

---

---

# Superintendent Update

— September 19, 2022 —

---

---

# Reminders

- Back to School Nights
  - MS/HS: Wednesday, September 21
  - LPS/WAS: Thursday, September 22
- Schools/Offices Closed: Monday, September 26 (Rosh Hashanah)
- Schools/Offices Closed: Wednesday, October 5 (Yom Kippur)
- Chris Herren: Tuesday, October 11 at 7 pm (HS Auditorium)
- Be Smart Gun Safety Presentation: Thursday, October 27 at 7 pm via zoom

# Chris Herren Coming to South Hunterdon!!

**Paid for by the Lambertville Area Education Foundation (LAEF)**



## **Prevention Start with All: Chris Herren Story**

In this very personal presentation, Chris will share his recovery journey in a brutally honest format with just a microphone. The event will start with a 5 minute film introducing Herren and showing highlights of his basketball career in the NBA. From growing up in Fall River, Massachusetts to playing Division I basketball and in the NBA, he will take the audience on his journey from addict to sobriety. Additionally, he will relate his story to the audience addressing themes of gateway drugs, prescription drug use, vaping and the responsibility of prevention starting with all of us. Chris will conclude the presentation by taking questions from the audience.

When: Tuesday, October 11 at 7 pm

Where: South Hunterdon High School Auditorium

This is a free event! Register for tickets by clicking on the link below

[Register for Tickets](#)



# Activity Fee

- Annual activity fee is \$100 for any student in grades 7-12 wishing to participate in any sports, clubs, marching band or co-curricular activities.
- The one time payment of \$100 allows the student to participate in as many activities as they would like.
- Parents with more than 1 child pay a maximum of \$200 regardless of the number of children attending South Hunterdon.
- Students who qualify for the Federal Free Lunch Program are not required to pay an activity fee.
- During the 2021-2022 school year the district generated \$21,435 in revenue as a result of the activity fee.

# Construction Update

- The closing on the bonds took place on September 8, 2022.
  - Resolution on the agenda this evening for the Board to approve the transfer of \$31,412,000 to NJ ARM.
  - Any interest made with NJ ARM will be used for debt service relief.
- Over the last month we have been working with our security vendor to plan out cameras and door access controls on the PreK-4 and 5-8 buildings.
  - [PreK-4 Cameras and Door Access Controls](#)
  - [5-8 Cameras and Door Access Controls](#)
- Request for Proposal (RFP) [Construction Manager](#)
- We have been working with our architect on digital signage inside the building, outside of the building, as well as technology features for each space.

# Construction Legal Update

- West Amwell Township/Private Citizen Group continues to pursue their appeal against the district for our construction projects. [WAT Election Appeal](#)
- West Amwell Township Committee submitted a resolution to the County Superintendent requesting withdrawal from the South Hunterdon Regional School District. [WAT Resolution](#)

WHEREAS, West Amwell Township Committee believes they owe it to the residents of West Amwell to apply to the County Superintendent of Schools to investigate the advisability of a withdrawal from the regional school district.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of West Amwell hereby applies, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:13-66, to the County Superintendent of Schools to investigate the advisability of West Amwell Township withdrawing from the South Hunterdon Regional School District, either in full, or in part, whereby the Township would remain regionalized only as a limited purpose regional school district for high school.

# District Goals 2022-2023

**Goal 1: Blended/Personalized Learning techniques will be utilized to meet the needs of diverse learners within all classrooms throughout the district.**

- Identify and develop a 2nd cohort of teachers from all three schools in the district to participate in training and coaching during the 2022-2023 school year.
  - Full day, six hour professional development session for Cohort II teachers and administrative team.
  - Classroom visits throughout the year to each cohort member which will include observations of lessons, personalized feedback, suggested resources and coaching plans.
  - Five two-hour professional development sessions throughout the school year after school.
- Cohort I teachers from the 2021-2022 school year as well as the district's instructional coaches will support Cohort II teachers during the 2022-2023 school year.
- Collection of data from students/teachers through surveys and focus groups to measure the instructional impact in the classroom.

