



# HADDONFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

... news from the Board of Education

## FROM the SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Haddonfield Families, Staff and Community Members,

With the 2020–21 school year now in the rearview mirror, many people in our school community deserve recognition and gratitude.

I am proud of the work that has been done – day after day, week by week over the course of 15 months – to complete an incredibly challenging school year while always maintaining high-quality educational standards. We never took our eyes off the goal of increasing in-person learning-and-teaching time whenever possible but also always maintained an awareness of health and safety measures.

*None of our success could have been possible without several outstanding groups.*

First, we benefited from the dedication, focus, talent and flexibility of our amazing teaching staff and educational support staff. There is simply no way for any of us to exaggerate their good spirits and perseverance as they served our students in the classroom and online. Standing alongside the faculty were our intrepid nurses, whose crucial and continuous support allowed us to attend to the educational aspects of our days. Additionally, the behind-the-scenes support of our maintenance and grounds crew and cleaning staff made sure our indoor and outdoor spaces were safe, were set up appropriately and were effective, useful areas for families, students and staff. And let us not forget that, as in all times, the secretarial and office staff were key cogs in keeping our schools running smoothly.

No public school district could accomplish what we did this past year without the consistent, intelligent, collaborative support of the members of our exemplary Board of Education. They actively participated on committees that made some of the most complex and onerous decisions, they jumped in when help was needed, and they cheered us on when times were especially tough.

Additionally, I acknowledge the invaluable partnership of our students and families. Although we all had to tolerate the exasperation of frequently changing mandates and recommendations, our parents and students created classrooms in their kitchens, became experts in educational technology, worked hard in isolation and cooperated with day-to-day inconveniences in support of the health and success of the entire community.

Finally, one other group of individuals deserving of attention and thanks is the district administrative team. This group – building-level principals, district administrators and the staff of the central office – rose to the challenge of moving this district forward again and again. Their efforts were time-consuming, stressful and prolonged.

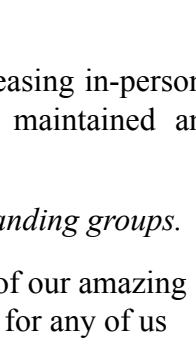
The administrators came to work on vacation days, nights and weekends. It was not uncommon for Sunday afternoons to be spent contact-tracing so that students and their families could be alerted before school on Monday morning. Administrators put together plans, reviewed them, revised them, and sometimes threw them out, just to start from the beginning again, all to ensure the best possible result.

The administrators did a spectacular job communicating to our staff and families, sharing information at a higher level and greater frequency than had been required in the past. Compared to other area school districts, the quality of our communications and the detail and the speed with which we informed our community were second-to-none.

But what I am most proud of is that, while all this was happening, there was not one word of complaint, not one remark wondering “why I have to give up my Sunday.” Their thoughts always centered on what was best for our students, families and staff. Their consistent, driving passion provided all the tools needed to safely and effectively accomplish our educational goals.

I am confident that everyone in the Greater Haddonfield community shares my profound gratitude for our extraordinary administration, board, faculty, families, students and staff. *Here's to a successful completion of the 2020-2021 school year!*

Chuck Klaus,  
Superintendent of Schools



## BOARD NEWS

**Next Board Meeting July 15, 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.

### 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](#).

### Various Other District Jobs

Including substitute nurses, bus drivers and more ... [click here](#).

## DISTRICT NEWS

### LEARNING ACCELERATION THROUGH POWER STANDARDS

If you've ever used operating instructions or followed recipes, you know that some are much more helpful than others. Some would have you reading detailed descriptions that invite you on a long tangent. Better recipes and operating instructions offer you key information in **BOLD** so you know what to prioritize.

This year our teachers have become experts in this type of prioritization. They collaborated so that they could ensure that our students learn the most important knowledge they need. *By giving priority to certain standards, teachers can give in-depth instruction and target their support.*

Next year, our teachers will reflect on this year's prioritization work and use what is known as the “**power standards**” to take that work to the next level.

Teachers across the district are eager to explore what is known as “articulation” across the grades and subject areas. Secondary teachers Michelle Pracher, Maya Argano, and Daria Resnick, with the help of HMS Assistant Principal Dr. Karen Russo, for example, spent much of their time on this year's math committee trying to discern what those key, core, learning needs are in our secondary math program, especially considering what students will need to be ready for the coming year. As we continue this work, focusing on power standards will enable focused articulation discussions, district wide.



ABOVE: This image is an example of **READINESS**, how skills build on one another and are necessary for continuous learning.

