



# GARNET NEWS

Haddon Heights Public Schools Newsletter from Superintendent Michael W. Adams March/April 2020

## STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

In January, Ms. Judith Wilson, Strategic Planning Facilitator, met with all the co-chairs and Mr. Adams regarding the development of the action plans for each of the four goals. Ms. Wilson then met with each set of co-chairs about their goal specifically and distributed/discussed a template to use for the action plans. The final product is designated to be completed no later than April 30th. Since the beginning of January the action teams, comprised of staff members and administration, have been working extremely hard researching best practices and instructional strategies in order to develop action steps for each goal.

## CONGRATULATIONS GARNETS SWIM TEAM

The Haddon Heights High School Swim Team won the South Jersey Interscholastic Swim League Arctic Division Championship! In addition to their division championship, they finished with an 11 - 1 record! Pictured below are two action shots.



**Richard Vassell**



**Emily Parkinson**

## SIXTH GRADE EVENT FOR BARRINGTON, HADDON HEIGHTS, LAWNSIDE, AND MERCHANTVILLE STUDENTS

Staff members and administration from Barrington, Haddon Heights, Lawnside, and Merchantville school districts recently met to organize this year's sixth grade event. This event gives the sixth grade students from all four districts an opportunity to enjoy a day of team building and social interactions with their future high school classmates. This year's event will be held in Lawnside on April 2nd. Last year's event was a huge success and was hosted by Barrington.

### *Mission Statement*

*The Haddon Heights Public Schools, in collaboration with our students, families, and communities, will provide diverse and challenging learning experiences in a safe and nurturing environment with the goal of developing creative, successful lifelong learners. We strive to cultivate learning communities that promote the building of character which will enable our students to contribute to their communities in meaningful and positive ways.*

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## HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### COURSE SELECTION TIME

The junior high school and senior high school Program of Studies was emailed to parents and guardians on February 12th. The documents can be found in the Jr./Sr. High School Student Services menu on the Jr./Sr. High School website. Students currently in 8th-11th grade should review the high school Program of Studies with their parents/guardians and begin to develop ideas of courses they would like to select. The students will then be meeting individually with their guidance counselor to further review their course selections. Parents/guardians will then need to sign off on their student's selections before submitting their choices. Listed below is a list of our high school advanced placement and dual credit courses. Additional information can be found in the high school Program of Studies.

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

The following advanced placement courses are offered at the high school:

AP Language and Composition	AP US History 2
AP Literature and Composition	AP Spanish
AP Biology	AP European History
AP Chemistry	AP Psychology
AP Physics	AP Microeconomics*
AP Calculus	AP Macroeconomics*
AP Statistics	AP Environmental Science*
AP US History 1	AP US Government and Politics*

\*denotes online course through Apex learning

Although unlikely, all courses are subject to change depending on different scheduling variables.

### DUAL CREDIT COURSES

The following dual credit courses are offered at the high school:

Spanish 3 Honors	AP Biology
Spanish 4 Honors	AP Chemistry
French 3 Honors	AP Language & Composition
French 4 Honors	US History II
Statistics	Honors Italian III
AP Statistics	Honors Italian IV
AP Calculus	AP Physics

Although unlikely, all courses are subject to change depending on different scheduling variables.

The Camden County College High School Plus Program, also known as the Dual Credit Program, is offered to any student attending a high school that has a dual credit agreement with Camden County College. The program is offered to high school students in select AP or Honors classes who would like to earn freshman level college credit before high school graduation. The credits obtained in the High School Plus Program are transferable to any New Jersey college. Haddon Heights teachers who participate in Camden County's High School Plus Program have completed coursework towards their professorship certificate from Camden County College, which allows them to teach college level classes. Applications for the High School Plus Program are available in the Student Services Office.

### CONGRATULATIONS JULIANNA!

Congratulations to Julianna Oppermann, Haddon Heights High School sophomore! Julianna's essay was chosen as an honoree in the category of Constance Baker Motley for a state essay contest. Over 500 essays were submitted and Julianna is one of ten students in the state to receive this award. Pictured to the right is Julianna with her Social Studies teacher, Mr. Chambers, at the awards ceremony.



## HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### MALCOM BERNARD HBCU COLLEGE FAIR

Some Haddon Heights High School seniors attended the 21st annual Malcom Bernard HBCU College Fair. Preparation began in May of 2018 when Ms. Michele Mendenhall, Supervisor of Pupil Services/Guidance, registered Haddon Heights for the HBCU Fair. In addition to registering for the HBCU Fair, seniors interested in attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities were given applications for the New Jersey Amistad Commission's Rising Scholars Award and scholarship programs. Seniors were assisted in the completion of applications by their Guidance Counselors and the Supervisor of Pupil Services/Guidance.

On the day of the Malcom Bernard HBCU Fair, twenty-two Haddon Heights High School seniors attended the event at the BB&T Center in Camden. At the end of the Fair, fifteen of our seniors reported college admission to over 40 different historically black colleges and universities. A few of the HBCU's to which seniors received admissions include: Bethune Cookman College, Bowie State University, Bennet College, Delaware State University, Norfolk State University, North Carolina A&T University, Morgan State University, Tuskegee University, and Virginia State University. In addition to on the spot college admissions, students who were accepted into the NJ Rising Scholars Program were also recognized. This year, I am very proud to announce that we had seven seniors who were accepted into the NJ Rising Scholars Program!

### STUDENTS PROGRAMMING MINI ROBOTS

Under the direction of Ms. Gravener, Jr./Sr. High School Business teacher, students at the high school are learning coding. Pictured to the right, the students are programming their Sphero Bolt Robots to roll in a certain direction, flash colors, and make noises. They were also given specific challenges to complete. For example, students had to code a robot to travel in a line over a ramp and return. This requires students to plan and solve problems when the robots don't perform up to expectations. The students enjoyed programming the robots and the challenges they were given.



### CONGRATULATIONS OLIVIA, REAGAN, ELIZABETH, AND SOPHIA!

Congratulations to (pictured left to right below) Olivia Falasca, Reagan Kluchnick, Elizabeth Karns, and Sophia Bianco who successfully auditioned and performed with the All-South Jersey Honors Chorus!



## HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

# garrets

CHEERLEADERS, STEP TEAM  
& BOARD GAME CLUB

At the Haddon Heights High School basketball games, you may have seen our amazing cheerleaders and step team. Under the direction of their coach, Ms. Goodman, they collectively bring spirit and enthusiasm to the games. Both squads are so talented and perform tremendous routines. Pictured below are both squads.

### CHEERLEADERS



### STEP TEAM



### BOARD GAME CLUB

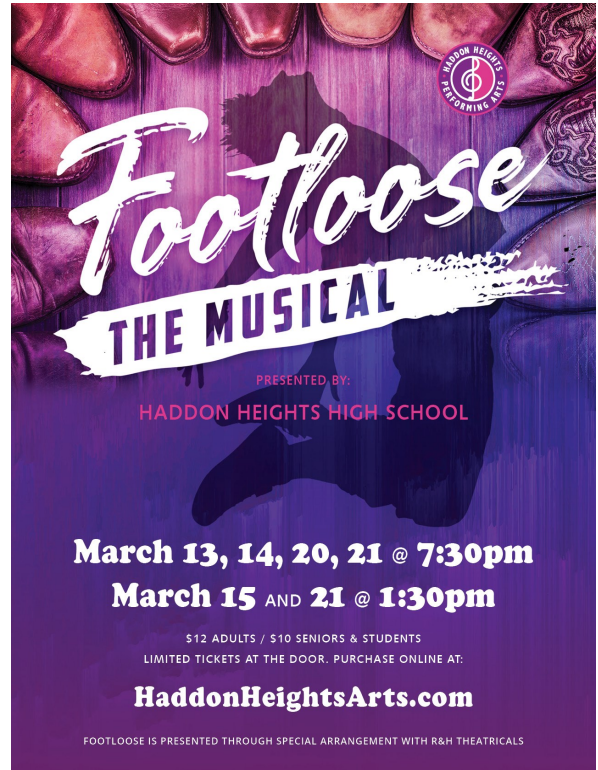
Mr. Bond, our Jr./Sr. High School Media Specialist, has created a Board Game Club for the students to participate in this year. The club meets a few times a month and students have expressed their excitement in getting together for some fun competition. Pictured below are some of the members during a recent meeting.



## HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### OUTSTANDING ART WORK!

In one of Mr. Smargisso's art classes at the high school, students designed and created an animal spirit totem pole, which is on display in the high school media center.



