



SCH Weekly

August 19, 2019

Greetings SCH Family,

I was able to get to all 19 school buildings over the course of the first 3 days of school. I was very impressed by what I witnessed and saw many examples of teachers being highly relational and working with kids on meeting expectations. I am hopeful the positivity surrounding the new year permeates your school culture and becomes the norm.



One of the goals I have is to improve the communication between the district office and our 19 buildings. One step in that direction is this newsletter, which we hope to send out at the beginning of each week. It is inspired by the weekly newsletter that Dr. McCormick sends out. It is a work in progress, so please share any feedback with me on how to improve it!

Speaking of State Superintendent McCormick, we will be welcoming her to our district next Thursday, 8/29. Part of her visit will be a Question and Answer session that will be live streamed across the district. My intention is to ask her questions from the teachers, principals, staff members, and students in the district. Please submit your question on this [Google Form](#). Respondents who fill out the name field will be more likely to have their question asked than anonymous respondents.

Hope your first full week goes great!

- Scott

Curriculum

ACC

Home. This is how our students often regard their return to the Area Career Center – they are returning home. *Home* happens when the environment provides a safe, open, learning space where each student is supported and his/her potential is recognized. Home also happens when an entire teaching staff regards students as individuals and fosters an atmosphere of high expectations for exceptional learning. Finally, home happens when students are well known due to the intentional connections created by the important adults in their lives. We are those adults who are committed to create a home for your child here at the **Hammond Area Career Center University** – and the **Career & Technical Education Programs**. These include:

- Early Childhood Education
- Criminal Justice
- Dental
- Health Careers I
- Health Careers II CNA
- Cosmetology
- Emergency Medical
- Welding
- Auto Collision
- Auto Tech
- Culinary Arts & Hospitality
- Printing/Graphic Arts
- Broadcast/Multimedia

Head Start



Head Start is ready to rock its learning shoes just like Pete the Cat! We've adopted Pete's attitude of – "It's all good!". It's the message that goes out to staff, parents and most importantly our students as for many of them it's their first preschool experience. From the very first day, Head Start teaching staff incorporate the 1st 20 Days approach. Providing classroom environments where students' feel safe and secure, know what to expect, and feel a part of their classroom community sets the foundation for learning to take place. Our Family Support staff are continuing to take applications for both full-day and half-day class sessions. Questions and referrals can be directed to (219) 989-7345, ext. 3551.

Title I

A major component of Title One is FACE (Family and Community Engagement). In the School City of Hammond, we have a family involvement facilitator housed in every school. This person is an incredible resource for your families. Not only are they able to help families navigate the ins and outs of your school, they also have information for local resources in the city, township, and county. If you are new and haven't had the chance to meet your facilitator yet, make sure you introduce yourself and make that connection. I guarantee you will need them at some point this school year. The 2019/20 facilitators are:

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| Clark: Kimberly Syler | Kenwood: LeTerra Smith |
| Edison: April Harris | Lincoln: Barbara Marshall |
| Eggers: Karimar Weekes | Maywood: Megan Leland & Jennifer Schoon |
| Franklin: Tim Scoleri | Morton ES: Maria Hernandez |
| Gavit: Amy Zwierz | Morton HS: Sylvia Collazo |
| Hammond HS: Rocharda Moore-Morris | O'Bannon: LaShawn Cook |
| Harding: Jackie Perez | Scott: Christine Hernandez |
| Hess: Megan Bland & Marcia Witherspoon | Wallace: Pam Austin |
| Irving: Deysa Hernandez | SCH District Coordinator: Kriss Byquist |
| Jefferson: Tabitha Balio | |

Food & Nutrition

Come Eat With Us – We're The Best Deal In Town!



Did you know that all staff are always welcome to come get a delicious meal in the cafeteria? We are the best deal in town! You can get a full lunch meal (an entrée, choice of two ½ cup servings of vegetables, choice of 2 fruit servings, plus a milk) for only \$3.65?! Or maybe you work at one of our secondary schools where they serve the *most delicious soft serve frozen yogurt* you have ever tasted! Don't be shy – jump in line! Don't want to carry around cash? If you haven't already done so – create a MySchoolBucks account! You can deposit money in to your account and then just type in your number when you get to the cashier! To create your account:

- Go to www.MySchoolBucks.com and register for a free account
- Enter your name and employee ID number, choose "District Staff" as your school
- Make a payment to your student or staff accounts with your credit/debit card or electronic check.

If you have any difficulty creating your account please reach out to Cathy Fisher and she can help you – CRFisher@hammond.k12.in.us

Now you might be asking yourself, "...but Christine – how do I know what the cafeteria is serving? I don't want to have to go all the way there just to find out it wasn't what I was craving.". I'm so glad you asked! Did you know you can find our menus on the 'MealViewer To Go' app? It is available for download on all smart devices! Or you can find and bookmark your school's individual meal webpage – just check out <https://schools.mealviewer.com/district/Hammond,IN!>

Technology

The Technology Department is sending out a FAQ this week that will help answer your pressing questions! We are making strides everyday on getting PowerSchool up and running with everything we need it to do. We appreciate everyone's patience. If you have an technology hardware issues in your classroom (non-PowerSchool related), please make sure you put in a Technology Work Order.

Transportation

On the Move for the 2019-2020 School Year

Transportation is on the move for the 2019-2020 school year. Our department will transport approximately 2,500 students each day to varying Hammond schools. Over 2,400 postcards were sent to students attending various schools within the SCH who are eligible for mass transit, or bus stop pick-up. More than 200 profiles have been submitted and processed for the transport of special education, 504, and other students, across the School City of Hammond. The SCH Transportation Department is committed to the safe transport of each student we service and will continue to work hard at supporting all schools with their transportation needs. To check for eligibility of transportation please contact the Transportation Department at (219) 933-2438.

Transportation is Moving in a New Direction

The SCH Transportation Department has new director, Mr. Rhoderick E. Poats Sr. Rhoderick will transition to his new role after having served as an administrator at Eggers Middle School and Hammond High School. Most recently as building principal, Rhoderick states that, "He plans to improve communication between schools and the Transportation Department, while aligning practices to the SCH vision for students."

Mr. Poats replaced Terry Butler, who retired at the close of last school year after many successful years as Director. He joins Jennifer Jimenez (Transportation Supervisor), Sharon DiMauro (Route Coordinator), Laura Vela (Dispatcher), Amanda Wells (Dispatcher) and Barbara Cagle (Trip Coordinator), as well as the many bus drivers, bus monitors, porters, and mechanics who all help to run a successful department.

Stay Informed

An update from the Superintendent is distributed every Monday.