



Joyce Carmine, Ed. D.  
Superintendent

## Park Forest – Chicago Heights School District 163

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www.sd163.com

March 29, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

All District schools will offer the core curriculum with alignment to the Illinois State Standards. As your child prepares for the transition to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade in the Fall of 2017 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.

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 a 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 Tammy Graves at the District Office at 242 S. Orchard Drive, Park Forest, IL. by Friday, May 1, 2017.** Your application will be reviewed in conjunction with your child’s eligibility rubric. The final selection will be made by the Superintendent and you will be notified no later than June 3, 2017. Students who are not eligible to choose their attendance center will be assigned to either

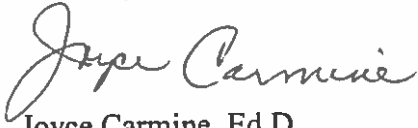
<p>21<sup>st</sup> Century Primary Center 240 S. Orchard Drive Park Forest, IL 60466 (708) 668-9490 Fax (708) 747-0261</p>	<p>Algonquin Primary Center 170 Algonquin Park Forest, IL 60466 (708) 668-9200 Fax (708) 503-2267</p>	<p>Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM 401 Concord Drive Chicago Heights, IL 60411 (708) 668-9100 Fax (708) 283-2358</p>	<p>Blackhawk Primary Center 130 Blackhawk Drive Park Forest, IL 60466 (708) 668-9500 Fax (708) 481-0917</p>	<p>Mohawk Primary Center 301 Mohawk Park Forest, IL 60466 (708) 668-9300 Fax (708) 748-9738</p>	<p>Michelle Obama School of Technology and the Arts 215 Wilson Street Park Forest, IL 60466 (708) 668-9600 Fax (708) 503-2297</p>
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*“Continuing to Build Positive and Effective Learning Communities”*

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

## 2017-18 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Eligibility Rubric for**

Criteria	0 Points	1 Point	2 points	3 Points	4 points	5 Points	Evidence
<b>Work Ethic</b>	% of time Student completes <u>quality class work</u> on time.	Less than 75%	75% - 79%	80-84%	85-89%	90-94%	Teacher Grade Book Score _____
	% of time Student completes <u>quality homework</u> .	Less than 75%	75% - 79%	80-84%	85-89%	90-94%	Teacher Grade Book Score _____
	% of time Student returns <u>evidence of at-home reading assignments</u> (book report, reading log, etc).	Less than 75%	75% - 79%	80-84%	85-89%	90-94%	At Home Reading log/report Score _____
Student demonstrates <u>perseverance</u>	Needs teacher support with all tasks/off-task most of the time.	Makes an effort to engage in tasks of mostly their choice.	Is sometimes engaged and devotes energy to lower level tasks.	Is often intellectually engaged and devotes energy to grade level tasks	Is intellectually engaged most of the time and devotes energy to grade level tasks	Is always intellectually engaged and devotes energy to rigorous tasks	Teacher recommendation Score _____
Student's <u>grade point average</u> during the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> marking periods	1.99 or lower	2.0-2.49	2.5-2.99	3.0-3.49	3.5-3.9	4.0	District Report GPA Score _____
<u>Attendance Rate</u> *Medical report documenting chronic illness such as: sickle cell, diabetes, or asthma.	Less than 85%	85-89%		90-94%		95% - 100% or absences as a result of a chronic illness *	District Student Attendance Report Score _____
Student's <u>Behavior</u>	Needs continuous redirection and/or has more than four referrals	Needs consistent redirection and is challenged behaviorally and/or has 3-4 referrals.	Needs frequent redirection in class and has 1-2 office referrals.	Demonstrates appropriate behavior for most of the time with reminders	Demonstrates appropriate behaviors/needs few reminders	Models appropriate behaviors/self directed	School Referral Database Score _____
							<b>Total Score</b>