

What's New? Week of October 29, 2007

Important Dates

November 8 - Board Work Session, 5:30 p.m., Central Office

November 8 - Board Meeting, immediately following the Work Session, Central Office

November 12 - Veteran's Day, No School

November 21-23 - Thanksgiving Holidays, No School

[Click here to view the Hoover City Schools' Calendar for November](#)

Good News about Hoover City Schools - *posted 10/27/07*

Jason Gaston, Hoover City Schools' Communications Director, has been on board less than a month, and he's already very busy spreading the Good News about Hoover City Schools. [Make sure to bookmark the official Hoover City Schools' News](#) page to keep up with the great things happening in Hoover City Schools!

[Click here for past articles of Good News.](#)

Your Questions Answered - *posted 10/22/07*

The HSCIN is going to offer, on a trial basis, 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.

Please participate in our survey.....

Backpack Survey - Survey Opportunity Extended! - *posted 10/26/07*

There is growing research to compel us to be concerned about the weight of our children's backpacks. In 2002, the AOTA (American Occupational Therapy Association) teamed up with L.L. Bean to promote awareness of backpack safety, recommending that backpacks be limited to 15% of a child's weight. So, a child weighing 100 pounds should carry a backpack no heavier than 15 pounds.

The ACA (American Chiropractic Association), the APTA (American Physical Therapy Association), and the AAOS (American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons) developed similar recommended limits based on the child's weight:

Person's Weight (lb.)	Maximum Backpack Weight (lb.)
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60	5
60-75	10
100	15
125	18
150	20
200 or more	25*

*No one should carry more than 25 lb.

Through this survey, we hope to be able to provide information to our Board of Education and administrators in Hoover City Schools to encourage use of electronic textbooks and/or a class set of textbooks. This is becoming common practice in the more forward-thinking districts across the country. Take a moment to read "[More Schools Going Locker-Less](#)", and "[Eliminating Lockers](#)", both articles from 2002 addressing the idea of removing lockers for other reasons, but the result is that children are provided two sets of textbooks: one for home, one for school. We are aware that this is the practice in some of Hoover's classrooms, but not all. We'd like to gather more information to see exactly where we are and what it would take to ensure all children have access to either electronic textbooks or class sets of textbooks.

The results of this survey will be presented to the Board of Education and Mr. Andy Craig.

This survey opportunity will be available through November 9.

We will ask you for the actual weight of your child's backpack during this survey. If you do not have your child's backpack available, please estimate its weight.

[Click here to view the survey prior to participating in it.](#)

[Click here to take the survey.](#)

[2008 Hoover City Schools Budget](#) - *posted 10/28/07*

[Financial Statements for Hoover City Schools](#) - *posted 10/28/07*

[SchoolCast Official Information](#) - *posted 10/28/07*

Click the link to go to Hoover City Schools' official information on SchoolCast. The User Guide is posted there as well! Remember to keep your information current!

Hoover High Investigation Update

News Articles and Newsletters

Hoover News

[Hoover High Students to Stage Greek Tragedy - October 24, Birmingham News](#)

[Banquet Honors Students' Academic Achievement - October 24, Birmingham News](#)