### GARNETS ECOLOGY CLUB

On February 11th, the Garnets Ecology club members visited Lincoln Financial field to learn about their 'Green' initiatives and their Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. Pictured to the left are the club members and their advisor, Ms. Maunz, that attended the trip.

### ABILITY AWARENESS

This year we continued our efforts to celebrate "Ability Awareness". This year's theme is "Choose to Include". Mrs. Renner, Special Education Director, and Mr. Clark, Special Education Teacher, met with some students to review the results of a recent student survey that asked Jr./Sr. High School students to identify words that describe inclusivity to them and the meaning of inclusion in their own words. Mr. Rosen, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, and Mr. Renner, high school Assistant Principal, also attended to provide input. The survey results provided much needed input to support the development of an Inclusion Pledge. The group developed a pledge that they felt represented the views and belief system of the school. Listed below is the pledge.

#### Inclusion Pledge:

Because we are a school that strives to create a more inclusive environment for people of all backgrounds, identities, and abilities without fear of judgment,

We choose not to marginalize, discriminate and exclude.

We, instead, pledge to value and embrace our differences in order to promote acceptance and equity, encourage expression, and take action through the power of inclusion to ultimately create a school environment in which we all belong.

The group looks forward to sharing the pledge in the near future. Some staff and students will be creating and sharing short videos that share how they choose to include or describes what inclusion means to them!

# JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

7th Grade ELA - Students finished up their study of *A Christmas Carol* by learning and reviewing the rules of dialogue and writing narrative stories based on a missing scene from the story. They also worked on grammar through lessons on subjects, verbs, parts of speech, and objects (direct, indirect, and prepositions). Students began their research papers by learning the research process using notecards and MLA style to research current issues.

8th Grade ELA - Students examined the different classifications of adjectives, ranging from predicate adjectives to proper adjectives and their usage in writing and grammar. Students examined and reviewed the concepts of allusion and hermeneutics in both culture and literature in Dahl's short story "The Lamb to the Slaughter". Also, students were annotating and applying literary terms to Jacobs's short story "The Monkey's Paw". Students applied Freytag's Pyramid to the story using previous and current knowledge concerning the three theoretical aspects of fate, free will, and the Greek ideal. Students were introduced to the various discourses of satire, its function, and its four methods: exaggeration, parody, incongruity/juxtaposition, and diminution. Students examined and applied the literary concepts of anachronism, the discourses of satire in writing, and various types of character models in Vonnegut, Jr.'s "Harrison Bergeron". Students were introduced to Latin/Greek Roots from -sanct to -hum.

7th Grade Math - Students began the month of January by solving and graphing two-step inequalities and word problems. Soon after they reviewed and took the unit test on expression, equations and inequalities. Next, we reviewed all topics covered so far this year including rational number operations, simplifying expressions, and solving multi-step equations, inequalities, and word problems. Students then moved on to the next unit on ratios, rates, percent and proportions. So far in this unit, students have looked at writing ratios, rates, unit rates, and finding the constant of proportionality given in an equation, table or graph. Next, students moved on to solving proportions and creating proportions given real world applications. Looking forward, the classes will begin to look at scale models and similar figures as proportional relationships. Then classes will look at percent equations, and calculating tax, tip, discount and simple interest.

8th Grade Math - Classes kicked off the month of January with the study of linear functions. Students began by examining relations, developing an understanding of domain and range and their relationship with independent and dependent variables. Then classes were introduced the concept of functions into the mix, practicing ways to differentiate between relations and functions. Finally students narrowed their focus to linear functions, beginning with graphing linear functions using tables and working towards developing the concepts of rate of change/slope. Using their understanding of slope and linear functions, students will continue their study by examining different forms of linear equations, such as slope-intercept form, standard form, and equations of vertical and horizontal lines. In February classes wrapped up their study of linear functions and moved on to systems of linear equations. So far in February students have studied two methods for solving systems of linear equations, graphing and substitution. In the coming weeks classes will learn our final method, elimination, and place a heavy emphasis on using systems to model and solve real life problems.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to (pictured left to right)  
Maya Barger, Aidan Sirman,  
Sofia DiCostanzo and Charles Flynn for  
being selected to participate in the Camden  
County Middle School Honor Band!



# JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

7th Grade Life Science - In January, the seventh graders continued their study of cell part structure and function. Our next unit was on Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration. We then began a unit on Human Organ Systems. Students learned the names and functions of 10 different organ systems. We then focused on the human circulatory system.

8th Grade Science - During the early portion of January the students continued their exploration of the electromagnetic spectrum. The classes were able to describe and differentiate between multiple different levels of EM energy, in addition to, investigating some of their modern day applications. This time period was punctuated by a Frequency Lab experience where the pupils modeled EM waves of varying wavelength and frequency in order to make predictions about their rate of travel and energy contained. Immediately following this cycle of physical science, we switched gears and focused on environmental science standards. The first unit involved identifying evidence of common ancestry among organisms in conjunction with natural selection. Classes explored multiple examples of physical evidence that suggest and validate ancestral relationships between organisms.

7th Grade Social Studies - The 7th Grade Social Studies classes have been learning about the history and culture of Ancient Greece. They reviewed its geography and the cultures that influenced its early history, and analyzed the various types of governments which the Greeks tried. As the classes learned about Athens and Sparta, they looked to compare and contrast the two city-states and their characteristics with those of America. War and friendship were other themes explored in class, and students analyzed their causes and effects. When the classes learned about Alexander, they acted as juries to determine whether he was truly “great”. Finally, the 7th graders learned about the various cultural connections between Ancient Greece and today’s world (architecture, government, literature, theater, sports, philosophy, science, and medicine) and concluded that in many aspects, the Greeks were ahead of their time.

8th Grade Social Studies – The EGSS (Eighth Grade Social Studies) scholars ended the second quarter by investigating the lawmaking process of our federal government, as well as the oversight power of Congress with a focus on the impeachment process. Scholars first created flowcharts to demonstrate the lawmaking process, and then videos on the application, Flipgrid, to teach others how a bill becomes a law. Classes read an article about the current impeachment issue, and used the “Question Formulation Technique” to devise questions about the impeachment process that we wanted to answer.

The end of January brought the Congress unit test. Then it was on to quarter three. The EGSS scholars have shifted gears from government to geography and history with a focus on the United States in the 19th Century. Classes are currently analyzing historical maps by creating “Window Notes” to reveal the stories they tell. Students will continue to investigate the growth of the United States, the causes and effects, costs and benefits, etc. At press time, the scholars will be pitching technological innovations in the style of TV’s “Shark Tank”. They will be trying to convince “investors” to take a chance on an invention that will help settle the West.

## JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Ms. Kendra, Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, Mr. Ricci, Head Boys Varsity Basketball Coach, and Mr. Purdy, Head Boys Freshman Basketball Coach, created a Junior High basketball tournament called the Garnet Cup with Haddon Heights, Barrington, Lawnside, and Merchantville. The event allowed for players from all four districts to play games together and enjoy a pizza party. There were a total of 8 basketball games played throughout the tournament, with the Woodland Girls and Boys Teams winning the Garnet Cup.



# JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

## SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE COURSE SELECTIONS

Students currently in sixth and seventh grade that reside in Haddon Heights should review the junior high Program of Studies with their parents/guardians that was emailed on February 12th. On April 21st, Mr. Martin, junior high school Assistant Principal, will be holding a scheduling meeting for parents/guardians of current sixth and seventh grade students. You will be receiving more information on this topic from Mr. Martin in the future.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### JUNIOR HIGH WRESTLERS

On Saturday, February 8th the 2020 junior high school wrestling Colonial Conference tournament was held at Paulsboro High School. We are proud to announce that this year our Haddon Heights junior high team finished with two champions, Dominic Azzari at 105 lbs. and Joshua DelGozzo at 115 lbs., two second place finishes, Cole Denning at 75 lbs. and Parker Banks at 95 lbs., and one third place finisher Liam Wikberg at 110 lbs.

Pictured left to right:  
Cole Denning, Dominic Azzari, Joshua DelGozzo, Parker Banks, and Liam Wikberg.



## JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Haddon Heights Junior High School is presenting *Legally Blonde, Jr.* for our 2nd annual musical. Auditions for this musical will be held on April 6th, 2020 at 3:30 pm at the high school. All interested students should follow the steps on the informational email sent out in February to sign up for those auditions. Performance dates are May 30th, 2020 at 7 pm and May 31st, 2020 at 3 pm.

