



HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE”

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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Community Relations Committee Meeting

5:30 PM - September 20, 2022

High School Media Center or Google Meet

In attendance virtually: Ms. Zhang, Mr. Wall, Mr. Reddy, Mr. Hammer (left at 5:45), Dr. Cascone

I. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

A. 8th Grade Student Exit Survey

- **Questions**
- **Responses**
- **Graph Format**

The committee reviewed the results of the eighth grade exit survey for students opting to attend the county vocational high schools. The survey was put together and distributed by Principal Loughran. Overarching takeaways were discussed as was the plan to address and speak to these ideas at the October 13 high school open house.

B. District Bussing

Dr. Cascone reported that while many of the issues and complications with district busing have improved, he would be meeting on Wednesday, September 21 with the business and transportation departments to review ongoing issues, as well as develop a set of action steps to work towards improvement. Dr. Cascone further shared that he would be communicating out to the parent community on Thursday, September 22 in this regard.

C. High School Open House-October 13

Dr. Cascone shared the general plans for the October 13 high school open house which will feature various stations at which teachers and students will present content, as well as testimonials. Dr. Cascone also mentioned that a promotional video will be released in close proximity to the open house and be utilized as part of a concerted and cohesive public relations campaign including a press release.

D. Health Education Town Hall-October 3

We discussed the plan for the October 3 health education Town hall at which the district Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Irwin will provide an in-depth presentation for parents on the recently revised health education curriculum. This curriculum will be adopted in October and is slated for implementation starting at the end of marking period two at the middle school and largely in the third and fourth marking periods for the other grades.

E. BOE Candidates Night-October 25

Dr. Cascone shared information with regard to the Board of Education candidates night which is being organized and hosted by the executive boards of the schools parent and teacher associations. The parent organizations will be utilizing the high school auditorium as permit holders. Dr. Cascone reiterated that district communication channels would not be used to advertise or communicate the event.

II. OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Policy #1511- Board of Education Website Accessibility

Dr. Cascone reiterated that this policy underwent a first reading at the last board meeting and would be adopted by the board at the September 28 meeting. He asked the committee to make a final review in the event that they had any additional questions or recommended edits and feedback.

B. September 1st Meet and Greet with Mrs. Barrett and Farese

Dr. Cascone shared details with the committee with regard to the meet and greet which was held on September 1 for incoming Village principal Mrs. Trish Barrett and assistant principal Ms. Alicia Farese. Dr. Cascone reported

that the event was extremely well attended, ice cream was provided by the food service providers Chartwells, District physical education teachers provided childcare and entertainment while parents attended the informational presentation. Mrs. Barrett will officially start in the district on September 28.

III. ITEMS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

We discussed the utilization of the Qualtrics survey software. Dr. Cascone indicated that a survey was currently under development to the parent community soliciting feedback on the opening of schools and would be distributed to the community by the end of the month.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 @ 5:30pm