

Community Meeting Summary for the Proposed Closure of Robert H. Lawrence Elementary School and Re-locate Burnham Elementary School

Monday, April 15, 2013; 5pm-7pm

Location: Harlan High School- 9652 S. Michigan Avenue

CPS Staff in Attendance: Theresa Plascencia, Kristine Tiefenthaler, Joseph Sobus, Wanda Linton, Elizabeth England, Maria Luisa Saldana, Exley Warren, Natalie Hill, Katina Manuel, and Harrison Peters.

CPS Presentation:

At 5:00pm, Kristine Tiefenthaler, welcomed those in attendance and introduced the meeting. She gave an overview of the closing of Lawrence Elementary and reviewed the roles and information regarding safety and security for the sending and receiving schools. She summarized the info in the handouts in regards to boundary approval, transitional supports and other details.

Theresa Plascencia, Chief of the West Side Network welcomed everyone and invited participants to speak and also reviewed the time limits of the public comment period. She informed the audience of the court reporter and note taker roles. She also provided the audience with information regarding the next hearing at 125 S. Clark.

Brief Summary:

The purpose of the meeting was to receive public comments on the proposal to close Robert H. Lawrence Elementary School and re-locate Burnham Elementary School in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-230. CPS officials stated the purpose for the meeting, introduced CPS staff, and reviewed the handouts provided to the community. There were about 10 community members present at the meeting. At 5:07, it was reported that there were zero speakers signed up to speak. One individual present stated that the lack of attendance illustrates that community members feel defeated and she encouraged the audience to speak up against this action.

At 7:00pm the public comment period concluded.