

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 01/25/19

Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Title: **Friday, January 25, 2019 a day of packing and purging at Hudson Maxim School**

Today the Hudson Maxim School was a beehive of enthusiastic activity in which teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries, custodians, personnel from other buildings and volunteer parents and students spent the day packing up the Hudson Maxim Classrooms and throwing out items that had been around for many years that were no longer needed. Tomorrow custodial and maintenance staff along with volunteers will spend the day moving furniture and prioritized items so that on Monday students can be comfortable in their new environments. Kindergarten and first grade will be at a very welcoming Middle School. The pre-school aged students will have a special place at Hopatcong High School where they are all next to each other and next to the Little Chiefs pre-school class. In the Middle School, Kindergarten and first grade eat lunch together during an additional lunch period. The pre-school aged students at the high school will have a lunch delivered to the classroom that is subject to change or adjustment. AlphaBest before care will be at Durban Avenue temporarily until approval is given for the Hopatcong Middle School. After care will also take place at Durban Avenue; students will be bussed to their proper location. As of this time, Friday evening, that has not been finalized but will be during the weekend.

On Sunday, final items will be moved to their destinations; classrooms will be set up by custodians, however teachers will fine-tune when they arrive. Monday is expected to be a normal school day for all students in the Hopatcong School District. On Sunday, January 27, at 2:00 pm in the High School Cafeteria, parents of any students affected by this move can meet with the Superintendent and the most updated information will be presented.

I am quite grateful at the ability of staff and community to rally towards our most important cause which is to benefit children.

In summary, the main reason for this sudden action is that the delivery system of the steam heat in the Hudson Maxim School was failing. For example, there is a pipe that delivers heat under the cement floor of the gym. That pipe has a leak and it is impossible to get to it unless the gym floor is jack hammered, the leak is found, the leak is repaired, and the floor cemented over again; however the chance of the leak occurring again in the future is very possible.

If there is any need to adjust the above, you will be informed.

-art dibenedetto, supt.