



## **Hauser Junior High School**

**65 Woodside Road**

**Riverside, Illinois 60546**

**[www.district96.org/hauser/](http://www.district96.org/hauser/)**

**Telephone: 708-447-3896 ♦ Fax: 708-447-5180**

May 2010

Dear Current 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students and Parents:

Implementation of the middle school model at Hauser looks slightly different at each grade level. Staff members continue working diligently to fine tune our structure and to plan for programs that will better serve the needs of our young adolescents. Following are brief descriptions of some of the key features that will characterize middle level education at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level next year:

- This year, 7<sup>th</sup> graders attended core classes (Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies) during the afternoon core block. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade schedule is more like a traditional junior high school schedule, in that core classes occur throughout the school day. Our schedule begins to look more like a high school schedule during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.
  - Academic Advisory – All students will be assigned to a 30-minute advisory period that will take place between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> periods (1:29-1:59). The teacher advisor will be the key contact person for parents and will serve as a student advocate. Students who participate in band and orchestra will be pulled for small group sectional lessons on scheduled days during this time.
  - Increased exploration – Students will experience greater opportunity for exploration through Encore offerings. Descriptions of 8<sup>th</sup> grade courses are included in this packet. Due to the complexities of scheduling, no guarantees can be made that students will be registered for their first choices. In any case, all students will be assigned to exciting Encore courses and will experience greater exploration during the school day. Every effort will be made to accommodate at least some of each student's requests. **Please submit the enclosed request form (rank order choices from 1-14) no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>.**
- Students who do not submit request forms or who submit forms late will be randomly placed.**
- Eighth grade students will be enrolled in one trimester of Health. The Holt McDougal Littell *Decisions for Health* textbook will be used as classroom resource. All sources and activities are consistent with the national health standards and Illinois state standards. Topics of study will include: drug education, health and wellness, building responsible relationships, body systems and human sexuality, conflict management, and prevention of abuse and violence.
  - Physical Education – Unlike the P.E. program in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade gym classes are co-educational and one of the teachers is a member of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade team who meets daily with core teachers for planning.
  - Before-school band/orchestra/choir programs will be similar to this year's. Letters from the directors will be sent home separately.
  - An excellent selection of after-school activities will be offered, as in previous years. Co-curricular selections will include some clubs that were offered this year and some that will be new. Registration brochures will be distributed after the start of the school year.

We look forward to expanding students' opportunities for learning in the coming year. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about the 8<sup>th</sup> grade program.

Sincerely,

Leslie Berman  
Principal

**Riverside Public School District 96**

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Riverside, IL 60546**

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2400 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
North Riverside, IL 60546**