

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hopatcong, New Jersey

Title: Parent Workshops: Parent Academy & Parent Advisory Committee

Cynthia Randina, Hopatcong Superintendent of Schools, Announces-

On Thursday, January 7th, Hopatcong parents were invited to attend the Parent Academy created to inform parents on how to interpret PARCC scores. Presently, district families have not received individual student score reports; scores are set to be distributed after the results are presented to the Board of Education at the January 25th regular meeting. The evening began with a brief session lead by Jaime Walker, Director of Guidance, for parents to learn more about the recent changes in graduation requirements. Now that students must either pass the PARCC assessment or meet the standards for the state approved alternate assessments to obtain a NJ high school diploma, this session was intended to provide clarification about the various options.

The feature presentation began with opening remarks from Superintendent Cynthia Randina. Breakout sessions by grade level comprised the majority of the evening so that parents were able to learn about the specific components of the score reports as they pertain to each grade. Each classroom presentation was facilitated by a pair of teachers trained to interpret the testing data. Upon completion of the material, questions were answered and the presenters reported back to the entire collective audience.

Parents in attendance were offered free pajama party themed child care and homework passes in case children were unable to complete work in parents' absence. Numerous prizes were awarded via raffle tickets; such prizes included gift cards to local restaurants, blue tooth audio speakers and a Fitbit. An art gallery was on display in the hallways for families to peruse the work of district students.

The following week, a Parent Advisory Committee meeting was held on January 13th. These meetings are held every other month and are open to all district parents/guardians. The focus of this meeting was to review the district's strategic plan and to solicit feedback from parents for ways to increase attendance at programming. Copious ideas were generated and noted for future implementation. All evening programs are displayed on the district calendar and on the new digital sign posted on Lakeside Boulevard.