

## *What's New? Week of November 5, 2007*

### **Important Dates**

November 8 - Capital Planning Committee Meeting, 12 noon, Central Office

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 15 - Capital Planning Committee Meeting, 12 noon, Central Office

November 21 - 23 - Thanksgiving Holidays, No School

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

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### **Capital Planning Committee Meetings** - *posted 10/30/07*

Hoover City Schools has formed a Capital Planning Committee to form a 5-year capital (building) plan for Hoover City Schools. This committee meets every Thursday at 12:00 noon at the Central Office. Meetings are open to the public. Meetings will continue through November 15.

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### **Parent Letter Regarding Staph Infections** - *posted 10/29/07*

Click on the link to read information provided by Hoover City Schools regarding staph infections.

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*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.

<b>Person's Weight (lb.)</b>	<b>Maximum Backpack Weight (lb.)</b>
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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:

60-75	10
100	15
125	18
150	20
200 or more	25*

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.

\*No one should carry more than 25 lb.

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.](#)

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## [Hoover High Investigation Update](#)

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### News Articles and Newsletters

#### Hoover News

[Jenna Bush Shares Stories of Hope - November 3, Birmingham News](#)

[Hoover May Buy Land to Stop Apartments - November 2, Birmingham News](#)

[Classroom Clips - October 31, Birmingham News](#)