PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF JOSEPH STOCKTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

APRIL 16, 2013 COMMENCING AT 8:00 P.M.

HON. CHARLES WINKLER HEARING OFFICER

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A. <u>NOTICES OF HEARING</u>

- 1. Notice Letter to Parents or Guardians of Students at Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center dated March 21, 2013 and Draft Transition Plan for the Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center
- 2. Notice Letter to School Administrators, Faculty, Staff, and Local School Council Members at Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center dated March 21, 2013 and Draft Transition Plan for the Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center
- 3. Affidavit of Jeff Broom, Performance Data Analyst for Chicago Public Schools Regarding Mail and/or Personal Delivery of Notice Letters to Parents/Guardians, School Personnel and Local School Council Members of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center on or about March 21, 2013
- Affidavit of Leonard Langston, Chief of Staff, Office of Public and Community Affairs for Chicago Public Schools Regarding Electronic Mail Delivery of Notice Letters to Elected Officials on or about March 21, 2013
- Affidavit of Jason Van Patten, Director of Web Services for Chicago Public Schools Regarding Publication of: (a) Draft Guidelines for School Actions on or about October 31, 2012, (b) Guidelines for School Actions on or about November 30, 2012, (c) Proposals on or about March 21, 2013, and (d) Summaries from Community Meetings on or about April 13, 2013 and April 16, 2013
- 6. Public Notice of Hearing and Community Meeting by Newspaper Publication in the Chicago Sun-Times beginning April 3, 2013

B. RELEVANT LEGAL AND PROCEDURAL DOCUMENTS

- 7. 105 ILCS 5/34-18 ("Powers of the Board"), effective July 13, 2012
- 8. 105 ILCS 5/34-200 ("Definitions"), effective July 13, 2012
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- 12. Chicago Board of Education School Performance, Remediation, and Probation Policy for the 2011-2012 School Year (Policy Manual Section 302.6A, Board Report 10-0728-PO4)
- Chicago Board of Education Policy on Review and Establishment of School Attendance Boundaries (Policy Manual Section 703.2, Board Report 05-0622-PO1)
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- 21. Written Statement of Benjamin Felton, Portfolio Planner for the Chicago Public Schools
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125 S. Clark Street • Chicago, Illinois 60603 • Phone: (773) 553-1500 • Fax School: (773) 553-1501

Barbara Byrd-Bennett Chief Executive Officer

DATE: March 21, 2013

Parent or Guardian of a Student at Joseph Stockton Elementary School 4420 N. Beacon St.

Parent or Guardian of a Student at Mary E Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center 1726 W. Berteau Ave.

Re: Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), I am committed to ensuring that every child in every neighborhood receives a high-quality education that prepares them to succeed in college, career, and life.

Right now, the reality is that too many of our children are not receiving the education they deserve. We have a school utilization crisis that is spreading our limited resources too thin. We are funding half-empty buildings that are costly to maintain and repair instead of using those funds to directly invest in our children's education. This crisis did not happen overnight, and we will not fix everything overnight either, but our children need and deserve for all of us to work each and every day to improve their chances to succeed.

From investments in early childhood education and a full school day to ensuring there are strong principals and teachers in our schools, we are working each and every day towards achieving that goal and doing everything we can to make sure Chicago's children will thrive and succeed.

We must make certain that every child can attend a school that has the supports and resources needed to help every student flourish. Combining schools will allow us to use more resources to ensure that every student attends a higher performing, 21st century school with updated amenities, more individual instruction, and the programs they need to compete and succeed. I have made the commitment that every student and parent will have an option to attend a higher performing school in the fall and that is a commitment you can be sure I will keep.

Make no mistake, this will be hard. As a former teacher and a principal, I've lived through school closings. They are never easy, no matter where you are. But in my 40 years as an educator, I have never felt more certain that we need to take action now. If we do not take action, our children and their futures will pay the price for our delay.

I want to assure you that I have heard your concerns and I have taken them to head and heart: I will never seek to improve education at the expense of our students' safety. As we work to improve our children's quality of education, we will also work to ensure they are supported and safe by coordinating and collaborating with city agencies such as the Chicago Police Department and the Department of Family and Support Services, as well as community and faith-based organizations.