HADDON HEIGHTS JUNIOR HIGH PRESENTS

# LEGALLY BLONDE

*The Musical*  2020



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### Elementary Math

The Kindergarten mathematicians learned about addition and subtraction. They have been learning about plus and minus signs and when to use them, and also practicing writing many addition and subtraction sentences. The first grade mathematicians have been working to gain a deeper understanding of place value. They focused on how to use place value to model, read, and write numbers up to 120. Then they explored how to use place value to compare 2-digit numbers. In addition to mastering their addition and subtraction facts, the second grade mathematicians discovered various strategies for adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers, with the primary focus on regrouping. The third grade mathematicians have been working daily to build their fact fluency for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division by using the Reflex program. Not only do the students look forward to Reflex math each day, they are building their fact power at an amazing pace. The fourth grade mathematicians are also learning about fractions, but their goal is to add and subtract fractions with like denominators. The fifth grade mathematicians are also adding and subtracting fractions. However, they are given fractions with unlike denominators. Not only do the students need to find common denominators, but they also need to regroup and simplify the sums and differences. And finally, the sixth grade mathematicians have started their study of algebra, with an emphasis on writing, interpreting, and using algebraic expressions.

### Elementary ELA

All of the students in grades kindergarten through sixth have set personal goals for themselves, shown perseverance, and worked with stamina while taking the Winter MAP assessment. They have shown a lot of progress in the areas of reading and language and should be proud. Kindergartners are starting to put all of their decoding strategies to work when sounding out tough words and are busy making connections, predictions, and asking questions before, during, and after reading to help strengthen their understanding of texts. In first grade students have been using touch spelling and tracing strategies to read and write about fiction and nonfiction books during Guided Reading. Students are taking off with their sight word knowledge and are recognizing their personal sight words in the texts we have been reading. Second graders have been making predictions, inferences, and identifying cause and effect relationships in a variety of texts. Our third graders are experts on first and third person point of view, as well as comparing their perspectives with the author's perspective on certain nonfiction topics. Currently they are diving into biographies and finding out information about the subject's character, struggles, and the time period that they lived in. Fourth graders have been involved in an author study of Andrew Clements, while visualizing, inferring, and identifying character traits using evidence from the text. In 5th grade, students have been exploring different points of view with three amazing books, and completing fun selfie projects to represent the main character's thoughts and feelings along the way! In sixth grade students have been working on making inferences in reading and in writing they have been working on Literary Analysis.

### Bucket Drumming in Music Class

Pictured below is a group of 5th grade students engaged in Bucket Drumming during Mr. Whitescarver's music class. The students learned rhythm reading skills (8th and 16th notes) and snare drum technique.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

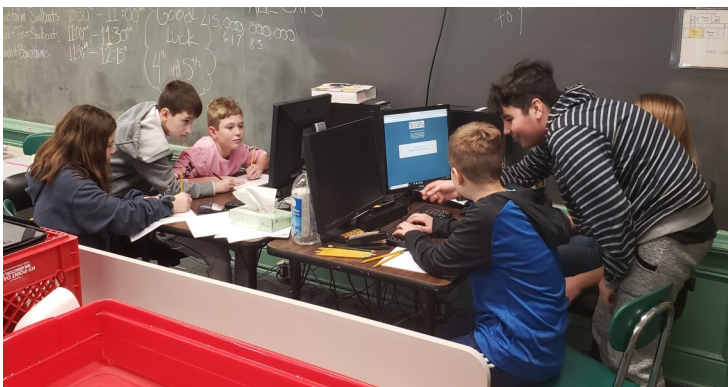
### 100th DAY CELEBRATION!

There were many 100th Day of School celebrations throughout the elementary schools in February. Some classes celebrated by pairing classes with different grade levels to work on challenges. Pictured to the right is one of the challenges where students engaged in an activity where each pair needed to use 100 Lego pieces to build a free standing design, which could not lean on anything or be supported by anything or anyone. The goal was to see which group could create the tallest design. Some pairs built structures that were three feet tall! Partners had to also write about how they chose their design. Next, they measured and recorded the height and width, and then sorted and graphed the Legos by color. So many pairs revised their design and kept trying different strategies to make the tallest structure possible. Not only did students experience a STEAM approach to learning, but they also successfully collaborated with a partner from a different grade level!