**The criteria for choosing power standards are: endurance, leverage, and readiness.**

**Endurance** means the learning goes beyond one course, such as citing evidence to support claims. **Leverage** means that the learning applies to other subjects such as interdisciplinary learning. **Readiness** means that the learning will be necessary for the next class.

“New Jersey has what is known as “anchor” standards, such as, “Explain how specific illustrations and images (e.g., a diagram showing how a machine works) contribute to and clarify a text.” The Common Core identifies math standards such “Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving the four operations with rational numbers.” Linkit! (our data warehousing and analysis source) has identified power standards for ELA and math. For other subjects like history and physical education, teacher

teams can collaboratively identify power standards by agreeing on those standards we emphasize in value and frequency. Then we will use those chosen power standards to focus our curriculum, instruction, and assessments to help all of our students achieve them.

This important work is another essential example of our commitment to **contemporary teaching and learning**, one of the district's three primary goals.

### COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AGREEMENT APPROVED

On June 10, 2021, the Haddonfield Board of Education unanimously approved the collective negotiations agreement with the Haddonfield Education Association for 2021 through 2024. The board action followed the association's ratification of the agreement on June 2, 2021. The agreement provides for a salary increase of 3.15% for teachers and staff for the next three years and provides for other changes and updates to better enable the district to accomplish its short and long term goals.

This is the first time in several decades that the board and the association successfully negotiated, ratified, and approved a contract prior to the expiration of the current agreement. It is a result of the strong commitment of both parties to the continued success of the district. Superintendent Klaus, Dr. Priolo, Rachel Gould, and Sean Sweeney deserve a lion's share of the credit for the beneficial and timely resolution.

## OFFICES CLOSED

June							July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### DISTRICT TO CLOSE WEEK OF JUNE 28TH

All Haddonfield School District offices will be closed for the week of June 28th through July 2nd. Monday, July 5th is a national holiday; offices will reopen Tuesday, July 6th at 7:30 a.m. For time-sensitive questions, [please submit this form](#). Thank you.

**Tip!**

### MONTHLY ANXIETY TIP\*

*Sometimes a child's anxiety is so intense that s/he might benefit from outside help from a psychologist or counselor.*

If you are concerned that your child's anxiety may warrant professional intervention, ask yourself the following questions:

- Are regular coping strategies insufficient to help with anxiety?
- Is anxiety getting in the way at home, school, or with friends?
- Is anxiety causing the child and/or family a lot of distress?

If the answer to one or more of these questions is yes, your family may benefit from the input of a mental health professional. When seeking mental health services for an anxious child, keep in mind that Cognitive Behavioral Therapy or CBT is considered by many to be the gold-standard, first-step of intervention.

When looking for a therapist some helpful questions to ask are:

- Have you treated children with X problem?
- For how long do you usually see clients?
- Do you use evidence-based treatments?
- Will you provide a treatment plan?
- Did your training include supervised experience?

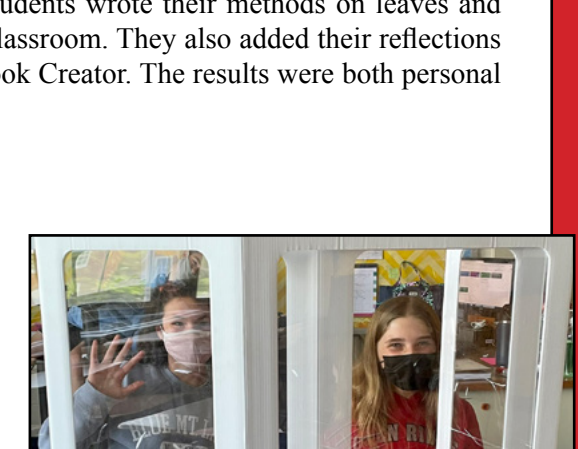
At the end of the day, trust your instinct in choosing the mental health services that are best for your family.

*\* These tips come to us from Lara Rifkin and Kate Phillips, two Ph.D. candidates from Temple's clinical psychology program who have been working as counselors one day per week in our schools since October.*

## END-OF-YEAR PROJECTS

### HMHS POETRY WINNERS

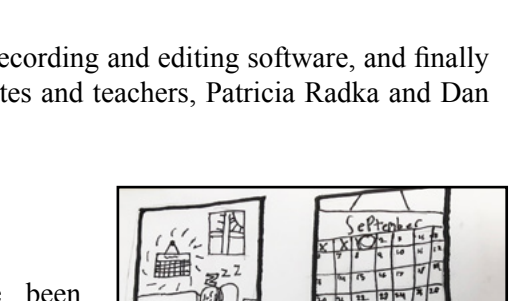
Teacher Julia Smart announced that the Walt Whitman Association honored seniors Payton Weiner and Daniel Cavanna with high school poetry awards for their original poems. Payton's poem “A Letter to My Best Friend” won second place in the 2021 Walt Whitman High School Poetry contest, and Danny's poem “I Inhale” earned honorable mention. Payton and Danny attended the award ceremony at Whitman's grave in Harleigh Cemetery in Camden, May 26th. [Read their poems here.](#)



