



Board Notes

A Monthly Summary of the Hatboro-Horsham School Board Meetings

June 19, 2023

Board Members

David P. Brown, President	Maggie A. Kistner
Jennifer Wilson, Vice President	Denise J. Schultz
Theresa E. Brown, Treasurer	Erin B. Stroup
Tara Conner-Hallston	Erin K. Whalen
Susan E. Hunsinger-Hoff	Scott Eveslage, Superintendent



OVERVIEW

On June 19, the Board approved the 2023-24 Final Budget and an increase to the District's property tax rebate program. The Board also recognized KVMS 3-year Distinguished Honors students, HHSD state champions, and HHSD 2022-23 retirees.

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

PRESENTATIONS

Keith Valley 3-Year Distinguished Honors Awards

John Ewerth, 8th Grade Assistant Principal, presented the Distinguished Honor Society Awards given to the following students who maintained a straight A average in all subjects for all three years at Keith Valley Middle School: Kennedy Conn, Benjamin DiCola, Brady Edwards, Gabrielle Fisher, Alexander Foster, Anne Fryer, Meadow Gross, Zaara Hakim, Mackenzie Harmon, Lainey Holster, Gianna Ianieri, Jana Kim, Madison Macaluso, Claire McKee, Tanya Mohapatra, Abigail Mundell, Sarah Notarianni, Riley O'Brien, Tyler Pagano, Morgan Rafferty, Maya Ravi, Cora Saxer, Cole Sikina, Madison Smith, Jack Spahits, Natalie Stasio, Cortney Stewart, Mia Szymanik, Amanda Tavares, Lily Walker, Caroline Ward, Matthew Weinstein, and Leah Whittaker.

HHSD State Champions

Charles Cathers, HHHS Director of Athletics and Activities, proudly recognized the following 2022-23 Hatboro-Horsham High School State Champions:

Boys Cross Country

- Brian DiCola

Boys Winter Track

- 3000m Brian DiCola (2nd year in a row)

Boys Track and Field

- 3200m Brian DiCola (PIAA record)

Girls Swimming

- 100m Butterfly: Annie Jia (2nd year in a row)
- 200m Individual Medley: Annie Jia
- 200m Freestyle Relay: Sarah Parker, Emmy Erikson, Annie Jia and Kathy Jia
- 400m Freestyle Relay: Sarah Parker, Emmy Erikson, Annie Jia and Kathy Jia

Indoor Guard

- 2023 MAIN Grand Champion for the Scholastic AA division: Caroline Katz, Chloe Black, Timmy James, Lily Schwartz, Rylei Gorman, Mary Kate Sweeney, and Ellen Moyle.

PRESENTATIONS (CONT'D.)

HHSD 2022-23 Retirees

Dr. Monica J. Taylor recognized the 2022-23 HHSD Retirees, a group of 30 individuals who greatly contributed to the District by generously sharing their time and talents over the years. Dr. Taylor said HHSD is deeply grateful for their unwavering commitment and wish them a healthy and joyful retirement.

2023-24 Final Budget Presentation

Bill Stone, Director of Business Affairs, presented the Final 2023-24 Budget and highlighted budget priorities in the areas of competitive compensation, student achievement, and financing for the KVMS project. Dr. Eveslage commented on the District's careful and consistent approach regarding the budget process, noting that the District has never exceeded the Act 1 index, leading to a strong financial position and a good credit rating. The budget being presented maintains programming for students, low class sizes, and demonstrates efficient staffing utilization. The final budget is balanced, with projected revenues of \$123.9 million and projected expenditures of \$126.7 million. The proposed real estate tax increase of 3.68%, or 1.16 mills, will generate \$2.9 million. The budget recommendation also includes a significant increase to the District's senior citizen rebate program. Starting July 1, 2023, the District will now match the rebate provided by the state up to 50% for qualifying homeowners. Residents can get more information about the rebate from [the District's website](#).