After a thoughtful, rigorous process in which we looked at every individual school and incorporated the feedback we received from more than 20,000 of you – parents across the city and community members in every neighborhood – we are making multiple proposals today. I am making a recommendation to close Joseph Stockton Elementary School (Stockton). I am also recommending that Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center (Courtenay) serve as the dedicated welcoming school for students at Stockton in the fall and that Courtenay relocate to the current Stockton facility, located at 4420 N. Beacon St.

There are a series of supports that we will provide in order for your child to have a safe and seamless transition to a higher performing academic environment at their welcoming school. These include:

- Access to a dedicated, higher performing welcoming school with additional capital investments and further supported by new resources to safely and seamlessly transition students in fall 2013;
- A safety plan for all students and staff at all welcoming schools created in coordination with the Chicago Police Department and other community-based organizations;
- Social and emotional supports based on the specific needs of students;
- Supports for students with diverse learning needs;
- Supports for students in temporary living situations;
- · Supports for English language learners;
- Facility improvements will be made to enhance the overall learning environment of the new school.
 Improvements may include items such as upgrades to playgrounds, science and computer labs, air conditioning, and others.

Lastly, principals at all welcoming schools will also receive additional discretionary funding that they can use to support the unique needs of all students at those schools.

A detailed proposal is outlined below. Please read it and carefully consider the supports we are offering to help your child receive a higher quality education at their dedicated welcoming school. And please know that our work is still not complete and your continued input will be critical in the weeks ahead. I encourage you to participate in the two community meetings and one public hearing for your school noted in the proposal below. I thank you for your continued feedback as we work to provide your child and all CPS students with the high-quality education they deserve.

Our Proposal and Investments

Our proposal is to close Stockton, located at 4420 N. Beacon St. at the end of the current school year because it is underutilized, based on CPS Space Utilization Standards and student enrollment numbers recorded on the 20th attendance day for the 2012-2013 school year. Specifically, Stockton had 475 students enrolled on the 20th day of attendance, but has the capacity to serve 1050 students. Stockton students will be welcomed by Courtenay, and Courtenay will be relocated from its present location to 4420 N. Beacon St. Thus, all Stockton students will continue to attend school at 4420 N. Beacon St., welcomed by the Courtenay administration, staff, and students. While the closure of Stockton is not related to performance, it is important to note that Courtenay is a higher performing school, according to the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions (Guidelines).

A draft transition plan has been sent home from school with students, which outlines investments that will support a smooth and safe transition for all students.

Furthermore, CPS is committed to providing educational opportunities that fit each student's unique learning needs and each family's priorities, and encourages families to decide if this welcoming school is the best fit for

their child. To support families in this decision, information from the Office of Access & Enrollment is available in the draft transition plan.

Attendance Area Boundary of Stockton

I am also proposing that the geographic boundary currently associated with Stockton will be reassigned to Courtenay, currently located at 1726 W. Berteau Ave. but proposed to be located at 4420 N. Beacon St. This means that Courtenay will be the new neighborhood school for students living in the Stockton boundary.

Public Comment on this Proposal

Public comment can be made during the following two community meetings and one public hearing:

Community Meeting 1	Community Meeting 2	Public Hearing
Monday, April 08, 2013	Thursday, April 11, 2013	Tuesday, April 16, 2013
7:30pm-9:30pm	7:30pm-9:30pm	8:00pm-10:00pm
Amundsen High School	Amundsen High School	CPS Central Office
5110 North Damen Avenue	5110 North Damen Avenue	125 S. Clark St.

I invite you to share your feedback on this proposal at the scheduled community meetings and public hearing. If you wish to comment at the community meetings or hearing, you must sign up to speak on the day of, at the designated location, beginning one hour before the designated start time and ending one hour after the start of the meeting or hearing. You will have two minutes to speak, unless the hearing officer or meeting organizer provides an extension. The hearing will conclude at the stated end time or following the comments of the last person who has signed up to speak, whichever occurs first.

After the community meetings and public hearing, I will review a written report from the hearing officer. At that time, I may recommend that the Board of Education of the City of Chicago consider and approve the closure of Stockton.

Further Questions and Concerns:

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call 311 (City Services) or visit www.cps.edu/qualityschools.

Byel-Bennth

Thank you for your consideration and patience during this time as we work to provide your children with all the resources and supports they deserve.

