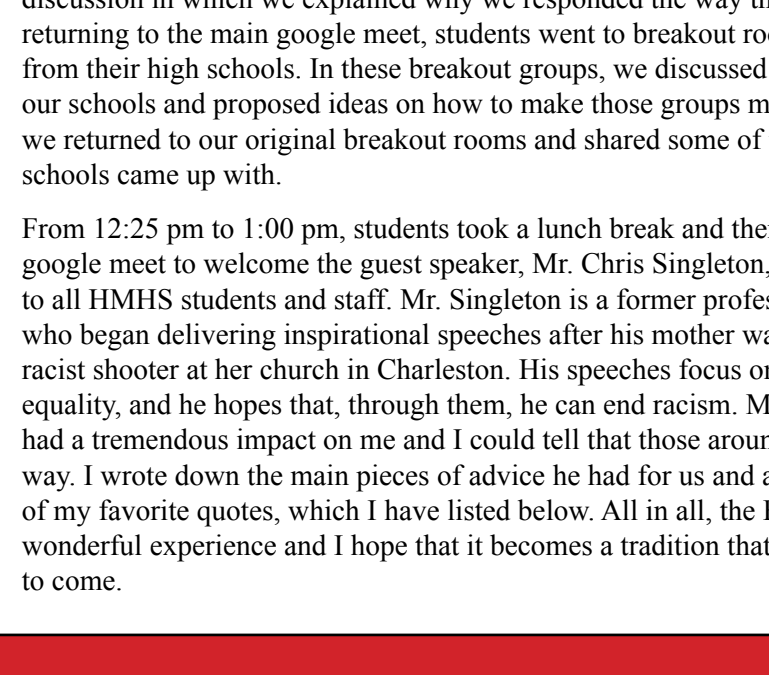
First-graders at Lizzy Haddon held a PJ and Teddy Bear Day to celebrate the end of their bear unit. They're studying landforms in social studies and writing book reviews for Writer's Workshop. Avid readers, we're beginning an author study of Eric Carle.



J.F. TATEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Tatem kindies just finished their Lucy Calkin's unit "Writing For Readers" today. During the past few months, these kindergarteners worked on making their writing more readable and more fun. Specifically, they worked on:

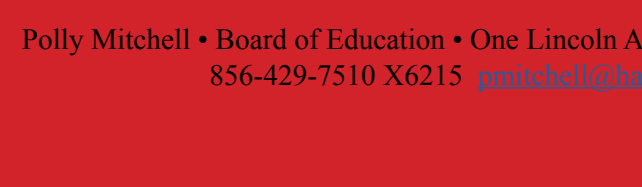
1. Picture more, add more
2. Writing a great beginning
3. Using transition words
4. Giving the story a title
5. Making the story beautiful
6. Ending the story with a strong feeling



Eighth-graders, left to right: Gigi, Hope, and Ryan

HADDONFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle school orchestra students are enjoying making music together in person! These students are working on ensemble skills, such as using their ears to help remain in tune with their peers, playing at a provided tempo using a metronome, and utilizing various bowing articulations to set the mood.



Mr. Chris Singleton with a portrait of his mother, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, who was one of 9 victims of the Emanuel AME Church shooting on June 17, 2015. Photo Courtesy of usaoiday.com

HADDONFIELD MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL: SINGLETON BRINGS A MESSAGE OF INSPIRATION AND ACTION TO HMHS EQUITY SUMMIT

April 21, 2021
Helene Usher '23, Editor, Bulldawg Bulletin

On Friday, April 16th, HMHS hosted its first annual virtual Equity Summit. The summit, organized by Mr. Tarrant, HMHS's Peer Bias Advisor Ms. Lesse, and the Peer Bias Leaders, brought together students from six local high schools: Cherry Hill East, Cherry Hill West, Haddonfield, Haddon Heights, Haddon Township, and Pennsauken. Their intent was to have students from different schools brainstorm ideas about how to best combat inequality and promote inclusivity in their respective schools. In his introduction, Mr. Tarrant stressed the importance of the students coming together: usually, when we see students from different schools, they are competing in sports, academics, or music, yet at the Equity Summit, they all came together with one goal in mind – to work towards equity in their schools.

The first activity was "Concentric Circles." In breakout rooms, students introduced themselves and divided up into pairs. In pairs, they then answered five different questions for a minute each. Students were not permitted to talk while their partners were talking to emphasize the importance of listening. Often, we try to relate or jump into other people's stories, causing them to feel invalidated and disrespected. This activity was an excellent reminder to look outside of ourselves and devote more of our attention to others. Next, the students shared their preferred pronouns and "Name Stories." Through this, we learned things about each other that we would not have known from just looking at each other or hearing each other's names. The last activity that students did in the breakout sessions was agree/disagree statements concerning equality in our local communities and society as a whole. We then had a thoughtful discussion in which we explained why we responded the way that we did. After returning to the main google meet, students went to breakout rooms with all attendees from their high schools. In these breakout groups, we discussed the various groups in our schools and proposed ideas on how to make those groups more inclusive. Then, we returned to our original breakout rooms and shared some of the solutions that our schools came up with.

From 12:25 pm to 1:00 pm, students took a lunch break and then returned to the google meet to welcome the guest speaker, Mr. Chris Singleton, before he presented to all HMHS students and staff. Mr. Singleton is a former professional baseball player who began delivering inspirational speeches after his mother was murdered by a racist shooter at her church in Charleston. His speeches focus on forgiveness and equality, and he hopes that, through them, he can end racism. Mr. Singleton's speech had a tremendous impact on me and I could tell that those around me felt the same way. I wrote down the main pieces of advice he had for us and also recorded some of my favorite quotes, which I have listed below. All in all, the Equity Summit was a wonderful experience and I hope that it becomes a tradition that will continue for years to come.

Haddonfield School District News is created and shared monthly throughout the school year. It is written/edited by Communications Specialist Polly Mitchell and distributed to staff, families and community members.