



# News From Hoover-Schrum Memorial School District 157

## The New Schrum Middle School is Finally Open!

The opening of the new Schrum Memorial Middle School is finally here! On Monday, August 15, 2016, the Opening Day Institute was held at the new school, and the first day of school for students was Wednesday, August 17, 2016. The new school is filled with innovative learning features that include:

- A state-of-the-art STEM Lab, that includes a second floor level for multi-leveled experiments,
- Separate grade level unit configurations for 6th, 7th and 8th grades,
- A large Commons Area in each grade level unit,
- Collapsible walls in the Science and Mathematics rooms that open up into the Commons Area,
- A large Cafetorium, that will serve as the cafeteria and auditorium, with a performance stage,
- A well-equipped kitchen with up-to-date appliances and unique culinary features,
- An expansive gymnasium, with ample space for all athletic events, and
- An advanced HVAC system, with the latest technologies and components.

We anticipate that teaching and learning will be greatly enhanced this school year, as we incorporate all of the new revolutionary features into our students’ educational experiences!

## Back-to-School Million Father March Breakfast and Community Partners Luncheon Held on August 17, 2016

The first day of school kicked off with two very special events for community members when Hoover-Schrum Memorial School District 157 hosted the Annual Back-to-School Million Father March Breakfast at Hoover School and the Community Partners Luncheon at the new Schrum Memorial Middle School on Wednesday, August 17, 2016. Community members were invited to attend each of these two special events.

The 12th Annual Back-to-School Million Father March Breakfast was held at 8:30 a.m. for the fathers and father-figures within our school district. We encouraged all fathers and father-figures (grandfathers, uncles, big brothers, neighbors, and friends) of Hoover-Schrum to participate in this event by bringing their children to school on the first day. A delicious

breakfast was served and a motivational guest speaker was featured.

The Community Partners Luncheon began at Noon, and the event featured tours of the new school. The luncheon also included the opportunity for the community partners and the school district to share ideas that focus on ways to support our students and how the district can support their businesses and organizations.

Resourceful books that will help foster support for our students were given to all community members who attended both of these events.

We are thankful to everyone who attended these very special community events! We are looking forward to working with each of you!

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## District Administration

Dr. Michele Morris  
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Mrs. Cynthia Revels-Young  
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Ms. Annie Wade  
School Nutrition Program Director

Dr. Shernita Mays  
District Principal

Mrs. Carmelita Cross  
Assistant Principal, Hoover School  
Ms. Shirley Creamer  
Assistant Principal, Schrum School

Ms. Nahreisha Tate  
Dean of Students, Hoover School  
Mrs. Natalie Bako  
Dean of Students, Schrum School

## Important Dates

### To Remember:

#### August 15th:

District-wide Opening Day Institute at Hoover School  
(No School)

#### August 16th:

Building Institutes at Hoover School and Schrum School  
(No School)

#### August 17th:

First Day of School  
(5 Hour Attendance: 8:10 a.m. – 1:10 p.m.)

Million Father March Breakfast  
at Hoover School  
at 8:30 a.m.

Community  
Partners Luncheon  
at Schrum School  
at 12:00 p.m.

#### August 18th:

First Full Day of Attendance  
(8:10 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.)

#### August 22nd:

Pre-Kindergarten Screening  
at Hoover School  
(8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

#### August 23rd:

Pre-Kindergarten Screening  
at Hoover School  
(8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

#### August 24th:

Pre-Kindergarten Screening  
at Hoover School  
(8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

#### August 31st:

First Day of School for  
Pre-Kindergarten and Early Childhood Students  
(8:10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. &  
12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)

#### September 8th:

Schrum School Open House  
(6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

#### September 15th:

Hoover School  
Open House  
(6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)



## From the Desk of the Superintendent

### Dr. Michele Morris

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT



Throughout this beautiful Summer, we have been very busy in Hoover-Schrum Memorial School District 157 preparing for the new school year. The 2016 – 2017 school year will bring many exciting changes within the District, as highlighted below:

- The most exciting and visible change for the new school year is the well-anticipated opening of the new Schrum Memorial Middle School! Thanks to the support of the Hoover-Schrum community and its devoted stakeholders, the vision and dream of a brand new state-of-the-art school for our students has come to life! Exciting details about the new innovative learning spaces that are included in the new school, can be found on page 1 of this newsletter.
- Dr. Shernita Mays will continue to serve as the District Principal, providing outstanding leadership to Hoover School and Schrum Memorial Middle School. As the principal of both schools, Dr. Mays will move forward in her quest to provide our schools with the leadership that is needed to create a powerful and cohesive connection between our two schools.

This school year, there will also be exciting changes in the administrative assignments as follows:

- There will be a change in the Assistant Principal assigned to each school.
  - I am pleased to announce that Mrs. Carmelita Cross will be the new Assistant Principal at Hoover School. Over the past 15 years, Mrs. Cross has served in many capacities at Hoover School, including: Classroom Teacher, Reading Specialist, Teacher Leader, and Supervisory Dean/Highly Qualified Evaluator.
  - I am also thrilled to announce that Ms. Shirley Creamer, former Assistant Principal of Hoover School, will now be the Assistant Principal of Schrum Memorial Middle School.
- Each school will also have a full time Dean of Students, which will greatly enhance our mission to implement the new Senate Bill 100, which has been mandated by the State to provide guidance for all Illinois schools in the area of discipline. Nahreisha Tate will serve as the Dean of Students for Hoover School, and Natalie Bako will serve as the Dean of Students for Schrum Memorial Middle School.
- There will also be a new and exciting addition to the administrative team in the Special Services Department. Mrs. Dana Ash, former Assistant Principal of Schrum Memorial Middle School and Hoover School, will serve as the Interim Special Education Director. Mrs. Cynthia Revels-Young will continue to serve as the Special Services Coordinator and the McKinney-Vento Act Liaison.
- Throughout the upcoming school year, we will also continue to focus on the integration of the Common Core Standards and preparation and readiness for the PARCC assessments. Effective strategies will be incorporated into the delivery of instruction within the classrooms in our district.

