

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS  
P.O. Box 1029, Windsor Avenue  
Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Contact: Jaime Walker

RELEASE

Work: 973-770-8862

Email: [jwalker@hopatcongschools.org](mailto:jwalker@hopatcongschools.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE

DATE 9/21/15

**Hopatcong, NJ - Hopatcong School District  
selected to host the Geraldine Dodge Foundation Mini Poetry Festival.**

**Title: Hopatcong is**

**Cynthia Randina, Hopatcong Superintendent of Schools, Announces –**

Hopatcong is selected to host the Geraldine Dodge Foundation Mini Poetry Festival.

Hopatcong High School applied for, and won, a grant from the Geraldine Dodge Foundation to host a mini poetry festival at the high school this fall. This mini festival, slated for November 10th, will bring up to 300 students from neighboring schools to Hopatcong HS. Thus far, schools attending include Sparta High School, High Point Regional HS, Pequannock HS, and West Caldwell HS.

Seven nationally acclaimed poets will lead sessions throughout the day, engaging high school students in poetry and the arts. The day will begin with a general school-wide assembly, followed with mini sessions whereby visiting schools and Hopatcong students can immerse themselves in the world of the written word. Festival sessions will take place in designated rooms throughout the day. This will be an interdisciplinary event.

HHS teachers Sandy DeRose and Jon Rischawy have been collaborating and planning for the event. Ms. DeRose is coordinating the poetry aspect while Mr. Rischawy has been preparing an art-infused inclusion.

The Geraldine Dodge Poetry Foundation hosts a biennial poetry event that brings over 4,000 high school students and 1,000 teachers to their prestigious poetry festival. On “off-years,” the foundation chooses schools to host their mini festivals on a regional level. Hopatcong is pleased to have been chosen as the foundation’s “northern” regional school.