



## Park Forest – Chicago Heights School District 163

242 South Orchard Drive  
Park Forest, Illinois 60466  
Phone: (708) 668-9427  
[www.sd163.com](http://www.sd163.com)

**Caletha White Ed. D.**  
Superintendent

May 3, 2023

Dear 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents/Guardians,

We look forward to the 2023-24 school year and your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade experience. All School District 163 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the Leadership Development and Mentoring program at the Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts. Students and teachers will participate in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Genius Week in August, and quarterly during the school year. Students will also participate in ongoing leadership activities, Principal mentoring events, weekly motivational activities, and community service experiences.

Each 8<sup>th</sup> grade student will wear leadership apparel daily beginning the first day of school, Monday, August 21, 2023. Students will need a leadership cardigan, white shirts, khaki or navy pants/skirt. All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be required to wear leadership apparel every day. A Leadership Launch Pearls and Ties ceremony will be hosted for all 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents. Pearls and ties will be provided by the school district. Please refer to the attached Leadership Apparel Order Form or you may purchase apparel from several local stores. ***The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Ambassador Cardigan will be embroidered with school information and must be purchased from the school for \$25.00.*** Also, in August, we will host an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Pop-Up Shop for purchasing apparel at Michelle Obama School. More information will follow regarding the on-site 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Apparel Pop-Up Shop.

It is the vision of School District 163 that our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Development and Mentoring program will have a positive impact on our young leaders by focusing on leadership activities in the school and community, enhancing positive self-image, promoting positive social emotional growth, discovering individual interests and potential, and providing opportunities for goal setting through engaging experiences. It is our desire to promote the greatness within each student!

The school Principal will host an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Forum in August and during Open House in September to share more information about the 2023-24 Leadership Development and Mentoring Program.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Caletha White*

Caletha White, Ed. D.  
Superintendent

21<sup>st</sup> Century Primary Center  
240 S. Orchard Drive  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
(708) 668-9490  
Fax (708) 747-0261

Algonquin Pre-K Center  
170 Algonquin  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
(708) 668-9200  
Fax (708) 503-2267

Barack Obama School of  
Leadership and Stem  
401 Concord Drive  
Chicago Heights, IL 60411  
(708) 668-9100  
Fax (708) 283-2358

Blackhawk Primary Center  
130 Blackhawk Drive  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
(708) 668-9500  
Fax (708) 481-0917

Mohawk Primary Center  
301 Mohawk  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
(708) 668-9300  
Fax (708) 748-9738

Michelle Obama School of  
Technology and the Arts  
530 Lakewood  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
(708) 668-9600  
Fax (708) 503-2297

***"Continuing to Build Positive and Effective Learning Communities"***



**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Apparel**

**White short sleeve polo shirt**

**White long sleeve button up dress shirt (with or without pocket)**

**White short sleeve button up dress shirt (with or without pocket)**

**Girls navy or khaki pleated skirt**

**Girls or boys navy or khaki pants**