### HMS STUDENT PROJECTS

#### Students Find Their Separate Peace

HMS eighth-graders in Annette Sanchirico's classes recently read “A Separate Peace” (Knowles). They considered the way the characters in the book had to find their own peace during WWII, and then applied what they'd learned to their own lives during the pandemic. How did they find their own kind of peace while isolated from friends and family, living through a stressful period of time and attending school remotely? The students wrote their methods on leaves and added them to a Peace Tree in Sanchirico's classroom. They also added their reflections and connections to an original book using Book Creator. The results were both personal and powerful.



#### Students Create Podcasts

HMS seventh-graders have been creating their own podcasts for ELA (English Language Arts). A true “passion project,” the podcasts' topics vary greatly and represent the students' personal interests.

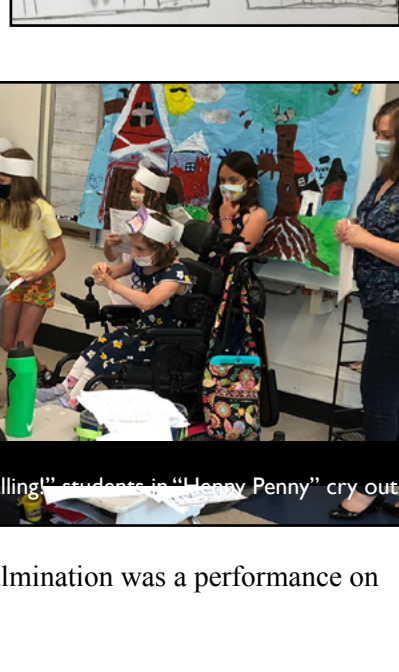


Creating these podcasts is a great example of Project-Based Learning (PBL), a teaching method in which students learn by actively engaging in real-world and personally meaningful projects. Working individually or with partners, students completed research, interviewed people, wrote scripts, integrated recording and editing software, and finally shared their completed podcasts with classmates and teachers, Patricia Radka and Dan Knighton.

### ELEMENTARY STUDENT PROJECTS

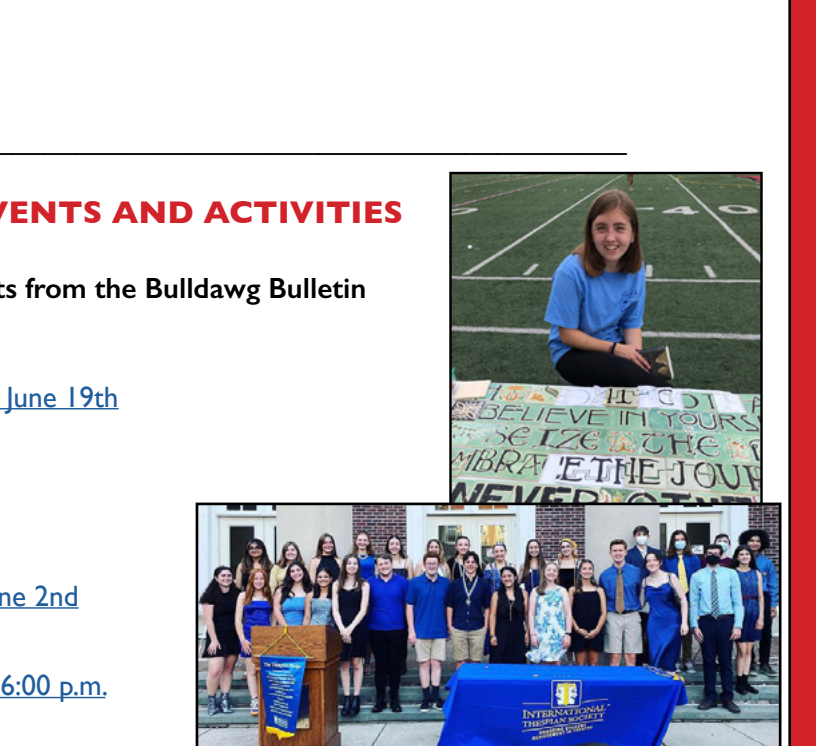
#### Fifth-Graders Complete Graphic Novels

Fifth-graders at Central Elementary have been working hard on graphic novels, a new unit with their teacher, Cindy Rogers. The students had to develop a story first, using techniques they have been studying all year about good writing habits. Later they learned about what makes a great graphic novel from online experts. And finally they examined their own stories to add drawings and other visual effects. WOWZER! These are turning out GRRRRRRREAT!!!



