

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

March 10, 2022

Dear Parents and Families:

On behalf of the School District of the City of Highland Park, I want to share with you the exciting news of our exploration into creating a new high school for you – our local families and students. We are in the very beginning stages of this initiative, knowing that we must exercise due diligence before taking any definitive steps.

First, we must determine the feasibility of building and operating a high school. Property options in the city are limited, and any location being considered must be suitable for quality learning and education. *Children First* is more than a district motto; it drives all our decisions for delivering the absolute best education every day to every student.

The Board of Education has created a High School Subcommittee, led by Chair Anthony Askew, to further explore the possibility of a high school. The BOE and this committee welcome all families and parents to join in an inclusive discussion on this issue as no decisions have been made to date. Listening to a variety of thoughts and ideas will help us arrive at the best options.

Finally, we must also consider the sustainability of a grade 9-12 high school to accommodate scholars from Barber Preparatory Academy and George Washington Carver Academy. Continued enrollment growth at Barber Prep, coupled with Carver's students, warrants a serious look at providing a high school right here in Highland Park. This is an important part of the Board of Education-approved 2018 Strategic Plan, and the community has asked us to do so as well. We look forward to working with all of you to make the best decision that aligns with putting *Children First*.

We encourage all parents and families in Highland Park to join us on this exploratory journey. Join us the **fourth Tuesday of each month** at 1 p.m. on Zoom to share your thoughts with the Board of Education High School Subcommittee. Zoom details are as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85784102693?pwd=Tk0rbHJCdXYyUXFkdIRvbjFNMHNkZz09>

Meeting ID: 857 8410 2693

Passcode: 163372

Sincerely,



Shamayim Harris
President
Board of Education
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