

Community Meeting for the Proposal to Close Francis Scott Key Elementary School

April 15, 2013; 5:00-7:00p.m.

Location: Austin High School Campus: 231 N Pine Ave.

CPS Facilitators:

Adam Anderson, Officer, Portfolio Planning and Strategy

Also in attendance:

Chandra James, Chief of Schools – Austin North Lawndale Elementary Network
Commander West from Chicago Police Department

CPS Presentation

Adam Anderson, Officer, Portfolio Planning and Strategy, welcomed those in attendance and opened the meeting. Mr. Anderson introduced the court reporter, note-taker, Spanish language interpreter, sign language interpreter and CPS / CPD officials in attendance. Mr. Anderson then shared the date, time, and location of future meetings and provided an overview of the handout distributed to the attendees. Mr. Anderson then described the public comment ground rules and opened the public comment period.

Brief Summary and Public Comment

The purpose of the meeting was to receive public comments on the proposal to close Key Elementary School in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-230. There were approximately 15 community members in attendance and 2 speakers:

Bonita Robinson

Ms. Robinson shared two reports that she stated indicate how Chicago reform has harmed CPS students, particularly students of poverty and students of color. The first report was *Trends in Chicago Schools Across Three Areas of Reform: Summary of Key Findings* and the second report was *Study: School Reform in Three Major Cities Brings Few Benefits and Some Harm*. She emphasized that she supports no school closings.

Latrice Jamison, Parent / LSC Chair at Emmet ES

Ms. Jamison attended the Key meeting but spoke on behalf of Emmet ES and stated her opposition to the proposed closure. She shared that she had attempted to enroll a child at Ellington in the past but was turned away and is not clear why her children will now be able to attend the school. Ms. Jamison also shared that Emmet's performance data was higher than a charter school in the area