

## *What's New? Week of April 2, 2007*

### Important Dates:

Monday, April 2 - 6:00 p.m. - Council Appoints New School Board Member

Thursday, April 5 - 5:30 p.m. - School Board Work Session

Monday, April 9 - 5:30 p.m. - School Board Regular Meeting

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### City Council Meets Tonight at 6:00 p.m. to Make the School Board Appointment - *posted 04/02/07*

The City Council will meet at 6:00 p.m. for their Regular Meeting in the Council Chambers on Municipal Drive. During that Meeting, they are expected to make their Appointment to the School Board. The School Board Appointment is for five years.

Click to go to the [HSCIN Page on the Board of Education](#). Please take the time to read the articles posted on that page regarding what good school board members do.

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### Your Input on the School Board Appointment is Requested

- *posted 03/30/07*

Please take a few moments to share your thoughts on whether the Board of Education should be elected or appointed and the recommendation by the Education Committee to reappoint Bill Veitch to a second 5-year term. All comments will be shared with the City Council prior to Monday night's Council meeting.

**This survey will be available until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 2. The results of the Survey will be given to the Council before the 6:00 p.m. Meeting.**

[Click Here to take the survey](#)

Remember, survey participation is anonymous.

\*\*\*Don't forget to lend your voice to the ["What to Do with the Old Berry Campus Survey"](#). It will be available online until Thursday, April 5. The results of the Survey will be given to Superintendent Andy Craig at the Regular Meeting on Monday, April 9.

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### Bill Veitch is Recommended for Reappointment - *posted 03/29/07*

The Education Committee of the City Council voted *without any public discussion*, in a 3-2 vote, to reappoint Mr. Veitch to the Board of Education. Gene Smith and Trey Lott voted no. Mari Morrison, Mike Natter, and Brian Skelton voted yes.

[The Minutes and transcript of the public interviews can be viewed here.](#) Take the time to read Mr. Veitch's interview, as well as the interviews of the other candidates. Their words are worth reading.

[Council Panel Supports Veitch - March 30, Birmingham News](#)

The full City Council will vote on the recommendation at Monday night's Council meeting. If you have an opinion about Mr. Veitch's reappointment to the Board, you are strongly encouraged to make your voice heard.

Only [Councilman Gene Smith](#) and [Councilwoman Mari Morrison](#) have made their e-mail addresses public.

Other Councilmen, as well as Mayor Petelos, may be reached at this e-mail address: [mayorsoffice@ci.hoover.al.us](mailto:mayorsoffice@ci.hoover.al.us).

The telephone number for the Mayor's office is 444-7510.

Please take the time to make your voice heard, whether you support Mr. Veitch's reappointment or not. This is not an official appointment until the Council votes on Monday night at 6:00 p.m. in Council chambers.

[Jon Anderson's blog has the latest news.](#)

[5 Vie for Seat on Board, Discuss Plans for System - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

Click [here to view the article outlining each candidate.](#)

[HSCIN Board of Education page](#) - The HSCIN page devoted to issues regarding the Board of Education.

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## [Petition to Review and Rewrite the Discipline Policy for Hoover City Schools](#) - *posted 03/27/07*

Rick Lyerly, an attorney and parent in Hoover City Schools, has created a petition for community members to sign to ask the Hoover Board of Education to "promptly revise rules and procedures regarding student behavior." Click to download the petition. It requests that the revised rules should:

- "Specify the conduct prohibited in clear and unambiguous language that students can reasonably be expected to understand;
- Require enforcement of rules to be reasonable and appropriate to the offense, and in a manner to encourage respect, rather than contempt, for authority;
- Publicly disavow "zero tolerance," in name and in substance, and confirm that the Board is committed to insuring a safe and orderly school environment in a manner that respects and protects students' rights;
- Require interpretation of the rules that is consistent, enforcement that is fair and evenly applied, and requiring enforcers to consider the particular circumstances on a case-by-case basis;

- Make clear the specific range of sanctions for specific violations.
- Require a determination of whether a violation is intentional or the result of mistake or inadvertence and insuring, after and considering such determination, that the punishment is appropriate to the offense.
- Require and confirm that appeals to the Board will be meaningful, and that the Board will determine appeals de novo to insure that the goals herein referenced are achieved."

