

Board of Education

**Stephen Presley
Earl Cooper
Craig Kelley
Jill Ganus Veitch
Deanna Bamman**

Dr. Kathy Murphy
Superintendent



**HOOVER
CITY SCHOOLS**
2810 METROPOLITAN WAY
HOOVER, ALABAMA 35243
205-439-1000

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Dear HCS,

In addition to our primary efforts of maintaining safe, positive learning environments for our students and employees, we also stay focused on what is in the best interest of all of our stakeholders. That said, we want to share with you what the next school year holds in terms of the rezoning plan. As you all know, we have submitted a report to the Court concerning rezoning. That report contained a request for final approval of the rezoning plan and it remains pending. It appears we will not have the time to thoughtfully and reflectively take all of the steps we need to take to do the rezoning right for the 2017-2018 school year.

When the Court does address our request, we have decided to request of the Court that it be granted instead for the following school year (2018-2019) so that families, employees, and the school community will have plenty of time to adjust and prepare.

We believe we have addressed in a timely and thorough manner the questions presented to us by the parties regarding rezoning. The school district, the United States Department of Justice, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and our counsel have approached our work in positive and collaborative ways. This process has not only helped the other parties to understand more about our district, it has helped us reflect more deeply on our own hopes, dreams and goals for our schoolchildren. The work of rezoning and path toward unitary status can be complicated and challenging, however, our vision is clear - if we continue to focus on giving every individual child the educational opportunities they deserve and if we are willing to work tirelessly to that end, the promise of a unitary system will be absolutely fulfilled.

HCS will stay the course with our work and remain committed to rezoning in 2018-2019. We will continue to contemplate and address measures related to all of the Green factors and, most importantly, will remain focused on providing the very best education possible to the children this community has entrusted to us.

Dr. Kathy L. Murphy

Superintendent