



Joyce Carmine, Ed. D.  
Superintendent

## Park Forest – Chicago Heights School District 163

242 South Orchard Drive  
Park Forest, Illinois 60466  
Phone: (708) 668-9400  
Fax: (708) 748-7071  
www.sd163.com

March 9, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As your child prepares for the transition to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade in the Fall of 2016 District 163 offers two school options based on your child’s interest and eligibility.

The Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts and the Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM will each offer different enhancements to peak student interest and infuse a deeper and more challenging component within the regular curriculum.

The Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts, will offer a program in the arts, namely theater, music, and visual arts. Eligible students will have additional opportunities for the performing arts through show choir and theater performances.

The Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM will offer a program of student leadership for upper grade students, and STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics for all students. This exciting curriculum integrates hands-on learning with technology and literacy in ways that motivate and excite students in areas such as alternative energy, robotics, and communication media arts. Eligible students will also be given opportunities for additional field learning experiences. Both schools will offer the core curriculum with alignment to the Illinois State Standards.

Students who qualify for eligibility will have the option to choose their school based on their individual interests in learning. Attached you will find a copy of the eligibility rubric that the staff will use to evaluate your child’s eligibility status for school choice, and an School Choice Application.

We are asking that you discuss the two school options with your child and complete an application indicating your child’s preference for his/her school assignment. Your child’s teacher is completing the eligibility rubric. **Please complete and return the school choice application to Traci Friel at the District Office at 242 S. Orchard Drive, Park Forest, IL. by Friday, May 2, 2016.** Your application will be reviewed in conjunction with your child’s eligibility

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

Algonquin Primary 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  
215 Wilson Street  
Park Forest, IL 60466  
(708) 668-9600  
Fax (708) 503-2297

*“Continuing to Build Positive and Effective Learning Communities”*

rubric. The final selection will be made by the Superintendent and you will be notified no later than June 3, 2016. Students who are not eligible to choose their attendance center will be assigned to either Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts or the Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM.

We are pleased and proud that we can offer our children a progressive learning experience that will continue to inspire and challenge each student's quest for knowledge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Carmine".

Joyce Carmine, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

att: Eligibility Rubric  
School Choice Application



# Park Forest - Chicago Heights District 163

School District 163 – www.sd163.com

## 2016-17 School Choice Application

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School \_\_\_\_\_ 21<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Blackhawk \_\_\_\_\_ Mohawk

Current Homeroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

My child is interested in attending the school selected below for 4<sup>th</sup> grade:

**Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM**

**Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts**

For the following reasons:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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For office use only:

Date received \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_