If you believe these are worthy goals of a Discipline Policy for our school system, please take the time to download, complete, and mail your petition to the Board of Education Central Office at Hoover City Schools, 2810 Metropolitan Way, Hoover, Alabama, 35242.

Hoover City Schools Superintendent Andy Craig mentioned in a Board meeting last fall that the Board is currently reviewing its Discipline Policy and will seek public input at an appropriate time.

[Current Hoover City Schools Student Discipline Policy](#)  
[Current Hoover City Schools Policy on Students Rights and Responsibilities](#)

[Parents Seek Change to School Discipline Policy - March 27, Birmingham News](#)

## Standardized Testing Week Has Begun.....*re-posted 04/01/07*

The ACCESS exam for English Language Learners (ELL) will be administered throughout the month of March for students in Hoover City Schools.

The Alabama High School Graduation Exam (AHSGE) will be administered to high school students beginning next Monday, March 6. Click [here](#) to view the AHSGE testing schedule for Hoover City Schools.

Standardized testing for Grades 3 through 8 will begin on April 3rd. Click [here](#) to view that testing schedule for Hoover City Schools.

Check out our [Accountability Page](#) for more specific information about these tests and how they are used.

Certainly you will see information coming home from your child's school about how best to prepare your children to perform well on these tests. We have provided a few links for you to learn more:

[Last Minute Tips. From myschoolonline.](#)  
[Standardized Tests. From Scholastic.com.](#)  
[Help Your Tween or Teen Get Smart About Tests. From Greatschools.net.](#)  
[Techniques to Improve Your Child's Standardized Test Scores. Article from Sylvan Learning Center.](#)  
[Tis the Season for Standardized Testing. From Tidewater Parent, a Virginia group.](#)  
[Exam Day: I Will Survive. From the College Board.](#) Written for older students, but helpful for parents to share with their younger students as well.

## Hoover Schools Foundation to Hold Annual Clay Shoot - *posted 03/28/07*

### [100 Expected for Benefit Clay Shoot - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

The annual sporting clay shoot is Thursday, April 26, at Tannehill Sporting Clays in Woodstock. Registration is at 8 a.m., and the event begins at 9. A rain date is set for April 27.

It costs \$1,250 for a team of five to register. For more information, call 439-1013 or e-mail [dmilazzo@hoover.k12.al.us](mailto:dmilazzo@hoover.k12.al.us).

All monies raised will be used to award classroom grants for Hoover City Schools teachers.

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### [Want to Learn a New Language?](#) - *posted 03/28/07*

Jefferson County libraries are now offering free access to the Rosetta Stone language learning program. All you need is a library card. Check out this story in the Birmingham News:

### [Jeffco Libraries Offering Rosetta Stone Online Study - March 26, Birmingham News](#)

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### [March 30th is Statewide Day of Prayer for Students](#) - *posted 03/29/07*

Governor Bob Riley has issued a proclamation naming March 30th as the Day of Prayer for Students Across Alabama. [Click here to read the Proclamation.](#)

[First Priority](#) is the group sponsoring the Day of Prayer. [Click here to view more information.](#) They are encouraging everyone, as they pass into or through a school zone, to say a prayer for the school and its inhabitants. They are also encouraging everyone to send a note, email or text message to a student to let them know you are praying for them, and to also do the same for all your children's teachers.

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## [News Articles and Newsletters](#)

### [A+ Education Foundation Newsletter](#) - *posted 03/27/07*

### [Council Panel Supports Veitch - March 30, Birmingham News](#)

### [Classroom Clips - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

### [Schools Eye Expansion of Summer School Offerings - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

### [5 Vie for Seat on Board, Discuss Plans for System - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

### [Acceleration Not Best Way to Make School Stimulating - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

[100 Expected for Benefit Clay Shoot - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

[Hoover's McKinley Serving as Education Ambassador - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

[Hoover High Graduate on National Science Team - March 28, Birmingham News](#)

[Berry Middle School Dedicates Human Rights Sculpture - March 27, Birmingham News](#)

[Jeffco Libraries Offering Rosetta Stone Online Study - March 26, Birmingham News](#)