

What's New? Week of January 29, 2007

Don't Forget! Hoover City Schools' *First Parent Involvement Night* is THURSDAY, February 1 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. [Click here for more information](#)

Articles of Interest

[Does Alabama Set Bar Too Low?](#) - January 21, 2007, Montgomery Advertiser, *posted 01/22/07*

[Reader's Digest Article: How Is It That Sexual Predators Are Getting a Free Pass in Our Children's Schools?](#) - *posted 01/27/07*

Survey - Random Drug Testing - NEW!

This next survey will gauge public opinion on the current Random Drug Testing policy and proposed changes. This survey will run from Friday, January 27, until Thursday, February 8.

To view the current Drug Testing Policy, click [here](#).

[Click Here to take the survey](#)

Recent News Coverage of Proposed Changes in Drug Testing Policy

[Student Parking Fees May Rise to Pay for Drug Tests - January 10, Birmingham News](#)

[Board Considers Drug Tests for Parking Passes - November 15, Birmingham News](#)

Survey Results

[Survey #4 - Hoover City Schools Website](#) - January 8, 2007 through January 26, 2007.

From the [District Information](#) page:

Calendar - This calendar outlines all of the **activities** going on in our Hoover City Schools.

Go to the Home Page of the new [Hoover City Schools' website](#), click on "**School Activity Calendars**", then at the top of that list, click on "**Board of Education**". Check the box labeled "**HCS District Calendar**", then "view selected calendars".

School Calendar -
[2006-2007 School Year](#)
[2007-2008 School Year \(Proposed\)](#)

Board of Education Appointments - *posted 01/25/07*

Our City Council will be appointing a new School Board member in April. They typically begin taking resumes in February. Serving on the Hoover School Board of Education is the highest form of service to our school community.

If you have any interest in serving on our School Board, please take the time to submit a resume. The Education Committee of the City Council has previously granted interviews to all who apply. Interviews typically take place during the month of March.

Last year, the interviews were public for the first time. Twenty-one people were interviewed for two open positions. Questions were asked about what the applicants thought were our school systems' strengths and weaknesses, how test scores are viewed, and various other general questions. Those who interviewed stated that the interviews being public was not a problem for them.

We need good, qualified School Board members. Please consider applying for this next appointment.

To visit the Hoover City Council's official page on the Board of Education, click [here](#).

From the [Board of Education](#) page under Links:

[School Boards. Focus on School Performance, not Money and Patronage.](#) From the Progressive Policy Institute, January 2003. *Posted 01/28/07*

Appointed or Elected Boards?- *posted 01/28/07*

Following is a sampling of documents discussing the advantages and disadvantages of each. These documents are presented to encourage discussion regarding which form of school governance best suits our Hoover community. You will find documents supporting and opposing each form. Happy reading!

- [School System Hypocrites and Our Incompetent School Board](#) - from The Chattanooga, January 27, 2007. Strongly opposes elected boards.
- [NSBA Q&A: Elected vs. Appointed School Boards](#)
- [Maryland School Boards Switching to Elected Boards](#)
- [Appointed School Board? Terrible Idea](#) - from Northwest Asian Weekly, December 2006
- [Should City School Board Be Elected?](#) - from the Baltimore Sun, January 2007.

- [Some School Boards Switching from Appointed to Elected](#) - from the NSBA, 2002. [Discusses Birmingham City's switch to an elected Board]
- [K-12 Education Subcommittee of Indiana Government Efficiency Commission](#) - November 2006. This report makes a number of recommendations on improving K-12 schooling, but pages 12 and 13 deal specifically with school board governance.

If you have a document or other information you'd like to share regarding appointed or elected school boards, please send them to HSCIN@HSCIN.org.