



# Board Notes

*A Monthly Summary of the Hatboro-Horsham School Board Meetings*

**June 5, 2023**

## Board Members

David P. Brown, President  
Jennifer Wilson, Vice President  
Theresa E. Brown, Treasurer  
Tara Conner-Hallston  
Susan E. Hunsinger-Hoff

Maggie A. Kistner  
Denise J. Schultz  
Erin B. Stroup  
Erin K. Whalen  
Scott Eveslage, Superintendent



## OVERVIEW

*The Board met on June 5 and recognized several Class of 2023 students for their leadership and achievements, in addition to hearing presentations recognizing the 2022-23 Home & School leadership and School Safety (as required by Act 44). The Board also welcomed Timothy Matthews, Director of Accounting and Reporting, and Hope Hague, Director of Financial Services, to the District.*

**View the full Board meeting [here.](#)**

## PRESENTATIONS

### High School Senior Awards & School Board Student Representatives

Dr. Dennis Williams, High School Principal, presented awards in recognition of the following students for their leadership, dedication, and commitment to HHHS and the entire school community:

- **National Merit Scholarship Winners** — Jacob Schwartz, Ella Warden, and Jonathan Weinstein
- **Hat Chat Editors** — Ella Warden and Lillian Wu
- **Hi Hatter Editors** — Cecily Battaglia, Rowan Hall, and McKenzie Kemble
- **HHTV** — Jeremy Tom
- **National Art Honor Society** — Elizabeth Morgan (president)
- **National Honor Society** — Audrey Kim (president)
- **Advisory Board Leadership** — Enaiya Smith
- **Student Council Leadership** — Ethan Cho, Ava Murphy, and Olivia Verdi
- **Student School Board Representatives** — Matt Wingen and Arina Garifullina

### Home & School Association Recognition

Dr. Monica J. Taylor, Assistant Superintendent, recognized the 2022-23 Home & School Association Officers and the books purchased to be donated to their schools' library. Dr. Taylor highlighted their unwavering commitment and valuable contributions to HHSD schools and prioritization of the educational, physical, and emotional welfare of students. The full list of honorees can be viewed on [BoardDocs](#).

## Act 44 School Safety Presentation

Rick Kerrigan, Director of Safety and Security, presented an overview of the 2022-23 safety initiatives as required by Pennsylvania’s Act 44. He emphasized that HHSD’s priority safety goal is “for all HHSD stakeholders to leave the District in the same condition that they arrive in.”

Mr. Kerrigan highlighted capital project improvements including new electronic doors installed in Crooked Billet’s library and STEM room, new digital security cameras at HHHS, multi-camera installation at the high school’s rear turf field, emergency panic buttons connected to Advent Security, and a new visitor management system installation. He also addressed ongoing safety protocols and training taking place in all schools for Run/Hide/Fight, threat assessment, and the Safe2Say tip line. HHSD partners closely with the Hatboro and Horsham police and emergency response personnel, and continued work with MCIU Safety Coordinator Peer Group and HHSD Safe School Committee. Finally, Mr. Kerrigan discussed future initiatives and projects that will be funded by a PCCD grant, including bus garage security, nurse trauma supplies, security system integration, and crisis prevention training.

### SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Eveslage expressed his gratitude to the Home & School Association volunteers for their commitment and support to the District and its students. Dr. Eveslage also extended his appreciation to the graduating Student Board Representatives, Matthew and Arina, for their outstanding service.

Additionally, he highlighted the achievements of the HHHS Softball Team, which advanced to the state tournament by defeating the top-seeded team in District 1. Further recognition will be given to students, including state champions, on June 19. With the end of the year approaching, Dr. Eveslage looks forward to the graduation ceremony on June 12, celebrating the impressive Class of 2023, and to all the end of year celebrations.

Dr. Taylor also recognized the Horsham Rotary Club’s Student of the Month recipients and read their future plans and their selected charity that the Rotary made a donation to in their honor.

## ACTIONS

### Business Office Actions

The Board approved:

- Agreement with The Communication Solutions Group for 2023-24 school year for public relations services, with no increase in rate.
- Tax assessment stipulations between Hatboro-Horsham School District and three commercial properties.
- New order agreement for the District’s multi-function devices for a 60-month term at a monthly cost of \$5,832.00.
- Appointment of Dr. Ryan Thomas to serve as the District’s Federal Programs Coordinator effective July 1, 2023. Dr. Thomas will fill this position following Dr. Taylor’s retirement.
- Ratification of the District’s Flexible Instruction Day (FID) application for three years (2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26) as recommended by the Curriculum Committee and submitted to the Department of Education on June 1, 2023. This will provide HHSD flexibility to offer virtual instruction if the District uses more than two weather emergency days in a given school term.