### ACADEMIC CHALLENGE ENRICHMENT (ACE)

Our six graders that are a part of the ACE program competed in the NJ State Math Championship hosted by Perennial Math. One of our 6th grade teams placed 3rd in the state in the competition! They put their mathematical skills to the test and almost earned a spot in the national championship! Pictured below are some of the students working on the challenges.



### CHINESE NEW YEAR

Ms. Ellis' second grade class celebrated the Chinese New Year. To kick start the celebration, the students enjoyed a catered lunch donated by Classic Asia. The celebration brought many firsts for some of the children: using chopsticks, tasting new foods, writing a Chinese greeting calendar using Chinese symbols, and exploring the Chinese calendar. Pictured below are some of the students engaging in the celebration.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

### HADDON HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S PARENT TEACHER GROUP (PTG)

We are so lucky to have a PTG that provides the students with so many tremendous opportunities. Listed below is a picture of one of the assemblies they sponsored this year. The title of the assembly was, "Up, Up and Away" presented by Mad Science. There were many demonstrations on air pressure, states of matter, and the Mad Science Hovercraft. Additionally, pictured below are some of the students enjoying the PTG sponsored Valentine's Day dance.



*Up, Up and Away Assembly*



*Valentine's Day Dance*

### VALENTINE STEM CHALLENGE

Ms. Lutz's first grade class recently completed a Valentine STEM challenge! The challenge was Cupid's wings are broken and he needed the first graders to build a boat so he can deliver some love notes (conversation hearts) on Valentine's Day. He's stuck on Love Lake! First, the children had to crack a code. These codes are differentiated so that all students are confident. Once they cracked the code, they used it to help design a boat to deliver the messages.



### GIRL TALK CLUB BLANKET DRIVE

Ms. Peters, Administrative Assistant at Atlantic Avenue School, is the advisor to a club called Girl Talk. The club held a blanket drive in January to help those less fortunate during the winter months. These blankets will be used to help keep others warm! Over 35 blankets were donated! Pictured below are some of the students in the club.



# BOARD OF EDUCATION

## BOARD OF EDUCATION INFORMATION

The day after each Board of Education meeting you can find information on highlights from the meeting and the agenda items that were approved. This information can be found on the district website by selecting the District Info, Board of Education, Board Briefs menus. Listed below are some key points from the February 12, 2020 Board of Education Meeting.

## KEY POINTS FROM THE FEBRUARY 11, 2020 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Presentation from Mr. Scott Barron from Bowman and Company. Mr. Barron discussed the minor delay due to the state releasing certain forms. He mentioned the two audit findings that were on the agenda as well as the Corrective Action Plan to address the two findings. Lastly, he reviewed the financial status of the district. He mentioned the surplus and the different aspects that constitute a surplus. Mr. Adams recognized several staff members for their achievements. Mr. Ormsby recognized three students for their achievement at a math competition.

Mr. Adams introduced Mr. Martin who presented on different items/changes for the junior high school. Mr. Martin discussed the 15 activities in the junior high. He mentioned the different meetings that were held with parents and the development of a School Leadership Team in the school. He outlined the timeline for the process for the scheduling and the different ways the district will be reaching out to parents and students. He is disseminating information regarding the bell schedule and the course schedule. All information has been placed on the new website within the high school page. Mr. Martin showed where the website is located and how to navigate it.

Student Ambassador Report:

The NHS will be participating at the Philabundance Hunger Relief Center. MSU will host a banquet to celebrate food, culture, and history in honor of Black History Month. The ecology club took a trip to Lincoln Financial Field to explore their recycling program and learn more about what the organization is doing to help the environment.

## ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS AT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

At each Board of Education meeting the Superintendent does a presentation for the Board of Education and the public in attendance. Within a few days after the meeting, the PowerPoint presentation can be found on the district website by selecting the District Info, Board of Education, Presentations menus. The presentation at the March Board of Education meeting will be the 2020-2021 preliminary budget update.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

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Lisa Long, Vice President  
Amy Lynch  
Holly McCauley,  
Barrington Representative  
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Merchantville Representative  
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Jane Shissler

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Curriculum  
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Finance  
Negotiations  
Personnel  
Policy  
Property