



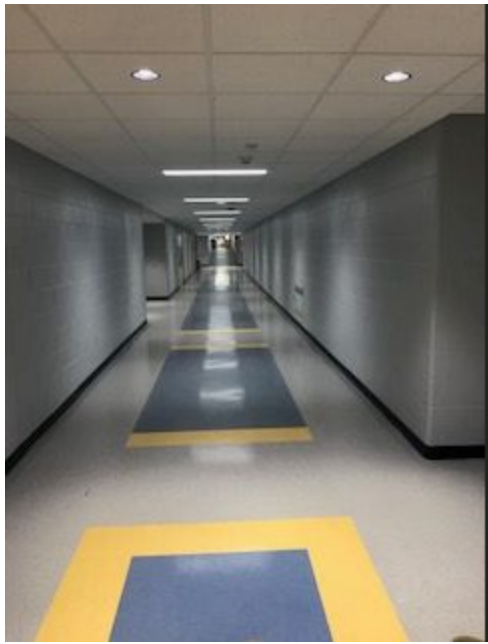
Dear Parents and Community,

Welcome Back to another exciting and productive school year at New Hope-Solebury School District! As I compose this community letter, our teachers and instructional assistants are in Day 2 of our Professional Development activities. They are working in the classrooms and spaces that our students will occupy on September 4th. This professional work is vital to start the school year and highlights our commitment to being one of the premier school districts in the state of Pennsylvania! Be on the lookout this year for **Project Based Learning (PBL)** opportunities for your children. While not a new technique for instruction, there will be shifts from traditional methods that most of us are used to in our experiences (teacher in front delivering lecture to students). Students will be interacting with their curriculum via hands on, authentic and experiential methods that will foster deeper learning and understanding. PBL also calls for community engagement at times and I am excited at the prospect at further community involvement with our schools. See more pics in my Twitter feed [@DirectorMalone](#).

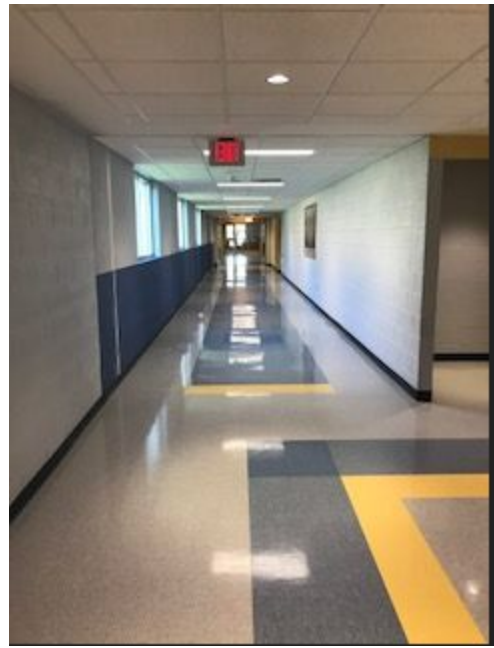
HS/MS Renovation Update

We **WILL be open** for the start of school on Tuesday Sept.4! The MS and HS are ready to go as teachers are back setting up their classrooms in anticipation for students on the first day! Below are pictures from the major hallways of the HS academic wings that were under construction this summer. Sure we hit some snags along the way, but with careful management and dogged determination, we have achieved “substantial completion” of the this 3 year project! This means that the heavy machinery, disruptive work and obstacles to our teaching and learning spaces will be at a minimum to start the school year. The only areas off line to start the year are the HS Library and the District Office wing of the old 1930s structure. It’s unfortunate not to have the Library, but that work is slated for completion by October! Just in time for college planning meetings, student research, club gatherings and upcoming author visits and the like! The issues around asbestos abatement, heating and air conditioning, plumbing, electrical and data are solved and there is no threat to the health and safety of our students and staff. There are a few items that still need attention as we start the year, but with little impact on the school environment:

- Handrails outside cafeterias - due for September
- Lockers - one bank not completed but due for week 1
- Field 9 (construction office center) returned to field status in October
- “Punch List” items - paint touch ups and other minor items that need contractor attention
- Final connections for smartboards and other electronics - week 1



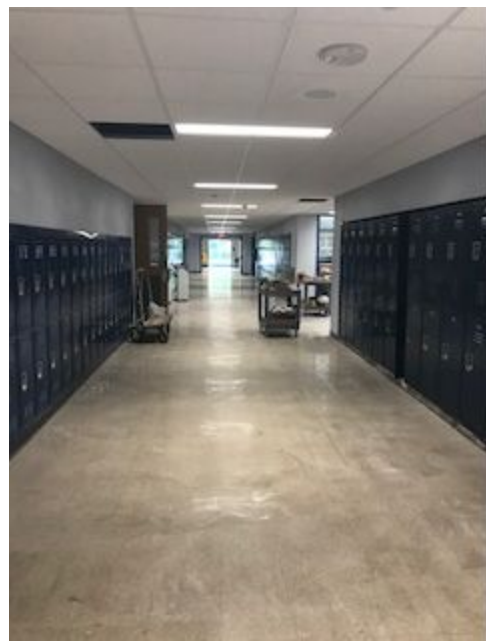
1st Fl HS Academic Wing



New Gym Hall Connector



HS Main Entrance



2nd Fl HS Academic Wing (New Lockers)



Art/WL wing - connector




Senior Hall

Odds and Ends:

- **ConnectEd** - We will be utilizing our district call system - ConnectEd - for important informational messages and announcements this year. Similar to weather related announcements, this system will call phone numbers in our student information system to alert parents/guardians of important school related matters. Of course, we will be cognizant of your home time and not interrupt with meaningless calls! If/when we do call, it will be in the early evening. Expect a welcome back call from your principals!
- **Visit** our [district website](#) for information concerning [busing](#), [calendar of events](#), [athletics](#) and a host of information about our individual schools by clicking on the links on the site.
- **Safety and Security** - Last year, our staff was trained in the [ALICE](#) (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) protocols for emergency drills involving dangerous intruders. This year, we will be conducting training sessions for all of our students in campus wide activities. Our local police and fire departments will be assisting us with our planning as well as the Bucks County Intermediate Unit in guiding our physical plant needs. Mr. Pedersen will serve as co-chair of our Safe Schools Committee along with Mr. Teasdale. Both have unique perspectives on our district wide safety and security protocols that will be invaluable to our planning and updating initiatives for the 2018-19 school year. More information will follow from District Office as well as your principals in upcoming weeks/months.
 - Upgraded camera system in all schools
 - Updated secure access to schools - swipe system and secure vestibules
 - Security guard coverage re-allocated to cover more area and events
 - Safe School Committee - regular meetings with 1st responders and presence in our schools.

Charles M. Malone, Ed.D, *Director of Elementary and Secondary Education*

Phone (215) 862-5372 ext. 3294 - E-mail - cmalone@nhsd.org  @DirectorMalone

Here's to a great opening to our 2018-19 school year at NHSSD! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your building principal, Mrs. Marton or myself.

Yours truly,

Charles Malone
Acting Superintendent and Director of Education