This school year will be especially momentous to me because I will be retiring as this school year comes to a close. My retirement will be a bittersweet experience for me because, although I am excited about the possibilities that exist in my life after retirement, I will sincerely treasure the time that I have spent as the Superintendent of this wonderful district. Together, we accomplished amazing things, and I will always be grateful for the opportunity to work with the Hoover-Schrum Board of Education, students, parents, staff and community.

In closing, the 2016- 2017 school year will be filled with numerous enhancements to provide our students with positive learning experiences! Collectively, we are excited about the new year, and we look forward to working with the Hoover-Schrum Memorial School District 157 Stakeholders to make this a wonderful school year!

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings District 157 Neighbors, Families, and Friends,

I am happy to report that our new school is finally completed! Our mild winter has been a blessing for the construction of the new school, because we were able to stay on budget. Our new school will be a gem in our neighborhood, and will be an asset to our community! We have endured usual construction challenges, and in spite of the challenges, we were still able to stay on budget. The thought of a new facility that will assist our teachers in helping our children become academically sound in the 21st century world is exciting. I am looking forward to the way our staff will utilize the facility, but, also the way our children will create new ways to maximize their limitless potential.

I wish I could report only good news, but, with the state budget blues that we all are wrestling with, it does not help our mission. Educating children cost money. We have many unfunded mandates that the state and federal government impose on us, and we have to satisfy those mandates the best we can. The school year must still go on, business as usual, and the costs to educate our children will still continue to rise. I am only reiterating these things to inform our stakeholders of our increasing day-to-day and year-to-year operating expenses.

We have tried to stay the course and use all the funding that is available. We apply for federal grants and other fiscal resources that help us to navigate through each year. Our Business Department has been outstanding in finding untapped revenue, while being fiscally creative and prudent. I want to applaud their efforts and thank them for their contributions to our school district.

Our successes are building blocks in our children's foundation. Their learning experiences become solid pillars on which they continue to build their academic growth. We, as the Board of Education, want to provide all of the tools that are available to our children, so they can successfully construct their own future. We know their education directly correlates with their success as adults.

The amazing future of Hoover-Schrum is unfolding, and it is only getting better as we move forward. The light at the end of the tunnel for this journey is shining bright. We need to stay the course and build on our successes. We have to remind ourselves that this is not the end of our journey, but just the beginning. We have to work harder. We have to think clearer. Our shared vision is a reality, and we still need our village to help us move forward. I want to encourage our District 157 families, friends and neighbors, to volunteer a little of your time to our schools because your help in our partnership is still greatly needed. Remember, together, we can make a difference in our children's lives!

Thank you for all of your support!

Charles Garcia  
President of the Board of Education

## The Community Open House for the New Schrum Memorial Middle School will be held on Saturday, September 24, 2016

On Saturday, September 24, 2016, from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., Hoover-Schrum Memorial School District 157 will host a Community Open House for the new Schrum Memorial Middle School. All students, parents, staff members, and community members are invited to come out and join us for this wonderful event. Tours of the new school will be conducted throughout the event, led by our Student Ambassadors from the National Junior Honor Society and the Student Council. In addition, the event will also be filled with food and raffle prizes. Please plan to join us for the Community Open House as we celebrate this new and amazing learning environment for our students!



## Clear Bookbags Required for All Students

During the 2016–2017 school year, all students in District 157 will be required to use clear bookbags for their school supplies and books that they carry to school. This initiative will help us to enhance the security within our schools and improve our disciplinary procedures. Bookbags that are not clear will not be allowed in our school buildings. Clear bookbags are available for purchase for \$20 throughout the school year.



## Pre-Kindergarten Screening Dates

Pre-Kindergarten Screenings were held at Hoover School for children ages 3 or 4 years old on the following dates:

Monday, August 22nd:  
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 23rd:  
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 24th:  
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

For more information related to Pre-Kindergarten Screenings, please contact the Special Services Coordinator, Mrs. Cynthia Revels-Young, at (708) 868-7501 or (708) 862-4230.



## Parents Are Needed for the 2016-2017 Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)!

During the 2016–2017 school year, PTO meetings will be held regularly and parents are needed to serve on the PTO Executive Board. Parents interested in becoming active members of the PTO should contact the Hoover School and Schrum School Principal, Dr. Shernita Mays. Thank you for helping our schools and our students!



# Hoover-Schrum Memorial School District 157's

## COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, September 24th

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Schrum Memorial Middle School

*Join the fun to celebrate the opening of the new  
Schrum Memorial Middle School!  
Food, Raffle Prizes, Music, and Tours of the New School!  
Everyone is Welcome!*

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