

Welcome to **SNAPSHOTS**, the e-newsletter of the Hopewell Valley Regional Board of Education. **SNAPSHOTS** highlights key developments and decisions from recent Board meetings.

Regular Meeting of May 23, 2011

Board Fetes 2011 Retirees

The Board recognized staff members retiring in 2011. Among those honored were HE Art Teacher Linda Bradshaw, CHS Family and Consumer Science Teacher Sharon Carbone, CHS Guidance Counselor Cheryl Clark, TMS Language Arts Teacher Janice Cooke, TMS French Teacher Mariann Fuca, BT Technology Teacher Frank Harsanyi, Head Mechanic Robert Johnson, Special Education Supervisor Isabelle Richards, TMS Media Specialist Cheryl Rigel, and CHS Social Studies Teacher Domenic San Filippo. Dr. Smith thanked the group for all that they have done to help build the district through their many years of service. A reception was held prior to the meeting and each retiree was presented with a certificate by Assistant Superintendent Lang and Superintendent Smith.

Turf Athletic Field Agreement Approved

The Board approved an agreement with the Recreation Foundation of Hopewell Valley for the installation of a multipurpose turf athletic field at Central High School. Under the terms of the agreement, the Recreation Foundation will be responsible to raise all funds and select a contractor for the project, while the Board will provide limited financial support for professional fees associated with the installation, including construction management by the district's architect. The Recreation Foundation is now expected to sign an agreement with AstroTurf to begin fundraising efforts. The value of the of the turf field donation is estimated to be in excess of \$1M. Total cost to the district is estimated at \$96,400.

Dr. Smith thanked the Recreation Foundation for their generous support. He acknowledged their hard work and determination in moving this project forward. Sheryl Stone of the Recreation Foundation thanked Dr. Smith and the Board for their partnership. She reaffirmed the Foundation's mission to "Bring our Athletes Home".

Got Milk?

The Board renewed a grant agreement with the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association to support district efforts to increase consumption of milk in schools by providing milk in 8-ounce plastic bottles. The \$6,200 grant may be used to support district activities in promoting bottled milk or to purchase new milk cooler equipment and/or recycling containers for schools. Hopewell Valley successfully switched to recyclable plastic milk bottles in 2009.

New Elementary Special Education Program Expected

The Board voted to approve a request to establish a new special education program for special needs students in grades K-1. The new program will be housed in Toll Gate Grammar School.

New Club for Business Oriented Students Ok'd

The Board endorsed the formation of a *Future Business Leaders of America* Club for students interested in pursuing a career in the business world.

BE GREEN WITH US

Be sure to regularly check your school's *Virtual Backpack* so you don't miss any important announcements or notices. Paperless communications help us reduce our paper consumption and cultivate in our children the notion of social responsibility and the importance of making environmentally sensitive choices.

<http://www.hvrzd.org/backpack/>

VISITED THE CAMPUS YET?

Be a regular visitor to *Infinite Campus*, our online student information system. The password-protected system allows you to view your student's class schedule, attendance and grades. More features will be available in the coming months. <http://www2.hvrzd.org/Parents/Pages/InfiniteCampus.aspx>. For assistance logging in, contact the help desk at ICHelp@hvrzd.org.

STAY IN THE LOOP

Make sure you are receiving the latest school news and information. See that your current e-mail address is on file with Infinite Campus. E-mail addresses listed there are automatically included in our school and district-based parent communications including emergency notifications which provide fast notice of weather-related cancellations, delays and other emergencies. Visit the Infinite Campus online information at www.hvrsd.org and click on Parents, Infinite Campus.

ATTEND A MEETING

The Board usually meets the 2nd and 3rd Mondays of the month at the District Administration Building, 425 S. Main Street, Pennington. Check the website for starting times.

TUNE IN

Taped meetings of the Board are aired on HV-TV Channel 19 (Comcast) and Channel 32 (Verizon) at different times during the day to reach the widest possible audience. The broadcast schedule is available on the district website (www.hvrsd.org) under **News > HV-TV Channels 19 & 32 > HV-TV Program Guide**.

HAVE ENOUGH SCHEDULES IN YOUR LIFE?

Watch at your convenience. Videos of board meetings are now available online. Tune in at <http://www2.hvrsd.org/boe/Pages/MeetingVideos.aspx>

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