

Notes from Superintendent Holcomb & the School Committee
4.19.26 Parent & Staff Newsletter

Jr. High & Elementary Search Committee

Joseph Case Junior High School Principal Search

The selection committee has identified two finalists for the position of Principal at Joseph Case Junior High School. The district is currently finalizing arrangements with each candidate, and their names will be released shortly.

Next Steps in the Process:

- Public release of finalist names along with brief biographies
- Opportunities for finalists to meet with junior high staff and students
- Meetings with parents and community members
- Final interview with the Superintendent
- Final selection of the next Principal

Dates for these steps will be announced soon.

Mark G. Hoyle Elementary School Principal Search

The selection committee will conduct candidate interviews during the week of April 27, with the goal of identifying finalists shortly thereafter. Once finalists are selected, the process will follow the same steps outlined above for the junior high search.

South Coast Conference Academic All-Star Banquet

This past Friday, April 16, I had the sincere pleasure of attending the Academic All-Star Banquet where some of our best and brightest students were recognized. This banquet recognizes students in the South Coast Conference for their outstanding contributions to academic excellence. This year's recipients from Joseph Case High School are - Madyn Castriotta, Josephine Lander, Lauren Reynolds, Liliana Rodriguez, and Nicholas Silva. Each of the recipients are pictured below with Principal Christopher Costa and Dr. Elizabeth Janson. Congratulations!!





The "New" Joseph Case Junior High School Building Project Update

The Community Outreach Group met last Thursday and has scheduled an informational meeting for this important project. We invite all members of the community to attend and learn more, as well as ask questions and share feedback.

Meeting Details:
Location: Joseph Case High School Auditorium
Date: Wednesday, May 27
Time: 6:00–8:00 PM

We encourage you to mark your calendars and attend if you are able. Your participation and input are important to us, and we look forward to connecting with you.

Also, for updates on the project, check out our dedicated website by clicking here.

Safety & Security Updates

As part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining secure and supportive school environments, we continue to review, strengthen, and reinforce our safety and security practices across the district.

Over the past several weeks, district and school leaders have engaged in a series of actions designed to enhance our preparedness and ensure consistency in how we respond to concerns. Some examples of what we have done are:

- Met with all building principals to clarify expectations and protocols regarding communication and coordination with our police and fire departments
- Continuing a comprehensive review of our existing safety and security procedures to ensure they reflect current best practices and are aligned within each building and between buildings.
- Provided additional training and guidance for staff during our recent professional development day, with a focus on situational awareness and response protocols
- Continue to strengthen our partnership with local police and emergency responders to support coordinated, timely responses when needed

- Reinforced internal communication processes to ensure that concerns are escalated and addressed appropriately

While our schools have strong safety protocols in place, we believe it is essential to continually reflect, refine, and improve. These efforts are part of our approach to maintaining environments where students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.

We also encourage families to continue partnering with us by reminding students to immediately share any concerns with a trusted adult. Open communication is a key component of a safe school community.

School Committee Meeting

The next School Committee meeting will be held on Monday, April 27, at 6:00 PM in the Learning Commons at Joseph Case High School. For those unable to attend in person, the meeting will be broadcast live on the Swansea Community Network Channel via their Facebook page.

School Department Budget

April 1, 2026, the Advisory & Finance Board met and voted unanimously to support the School Department's FY27 budget request. The proposal will now move forward for consideration by the public at the May 18th Town Meeting.

We would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the budget process, as well as the Swansea community for its continued support.