



HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS *Office of the Superintendent*

June 21, 2022

Dear Holmdel Public Schools Community,

Today, the 2021-22 school year has come to a successful culmination. Last night, the William R Satz Middle School graduation ceremony was held. It was a beautiful evening and a wonderful recognition of our outstanding eighth grade class. Once again, congratulations to all our graduates and families.

The final capstone will be placed tonight with the Holmdel High School Commencement which will begin at 7:00 PM. Anyone not able to attend in person, can view the ceremony remotely through the following [Live Stream Link](#)

I would also like to recognize all of the Project Graduation planning team members for their countless hours of work and preparation in organizing tonight's festivities at Sportika in Manalapan. Thank you for planning such a special occasion that will not only keep our kids safe; but also to provide them with a fun way to bring closure to their high school experience.

Goals Survey: If you have not already done so, please take an opportunity to fill out the community goals [survey](#). The data collected from the survey will help inform the district's goal setting for the upcoming school year.

Summer Assignments: were previously shared by the building principals and can be found on the district [website](#) for each respective school and the [Humanities](#) Website for 7-12. Also, please find some helpful and informative resources with regard to [Summer Reading](#) activities which were compiled by our English Language Arts Supervisors for all grades. Parents and guardians may enjoy at home with their children to foster ongoing love of reading and literacy reinforcement over the course of the summer months.

Also on the academic front, I am proud to present the 5th annual scholarly journal [The Holmdel Academic Review](#) published through Holmdel High School's Honors Advanced Research class. It

is an impressive and impactful caliber of the work being produced by our students and by proxy, our school district, curriculum and faculty.

Health Education Curriculum: I am circling back on the district's previously shared plan with regard to the updated health education standards, please find a helpful ["side by side" document](#) which outlines/bolds the deletions and additions to the updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards. The following are key takeaways regarding the district's proposed approach.

- The district will assemble a team of staff members to engage in this curriculum/program writing initiative this summer. The team will consist of health education teachers from the various grade levels, as well as representatives from the school counseling department. Further, the district is investigating the possibility of bringing in a vetted consultant to assist with the work.
- The scope and sequence would be designed, certainly for this inaugural year, whereby the newly introduced standards and content would be introduced no earlier than the beginning of the 2023 calendar year. This will ensure that the district has adequate time to write the curriculum and share the curriculum with the community no later than October, 2022.
- The newly introduced content would be incorporated into no less than one and no more than three standalone assembly-like programs. These programs would occur during the school day. The content, program objectives and resources, as well as the dates which these programs will take place will be communicated to parents well in advance, in order that they have an opportunity to communicate their intention for their child to participate. Parents who wish to have their students participate in these programs would opt in.

ICYMI: *The Summer Step Up* program can be used to improve skills in Math and ELA. Emails were sent out with invitations to the programs that students qualify for this summer. [Here](#) is the link to our enrollment form for Summer Step Up.

Summer hours: Beginning Monday, June 27, 2022 through Friday, August 19, 2022 the district will be closed on Fridays and the hours of operation will be 7:30am-3:30pm.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude for the warm welcome which has been extended to me as your new Superintendent of Schools. In reflecting on my presented [90 day entry plan](#), I am pleased with the progress which we have made together and has positioned us quite well to begin next year. I would like to wish you all the best for a safe and restful summer. While I may not necessarily release weekly updates to the community over the summer, I will continue to update the community through my superintendent reports at the monthly Board of Education meetings. In addition, you may expect a midsummer and end-of-summer update.

I thank you for your time and consideration and wish you a restful and enjoyable summer recess.

#WeAreHolmdel

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. J. Scott Cascone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "J" and "C".

Dr. J. Scott Cascone

Superintendent