

What's New? Week of May 5, 2008

Important Dates

May 8 - Board of Education Work Session, 5:30 p.m. - Board Evaluation by Alabama Association of School Boards' Executive Director Sally Howell

May 19 - Board of Education Meeting, 4:00 p.m. NOTE TIME AND DATE CHANGE

May 20 - Spain Park High School Graduation

May 21 - Hoover High School Graduation

May 22 - Last Day for Students

[Click to view the Hoover City Schools' District Calendar for May](#)

May 8 Board of Education Work Session - *posted 04/26/08*

Mrs. Sally Howell, Executive Director of the [Alabama Association of School Boards](#), will present the results of the Board's self-evaluation at the May 8 meeting of the Board of Education. While the [policy establishing that the Board must annually conduct this self-study has been in the manual since at least 1994](#), this will be the first recorded instance of the Board actually conducting this self-study.

Please make plans to attend.

The Work Session begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Farr Administrative Building.

Directions to Farr Administrative Building: Hoover City Schools Central Office is located at 2810 Metropolitan Way. Traveling north on I-459, take Exit 17. Turn left onto Acton Road and proceed for approximately ½ mile. At the traffic light at Old Rocky Ridge Road, turn left. You will see Lakeside Baptist Church on your left and the Rocky Ridge Fire Station on your right. Turn right on Metropolitan Way just past the fire station. The Central Office for Hoover City Schools is on the right. Visitor parking is available in front of the building.

Your Questions Answered

The HSCIN is now offering a service we call "Your Questions Answered". If you have a question about Hoover City Schools that you just can't seem to get answered through traditional channels (always check with your child's teacher and school first!), submit your question to us at HSCIN@HSCIN.org. We will attempt to get a proper response from the appropriate responsible area and will post your question with the answer. We borrow this idea from a similar group in Texas, the [Gunter Education Forum](#).

Remember, always ask the appropriate authority first. We will be unable to answer school-specific questions. Rather this will be an opportunity to get more information about the larger District of Hoover City Schools.

We've created a new page, [Your Questions Answered](#), to post your questions and responses.

Here's our first response to our first question!

[Middle School Advanced Classes/Enrichment](#) - *posted 05/04/08*

The question:

What is the plan for addressing the needs of the gifted students in our middle schools? We seem to have a good plan for elementary school, with the Enrichment program, and for high school, with lots of opportunities to take advanced classes. However, in the middle schools, all I've seen available is 'Advanced Math'. That is great but math is just one subject and there are plenty of other ways a student may be gifted. I don't think we are serving this group as well as we could be. It seems like we are just letting them coast for 3 years. What do other great school systems do with their gifted middle school students?

I've asked this question several times to different faculty members. The teachers all tell me they think there is a void there too, but no one seems to know what to do next.

[The answer can be found by clicking here.](#) It is long and we have put it into a PDF for ease in posting.

Please [let us know](#) if you have further questions. We thank Hoover City Schools for assisting us in researching this question.

Discussion of the Third High School, 2000-2008 - *posted 05/01/08*

[Click here to read an historical perspective of what Hoover's past and present leaders have said about the need to address Hoover's future high school population growth.](#)

Sources include The Birmingham News, City Council minutes, and Board of Education minutes.

HSCIN Looking for New Board Member - *posted 05/03/08*

HSCIN Board member Earl Cooper resigned from the HSCIN Board of Directors effective May 1, 2008. Earl will begin serving a 5-year term on the Hoover City School Board of Education on June 1, 2008, as a result of his being appointed by the Education Committee of the City Council in April 2008.

As such, the HSCIN is now seeking a Board member. To learn more about the workings of the HSCIN, please visit our [Board of Directors page](#) where all Minutes of meetings are kept. [The HSCIN's goals are posted here.](#)

Over the past two years, the main work of the HSCIN has been through this web site, keeping our Hoover community informed about issues affecting our public schools. We hope to move more toward the actual work of engaging families in their children's education in the near future through conducting workshops, town hall meetings, and other informative sessions to help our Hoover families engage in the actual education of their child.

If you are interested in helping our Hoover community become more engaged in our children's education, please contact Trisha Crain or Jackie Hamilton at HSCIN@HSCIN.org. We hope to fill this position by June 15, 2008.

[A+ Newsletter April 30, 2008](#) - *posted 05/04/08*

[Hoover City Schools News](#)

News Articles and Newsletters

Hoover News

[Reading First in Doubt After Study - May 2, The Birmingham News](#)

[House's Bare-Bones Budget Trims \\$375 Million - May 1, The Birmingham News](#)

[Students Help Build 1-Acre Outdoor Classroom at Bluff Park Elementary - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)

[Area Schools Get Big Technology Infusion - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)

[New Hoover High Principal Prepares for Job - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)

[Sound Off: Use Berry Campus As Park or School - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)

[High Dropout Rate Seen As Threat to State Growth - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)

[Spain Park Seniors Enjoy Luau - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)

[Hoover High Juniors, Seniors Set for Prom - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)

[Classroom Clips - April 30, The Birmingham News](#)