

## What's New? Week of November 27, 2006

### Community Meetings Superintendent Search

**The Community Meetings will be held next Wednesday, November 29, at 7:00 p.m. at Hoover High School, and Thursday, November 30, at 7:00 p.m. at Spain Park High School.** These meetings will be facilitated by the Superintendent Search Firm, Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates. Please make plans to attend one of the two meetings offered.

Click [here](#) for directions to Hoover High School (Hoover High School is #1 on the map).

Click [here](#) for directions to Spain Park High School.

Click [here](#) to read Mr. Bill Veitch's letter of invitation.

This is your chance to give your input into what kind of Leader we need to take our School System into the next decade.

Please complete the [Leadership Profile Form](#) and bring it with you to the Meeting.

If you are unable to attend one of the Community Meetings, the Leadership Profile Form should be completed and returned to school offices or the central office, or faxed/mailed to Hazard, Young, Attea, & Associates (HYA) by Friday, December 1, 2006.

Fax number: 847-724-8467.

Address: 1151 Waukegan Road, Suite 200, Glenview, IL 60025

### The Parent Resources Links section has been reorganized:

This section has been reorganized into Categories.

Categories

[School Improvement](#)

[Parent Involvement - General Articles and Information](#)

[Parent Involvement - What You Can Do](#)

[Organizations](#)

[How Families Can Help Their Children Succeed](#)

[Communicating with Schools and Teachers](#)

[Homework](#)

[Curriculum and Standards](#)

[Other Online Resources](#)

### New [Parent Resources](#) Posted

[Report Cards and the Parent-Teacher Conference---Are You Prepared?](#) *Posted 11/23/06.* From The Parent Leadership Exchange. Checklist of questions to ask about your child's classroom experience.

[Family Friendly Schools Blog.](#) From Family Friendly Schools. Dr. Constantino writes a weekly blog on Family Engagement. Put on your thinking caps.

[We are Way Past Reading Together - Why and How Does Parental Involvement in Adolescence Make Sense](#) - *Posted 11/23/06*. From the Family Involvement Network of Educators (FINE) Family-School Relations Conference in July 2006. Confirms parent involvement in their children's education shouldn't stop at elementary school. Gives examples of real outcomes of engaging families in their adolescent's education.

[10 Things Any School Can Do to Build Parent Involvement...and 5 Great Ways to Fail](#). From the Parent Institute. *Posted 11/23/06*.

[It Takes a Parent: Transforming Education in the Wake of the No Child Left Behind Act](#). From Appleseed. Affirms the importance of Parental Involvement in the student success. "Parents are a crucial - and often overlooked resource -- in the quest to raise student academic performance." *Posted 11/23/06*.

[12 Truths That We Know About Parent Involvement](#). From [It Takes a Parent](#). *Posted 11/23/06*.

[What Principals Would Tell Parents to Help Parents Help Their Children](#). From the Parent Institute. *Posted 11/23/06*.

## New ELL Resources Posted

[Parent-Teacher Conference Tip Sheet](#). From the Institute for Responsive Education. In Spanish.

[ToolKit for Hispanic Families](#). From the U.S. Department of Education. In English. *Posted 11/23/06*

[ToolKit for Hispanic Families](#). From the U.S. Department of Education. In Spanish. *Posted 11/23/06*

## New Information Posted on [School Pages](#)

Click [here](#) to access the Title I Targeted Assistance Plan for Rocky Ridge Elementary. This plan describes what services are available and what measures are in place for children that receive Free and Reduced Lunch benefits.

[Spain Park tapped to participate in 21st Century Learning Project](#) - *posted 11/23/06*

## New [Board of Education](#) Information Posted

Click [here](#) to view page 35 of the Policy Manual outlining Public Participation guidelines.

[Characteristics of Effective School Board Members](#). From the Parent Leadership Network. *Posted 11/23/06*.

## New [Central Office](#) Information Posted

The [District Wellness Policy](#) was adopted on March 13, 2006. It contains information on Nutrition Standards, Physical Activity Standards, and Nutrition Education for students.

The [Wellness Assessment Tool](#) will be utilized during the 2006-2007 school year to determine how well Hoover Schools are following the State Board policy and our own Policy. Parents and community members will be part of that assessment process. If you are interested in serving in that capacity, please contact your child's principal.

[Action for Healthy Kids](#) has distributed a number of documents for use by School Districts in addressing the obesity epidemic affecting our nation's children.

