



# Calumet City School District No. 155

540 Superior Avenue

Calumet City, IL 60409

P: (708) 862-7665 F: (708) 868-7555

**Dr. Joseph H. Zotto, Superintendent**

**Tara T. Lawrence, Assistant Superintendent**

**"Where  
Learning  
Never  
Ends"**

Dear District 155 Families,

It is with deep sadness that I write to let you know that our beloved Wentworth Intermediate School Principal Julie Hassel passed away on December 17, 2020. Our condolences and thoughts go out to her family, friends and colleagues.

## **Wentworth Jr. High School**

560 Superior Avenue  
Calumet City, IL 60409

P: (708) 862-0750

F: (708) 862-1194

**Andrew Morgan, Principal**

## **Wentworth Intermediate School**

530 Superior Avenue  
Calumet City, IL 60409

P: (708) 868-7926

F: (708) 868-7671

**Julie Hassel, Principal**

Mrs. Hassel's tenure with District 155 spanned 20 years. She was caring and big-hearted in her personal and professional relationships – she truly wished the best for all that crossed her path. Mrs. Hassel was resolute and unswerving in her efforts to improve learning and the school environment. She initiated changes and supports within her school which resulted in a "Commendable School" designation from ISBE for the last 3 years. Mrs. Hassel was steadfast in her development and implementation of new reading programs and instructional supports for District students. She also increased available activities for parents and students; and one example of this was through her "Back to School Bash" which everyone always looks forward to.

## **Woodrow Wilson School**

560 Wentworth Avenue  
Calumet City, IL 60409

P: (708) 862-5166

F: (708) 868-7086

**Deborah Smith, Principal**

The death of a school employee can be a difficult and challenging situation that may generate a high level of anxiety or distress in students. In addition, students may have had no experience in coping with loss and may be confused as to how to handle grief. If you feel that your child is having difficulty, we encourage you to discuss their thoughts and feelings to help them work through their grief or concerns. Please also consider monitoring and discussing your child's communications (social media, phone, e-mail, text messaging) to further assess their potential needs.

## **Student Services Office Early Learning Center**

560 Wentworth Avenue  
Calumet City, IL 60409

P: (708) 868-7089

F: (708) 891-3915

**Michelle Hessler, Director**

If you need assistance in talking with your child about death or the grievance process, you may wish access these free resources from The Dougy Center for Grieving Children and Families:

[https://www.dougy.org/docs/Developmental\\_Responses\\_2017.pdf](https://www.dougy.org/docs/Developmental_Responses_2017.pdf) and [45: Supporting Grieving Kids With Mindfulness - Tips For Teachers & Parents.](#)

## **Board of Education**

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**Kathryne Stern, Vice President**

**Janet Oberman, Secretary**

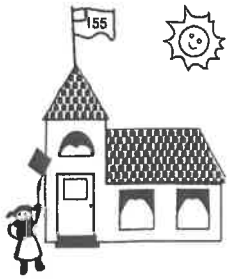
**Stanley Long**

**Yvette Franklin**

**Bonnie Rising**

**Lamarr Miller**

The entire District 155 embraces its mission to contribute to our students' social/emotional development, and we will always be attentive to students' emotional needs at school. If you feel that your child needs to speak to a social worker, counselor or other adult, please do not hesitate to call me or another building administrator and let us know. We can work with you to



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identify appropriate resources. This is a difficult time for everyone, but I know our students and staff will be able to lean on each other as we remember Mrs. Hassel.

I will provide a notice on the District website once I have details about service arrangements for Mrs. Hassel. The District will also plan in the new year to honor and remember our colleague and friend.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joe Zotto

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