# District Goals 2022-2023

**Goal 2: Introduce Priority Practices to our teaching staff and utilize a self assessment tool to identify specific and targeted practices for educator professional development.**

- Instructional staff will utilize the [Core Practices Framework](#) to develop their individual professional development plan at the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
- Instructional staff will use a Swivl camera to record a lesson while focusing on a specific area of practice.
- Instructional staff members will conduct peer observations.
- Collaboration with colleagues that focuses on sharing instructional strategies to be put into practice.
- Survey teachers to identify practices/areas they would be interested/feel confident in supporting colleagues to enhance their practice.
- Utilize our district instructional coaches to help support this work.



# District Goals 2022-2023

**Goal 3:** Identifying and removing institutional barriers, and creating access and opportunities to foster the success of our students. Promote equality of educational opportunities and reduce the disparity of results between diverse groups of students.

- Administrative team will use district and individual school level data, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, national origin, language, special education, gender, socioeconomic status and mobility to inform district decision making.
- Implementation of a software program (Talking Points) that will allow educators to establish two-way communication via text message with Spanish speaking parents in their native language.
- Use of late buses so that transportation is not a barrier for students who would like to participate in after school extracurricular activities.
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) team will provide resources to classroom teachers to help celebrate diversity using read alouds, student led presentations and guest speakers throughout the school year.
- Review of our Special Education Program by an outside consultant.

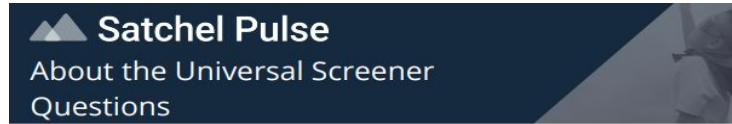
# District Goals 2022-2023

**Goal 4: Continue to expand and refine Social Emotional strategies and programs through data driven practices to meet the specific needs of students, families, and staff.**

- Train all staff in Youth Mental Health First Aid during the 2022-2023 school year.
- Partnership with First Children's Service Provider to provide the district with a mental health clinician who will be a full-time mental health clinician to work with a caseload of students throughout the district. The clinician will be able to provide individual and family therapy, complete crisis assessments as well as act as a conduit to support and resources outside of the district.
- Administer social-emotional learning benchmark to students across the district to assess needs and interventions.
- Implementation of a district Therapy Dog Program with the goal of having one certified therapy dog in each of our school buildings on a daily basis.

# CASEL Framework

## (Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning)



Satchel Pulse SEL Universal Screener questions are aligned with evidence-based models for social and emotional learning. The questions are designed to give teachers, students, and parents insight into how children are developing 21st Century college and career readiness skills.

---



# Satchel Pulse

- Aligned with the CASEL framework.
- 1st assessment window will be October 12th - October 31.
- 2nd assessment window will be March 22 - April 4.
- Students will self-assess in the areas of Self-Awareness, Self- Management, Responsible Decision Making, Relationship Skills, and Social Awareness.
- 25 questions for each assessment.
- Resources for teaching staff

[Examples of Satchel Pulse self-assessment questions](#)

[Parent Resource](#)

# District Goals 2022-2023

**Goal 5: Begin the transition of preparing for a new district configuration during the 2024-2025 school year.**

- Begin the construction of a new 5-8 building.
- Prepare for the renovation of the LPS school into a district PreK-4 school.
- Prepare for the transition to the St. John's School for LPS students in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Begin staff planning for our new district configuration.
- Work on educational planning for the new district configuration.
  - Academic schedule for the renovated PreK-4 building.
  - Academic schedule for the new 5-8 building
  - Academic schedule for the 9-12 high school as well as program expansion for the 2024-2025 school year and beyond.

# Board Goals 2022-2023

**Goal 1:** In the spring of 2023, the Board of Education will begin the Strategic Planning Process to develop an updated plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

**Goal 2:** Provide support and resources to the Superintendent toward the achievement of the district goals.