Topics available are:

- [Guide to Healthy School Fundraising](#)
- [Guide to Healthy School Parties](#)
- [Guide to Healthy Vending Machines](#)
- [Guide to Physical Activity in Schools](#)

Click [here](#) to read information pertaining to the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004. The Reauthorization of this Act required all school districts to implement Wellness Policies before the 2006-2007 school year.

[The Fact Sheet on the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act Section 204 of Public Law 108-265 --- June 30, 2004](#)

### New [Accountability Information](#) posted:


[SchoolMatters.com](#) - Every fact and figure that can be compiled is on this website. Funded by the Broad Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, SchoolMatters gives detailed testing information for Alabama and its school districts. Comparison tools are available.

[State of Alabama Accountability Plan](#) approved February 2006. Lots of definitions of individual components of the Accountability Standards. *Posted 11/23/06*

The following is from the new [Community Events](#) page:

*Spain Park Winter 2006 Art Show and Sale*

Spain Park High School - December 12, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m.



**Spain Park**  
 Park Gallery  
 Presents:  
 Winter 2006  
 Art Show and Sale  
 Juried Student Art and  
 Professional Guest artists:

Wade Oliver	Shane Co
Jason Anderson	Erik Mye
Susan Ripp	Cindy Ch
Susan Jackson	Nataline
Cindy Barberini	Karen No
Barbarann Beckett-Gaines	Gene Fern

PARKER HOLT

## News Articles Posted

[Hoover Gazette's Your Schools Section](#) - posted 11/23/06. Contains all articles published in the Gazette regarding Hoover City Schools

[Next Hoover School Likely to be Elementary, Andy Craig Says - November 23, Birmingham News](#)

[Hoover Starts Fiscal Year with Lower Sales Tax Revenues - November 23, Birmingham News](#)

[Schools Tackle Diversity with Remedial Push, November 23, Birmingham News Hoover Editor's Column](#)

[Classroom Clips - November 23, Birmingham News](#)

[High School Students Earn AP Scholar Recognition - November 23, Birmingham News](#)

[Hoover School, City Workers Named Employees of the Year - November 23, Birmingham News](#)

[Good Grades? Perfect Attendance? Want a Chance to Win a New Car? - November 23, Birmingham News](#)

## [New No Child Left Behind and Federal Programs Information Posted](#)

No Child Left Behind is up for Reauthorization in 2007. Dr. Steve Constantino, Director of Family Friendly Schools provide [these suggestions](#) on how to voice your opinion.

Check out our new [Transitions](#) page. It contains information on easing the transition into school at all levels, and tips on starting a new school.

From the [Enrichment Page](#):

## [Gifted Education and the No Child Left Behind Act](#)

Please note that Hoover City Schools does not use the term "gifted" nor do they test for "giftedness". They operate under the premise that the enrichment program offered is sufficient to address gifted children's needs.

Many believe that NCLB only applies to students struggling to attain proficiency. That is not completely true. Below are documents and presentations outlining how Gifted Education and NCLB are connected.

[Gifted Education and the No Child Left Behind Act: In Leaving No Child Behind, Will the Gifted be Held Back?](#) From the GAGC Conference, March 2004. PowerPoint presentation (click [here](#) for the PDF).  
*Posted 11/25/06.*

[Does the No Child Left Behind Act Do Anything for Gifted Children?](#) From the National Association for Gifted Children. 2003. *Posted 11/25/06.*

From the [What's New Page](#):

[Differentiated Instruction](#) - adapted from discussions with Dr. Deborah Camp, Director of Elementary Curriculum, Teaching, and Technology for Hoover City Schools. *Posted 11/25/06.*

[What Makes a School Successful?](#) From Family Friendly Schools. *Posted 11/25/06.*

[Good Schools Can Happen.](#) From Parade magazine. An outline of how five areas turned their schools and live around. Published August 2006. *Posted 11/25/06.*

From the [Resources for Families of Children with Special Needs](#) page:

Please share your experiences your family has had with Hoover City Schools. E-mail [Experiences@HSCIN.org](mailto:Experiences@HSCIN.org). Information will be kept confidential unless permission is obtained from you. (We are developing this resource and would appreciate hearing from families of children with Special Needs.)

[Resources for Parents of Students in Grade K-8.](#) From the National Center for Learning Disabilities. *Posted 11/25/06.*

[Tips for a Successful IEP Meeting.](#) From the National Center for Learning Disabilities. *Posted 11/25/06.*

[National Center for Learning Disabilities.](#) *Posted 11/25/06.*