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## **ACTIONS (CONT'D)**

### **Personnel Actions**

HHSD is pleased to welcome Timothy Matthews, Director of Accounting and Reporting, and Hope Hague, Director of Financial Services. Mr. Matthews joins the District with nearly 30 years of experience working with school districts in the business office, while Ms. Hague has over 20 years of experience working in not-for-profit and school district accountant and leadership roles.

HHSD is also pleased to welcome Michelle Davies, Crooked Billet librarian, and Laura Colussi, Simmons art teacher, to the District. HHSD congratulated Lauraine Lindbloom, Hallowell and Crooked Billet librarian, on her retirement after 33 years of service to the District.

## **Reports**

### **Curriculum Committee**

Susan Hunsinger-Hoff corrected an error from her previous Curriculum Committee Report and said that Ariana Bertrand and Arina Garifullina, Student Board Representatives, gave a presentation on their efforts to ensure inclusivity in health and wellness classes. She also reported that the Curriculum Committee met on May 23 and heard highlights from the year one report from the Music Curriculum Review, which included an overview of the current program and the needs and recommendations for the music curriculum. The committee heard updates to the screening process for incoming kindergarten students and reviewed the changes to the kindergarten program for the 2023-24 school year. Finally, the Committee discussed the Flexible Instruction Day plan, which was approved by the Board on June 5.

### **Facilities Committee**

Jennifer Wilson reported that Keith Valley Middle School held an official groundbreaking for the new middle school on May 24.

### **Policy Committee**

Denise Schultz introduced several policies that were approved as a Second Reading: Policy No. 006, *Meetings*; Policy No. 218.1, *Weapons*; Policy No. 249, *Bullying/Cyberbullying*; and Policy No. 826, *Responsible Contractor Policy*. The Board approved waiving the order of business requirements for regular meetings in Policy No. 006 for the June 19 Legislative Action Meeting to provide the administration with sufficient time to create new meeting templates for BoardDocs for the following legislative action meeting.

### **Eastern Center Arts & Technology**

Jennifer Wilson reported that ECAT held its annual Awards Night on May 24, where 171 students were recognized with over \$47,000 distributed for academic and technical achievements.

### **Federal Programs**

Dr. Taylor reported that HHSD is in the final stages of preparation for its Summer Academy program that will be held at Hallowell Elementary School.

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## Reports (cont'd)

### Montgomery County Intermediate Unit

Jennifer Wilson reported that the MCIU Board recognized five retirees at its last meeting. MCIU is also pleased to be a recipient of an

approximately \$30,000 environmental grant to be used for the creation of an environmental mobile lab.

## HHSD STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Arina Garifullina (Grade 12) reported that the Senior Awards Night will be held on June 8 in the HHHS auditorium. The seniors have been invited to the Senior Bash at Carpenter Park on June 9, following graduation practice, where they can enjoy a BBQ lunch, inflatables, and collect their yearbooks. The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2023 will take place on June 12.

Additionally, on the last day of school, students attended prom in Norristown, and for an extra fee of \$5, seniors had the option to attend post-prom at HHSD. Arina also reported that HHHS hosted its sixth annual Special Olympics on May 23, bringing together around 300 student athletes, as well as 400 staff members and volunteers.

Matthew Wingen (Grade 12) congratulated the HHHS Softball Team on a standout season and advancing to the state playoffs. He also thanked Dr. Eveslage and the School Board for an amazing opportunity to serve as Student Board Representative, adding that he wishes next year's representatives the best of luck.

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## Next Board Meeting

**The next Legislative/Action Meeting is Monday, June 19, 2023, at 7 p.m.**

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*This communication from Hatboro-Horsham School District and its Board of School Directors is meant to be a summary of actions taken at the most recent Board meeting, and is not intended to serve as minutes of the meeting. Materials presented at all meetings are available on BoardDocs and video recordings are also available. For more information on School Board meetings, please visit [www.hatboro-horsham.org/domain/175](http://www.hatboro-horsham.org/domain/175).*