



Caletha White, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools

**Park Forest-Chicago Heights
School District 163
242 S. Orchard Drive
Park Forest, IL 60466
(708) 668-9427
www.sd163.com**

April 16, 2021

Dear School District 163 Families,

The Park Forest-Chicago Heights Board of Education is committed to maximizing the learning opportunities for all students by providing equitable services and programs throughout the school district. At the March 22, 2021 Board of Education Meeting the Board voted to reconfigure our 4th – 8th grade schools.

Beginning in August 2021, all 4th and 5th grade students will attend Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM, and all 6th, 7th and 8th grade students will attend Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts. Prior to the Board action on March 22nd, we engaged in dialogue through committee meetings with administrators, teachers, and parents to discuss the grade center changes. We began our collaboration in March 2020 with over 140 stakeholders and 20 committee meetings through March 2021. We also shared a parent survey to broaden the voice of our parents. We appreciate everyone that participated in the dialogue about effective programs for our students. We believe this change will support the social-emotional and academic goals for all students by providing environments that enhance development through targeted programs for students at the grade levels serviced by each school. We also believe that this configuration will offer equitable opportunities for all students by ensuring access to our STEM and Performing Arts Programs regardless of student eligibility status.

Registration for returning students for the 2021-22 school year begins Monday, May 3rd. When you register, your child will be assigned to the designated school. More details regarding registration are forthcoming.

If you have any questions regarding this transition, please feel free to contact me at 708-668-9427 or email FAQ163@sd163.com. We look forward to returning to in-person instruction and continuing to provide positive and effective learning communities for our children. Stay safe and well!

Sincerely,

Caletha White, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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

Algonquin Pre-Kindergarten 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”