

HADDON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent's Report December 15, 2016

Passing of Mike "Dapp" Dappolone

Our district family was deeply saddened by the sudden and unexpected passing of our Supervisor of Instruction, Mike Dappolone last week. Anyone who ever met Dapp, was well acquainted with his engaging sense of humor, keen intelligence, avid interest in a wide variety of unrelated topics and his unbridled love of science. His mark on Haddon Township represents wide influence in many areas of curriculum and instruction such as new teacher support, district-wide professional development, facilitation of the high school's science department, curriculum development to meet expectations for the Next Generation Science Standards, district test coordinator, supervisor of our adult school, as well as many additional administrative duties. He was infamous for his voice-overs during professional development presentations, as well as for his little green icon known informally as "The Dappolone." He was also famous for making us laugh at inappropriate times, seeing things from his unique point of view, and helping others to find within themselves a more positive attitude. Everything about Dapp screamed, "Can do," a frame of mind he displayed consistently despite the many health challenges he faced this past year.

I am proud to report that our district staff members raised more than \$4000 to support Mike's family with immediate needs. His wife, Kristie, expressed her sincere thanks and appreciation for all of the many forms of support she has received since his passing.

As we move forward as an administrative team, we will not attempt to replace Dapp, but to honor his love of learning, his desire to make us to laugh everyday, and his commitment to providing teachers with the high level of support they deserve.

Celebration of New Spaces

We have received temporary certificates of occupancy (TCOs) for our new spaces at both Strawbridge and Stoy. To celebrate, we have several ribbon-cutting events planned for staff and students prior to the holidays. Strawbridge School will be able to hold their winter concert in their new MPR!

Elementary Report Cards

Elementary report cards will be going out to parents tomorrow, Friday, December 16th. An overview of our new skills based report card with a link to parent support documents on our website will be distributed via email.

Winter Concerts

Stoy – December 16th – 10:00am – HS Auditorium

Van Sciver – December 19th – 12:45pm & 2:00pm – Van Sciver MPR

Strawbridge – December 21st – 2:00pm – Strawbridge MPR

Happy Holidays

As 2016 marches toward its conclusion, I am reminded of the many wonderful ways that we have worked and come together as a district to accomplish the many tasks and challenges of our referendum projects. As these project draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone for his/her patience, flexibility, and hard work throughout this long process. I'd also like to wish our board members, parents, administrators, teachers, and students a wonderful holiday season and a very Happy New Year!