#### Students Present Readers' Theater

Students in Christina Parady's and Aaron Wolf's second-grade class have been working very hard to produce four plays based on books they have read. Working in small reading groups, they were assigned a part to play and given a script to read.



They made costumes and painted set backdrops. The culmination was a performance on Monday, June 14th. They performed:

- Henny Penny
- Aladdin
- The Big Turnip
- Pinocchio

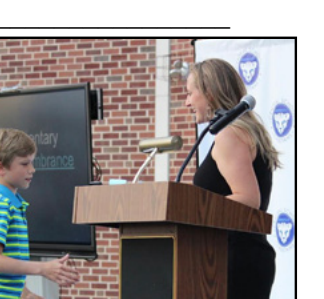
Congratulations to all!

## END-OF-YEAR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### HMHS News and Events from the Bulldawg Bulletin

[Wellness Day May 20th](#)

[Juneteenth Celebration - June 19th](#)



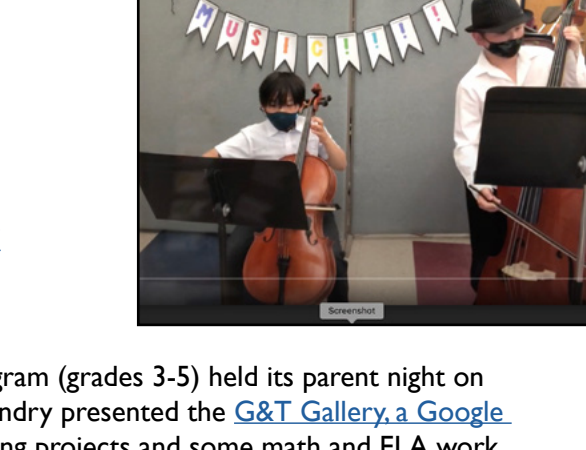
### HMHS VIDEOS

[Promenade - May 27th](#)

[Senior Awards Night - June 2nd](#)

[HMHS Graduation](#)

[Live Streamed June 17th 6:00 p.m.](#)

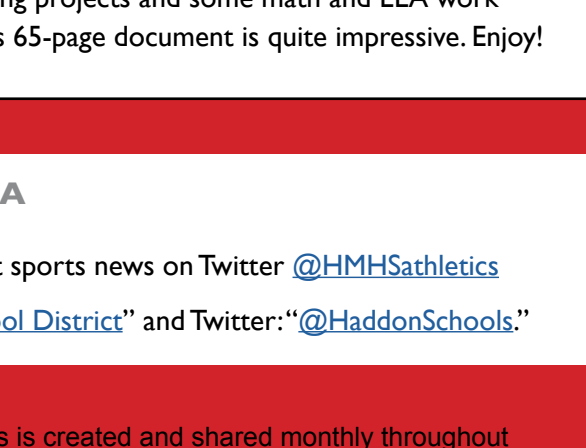


### HMHS PHOTOS (to RIGHT)

HMHS Arts in the Stadium - June 4th

Thesbian Society Induction - June 7th

Concert Choir - June 9th



### HMS EVENTS

[HMS Award Event](#) - June 8th

[HMS Musical Tribute](#) - June 14th

[HMS Promotion Event](#) - June 18th, 6:00 p.m. at the HMHS Stadium



### ELEMENTARY FIFTH-GRADE CEREMONIES

[Central \(photo to RIGHT\)](#)

[Lizzy Slide Show](#)

[Lizzy Program](#)

[Tatem Slide Show](#)

[Tatem Program](#)



### ELEMENTARY INSTRUMENTAL CONCERTS

[Central Video](#)

[Central Program](#)

[Lizzy Video](#)

[Lizzy Program](#)

[Tatem Video](#)

[Tatem Program](#)



### ELEMENTARY CHORAL CONCERT

[Elementary students sing "Count on Me"](#)

### ELEMENTARY G&T GALLERY

The elementary Gifted and Talented program (grades 3-5) held its parent night on Tuesday, June 15th. G&T teacher Deb Landry presented the [G&T Gallery](#) a Google slide presentation of the students' yearlong projects and some math and ELA work from the third trimester. Take a look: this 65-page document is quite impressive. Enjoy!

## FOLLOW us on SOCIAL MEDIA

HMHS ATHLETICS: Keep up with great sports news on Twitter [@HMHSathletics](#)

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

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.

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