ACTIONS

Business Office Actions

The Board approved:

- 2023-24 Final General Fund Budget.
- 2023-24 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution. The credit for 2023-24 is \$388.67.
- Resolution for establishing rates of discount and penalties on the payment of School Real Estate Taxes for the 2023-24 Fiscal Year.
- An increase to the District's Property Tax Rebate Program. The Pennsylvania Property Tax/Rent Rebate program is a state-administered program that provides tax rebates to eligible homeowners and renters with household income less than \$35,000 (homeowners) and \$15,000 (renters). The HHSD program, adopted in 2021-22, will piggyback the state program by providing an additional rebate of 50% to increase the maximum total rebate per qualified applicant to \$325.
- Establishment of the following categories of committed fund balance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.
- Use of purchasing cooperatives for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- Insurance renewals for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- Revised agreements with Substitute Teacher Service, Inc. effective for the 2023-24 fiscal year.
- Credit change order for the KVMS project in the amount of \$228,375 for a change to classroom whiteboard design.
- Allowance adjustment for the KVMS project in the amount of \$65,000 for the remaining removal of unsuitable soils in the building pad.



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ACTIONS (CONT'D)

- Ratification of the Athletic Training Services Agreements with Moss Rehab/ Einstein at Elkins Park for Keith Valley Middle School and the High School for the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 school years.
- Montgomery County Intermediate Unit (MCIU) 2023-24 Copier Paper Bid.

The Board approved a one-year renewal of a professional service agreement with Marc Greenberg for Human Resource and Business Office financial support services, administrative salary adjustments for the 2023-24 fiscal year, and a revision to the support staff compensation model.

Personnel Actions

HHSD is pleased to welcome Jennifer Kosoy, technology education teacher at KVMS, and Maria D'Agostino, mathematics teacher at KVMS, to the District.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Eveslage congratulated the HHSD state champions, KVMS distinguished honors students, and the HHSD retirees. He also recognized HHHS senior Audrey Kim who was a PMEA all-state musician in the jazz choir. Dr. Eveslage announced that HHSD Student Board Representatives Harper Sirine and Ariana Bertrand will be returning next year, with Class of 2025 representatives to join the Board in July. Crooked Billet will be offering free lunches to school-aged children (0-18 years old) starting on June 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Further communication regarding this program will be shared with the community soon, and residents are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity.

Dr. Eveslage congratulated and recognized the Class of 2023 who graduated on June 13. While every class is special, Dr. Eveslage noted that the Class of 2023's 361 Hatter graduates was highly accomplished, with 87% of the class enrolled in a formal post-secondary education program, while 10% have entered the workforce or apprenticeship programs. Additionally, 3% have chosen to serve in the armed services, military academies, or universities through the ROTC Program. The Class of 2023 also included three National Merit Finalists and six National Merit Commended Scholars, while also demonstrating a high pass rate of 89% on the national certification test for ECAT students. The class earned \$7.3 million in scholarships, and 26 student athletes will be competing in collegiate athletics. The class had an average GPA of 3.21 and an average SAT score of 1120. Notably, they achieved an outstanding 81% pass rate on the AP exams.

Reports

Curriculum Committee

Susan Hunsinger-Hoff reported that Dr. Ryan Thomas presented the bi-annual staff professional development report, and Dr. Monica Taylor presented the bi-annual field trip report. Dr. David Weber also provided a brief update on the social studies curriculum review.

Facilities Committee

Jennifer Wilson reported that the Facilities Committee heard an update from the construction manager on the KVMS project. Ongoing work includes the placement of stone for the building pad, excavation of wall and column footings and underground electrical utilities, and rough ins for plumbing systems. The committee also reviewed the allowance adjustment for unsuitable soil removal and a credit change order for classroom marker boards.

Finance Committee

Theresa Brown reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the end of the year financial approvals, including fund balance commitments, insurance renewal, and purchasing cooperatives. The committee discussed the renewal agreement with Substitute Teacher Services and reviewed the final budget recommendation approved on June 19. She also reminded the community that Keystone Collection Group is the new tax collector for Horsham Township, and upcoming tax bills will be mailed on July 1, 2023.

PSBA

Theresa Brown reminded the Board that registration is open for the 2023 PSBA School Leadership Conference, and a pre-conference on Oct. 15 featuring two session tracks focusing on the physical security aspects of school safety plus the student support and mental health needs of schools.

Next Board Meeting

The next Legislative/Action Meeting is Monday, July 24, 2023, at 7 p.m.

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