Sincerely,

Barbara Byrd-Bennett

CEO, Chicago Public Schools



125 S. Clark Street • Chicago, Illinois 60603 • Phone: (773) 553-1500 • Fax School: (773) 553-1501

Barbara Byrd-Bennett Chief Executive Officer

21 de marzo de 2013 Padre o tutor de estudiante de Stockton Elementary School 4420 N Beacon St

Padre o tutor de estudiante de Mary E Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center 1726 W Berteau Ave

Re: Propuesta de cierre de Joseph Stockton Elementary School y Reubicación de Mary E Courtenay

Elementary Language Arts Center

Estimado padre o tutor:

Como Directora Ejecutiva de las Escuelas Públicas de Chicago (CPS), estoy comprometida en asegurar que cada niño, en cada barrio, reciba una educación de calidad que lo prepare para el éxito en la universidad, en una carrera y en la vida.

En estos momentos, la realidad indica que demasiados niños no reciben la educación que merecen. Tenemos una crisis de uso del espacio escolar que está agotando nuestros recursos limitados. Estamos pagando por edificios semivacíos que son costosos de mantener y reparar, en lugar de usar esos fondos para invertir directamente en la educación de nuestros niños. Esta crisis no ocurrió de repente, y tampoco vamos a poder solucionarla de un momento a otro, pero nuestros niños necesitan y merecen que todos nosotros trabajemos todos los días para mejorar sus posibilidades de éxito.

Desde inversiones en educación inicial y el día escolar completo, a la presencia de directores y maestros sólidos en nuestras escuelas, trabajamos todos los días para alcanzar esa meta y hacer todo lo posible para que los niños de Chicago mejoren y sean exitosos.

Tenemos que asegurarnos que cada niño pueda asistir a una escuela que cuente con los apoyos y recursos necesarios para ayudarlo a prosperar. La combinación de escuelas nos permitirá contar con más recursos para que cada estudiante asista a una escuela de mejor rendimiento, una escuela del siglo 21 con amenidades actualizadas, más instrucción individual y los programas que necesiten para competir y triunfar. Me he comprometido a que cada estudiante y padre tengan una opción de asistir a una escuela de mejor rendimiento en el otoño, y este es un compromiso que pueden estar seguros voy a mantener.

No se engañen, esto será duro. Como ex maestra y directora he vivido el cierre de escuelas. Nunca es fácil, sin importar donde se encuentre uno. Pero en mis 40 años de educadora nunca estuve más convencida de que tenemos que tomar medidas ahora. Si no lo hacemos, nuestros niños y sus futuros pagarán el precio de la demora.

Quiero asegurarles que escuché sus preocupaciones y las tuve en cuenta: nunca voy a tratar de mejorar la educación a expensas de la seguridad de nuestros estudiantes. Mientras trabajamos para mejorar la calidad de la educación de nuestros hijos, también trabajaremos para estar seguros de que estén apoyados y seguros, coordinando con agencias municipales como el Departamento de Policía de Chicago y el Departamento de

Familia y Servicios de Apoyo, así como con organizaciones comunitarias y religiosas.

Después de un proceso meditado y riguroso, en el que consideramos cada escuela individual e incorporamos los aportes recibidos de más de 20,000 personas como usted – padres de toda la ciudad y miembros de comunidades de cada barrio – estoy haciendo hoy múltiples propuestas. Estoy recomendando el cierre de Joseph Stockton Elementary School (Stockton). Asimismo recomiendo que Mary E Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center (Courtenay) sirva como escuela receptora de los estudiantes de Stockton en el otoño, y que Courtenay sea reubicada en el edificio de Stockton en 4420 N Beacon St.

Hay una serie de apoyos que ofreceremos para que su hijo tenga una transición segura y sin problemas a un ambiente académico de mejor rendimiento en su escuela receptora. Ellos incluyen:

- Acceso a una escuela dedicada, de mejor rendimiento y con capital de inversión adicional, apoyada además por nuevos recursos para que haya una transición segura y sin problemas en el otoño de 2013;
- Un plan de seguridad para todos los estudiantes y el personal en todas las escuelas receptoras, creado en coordinación con el Departamento de Policía de Chicago y otras organizaciones comunitarias;
- Apoyo social y emocional basado en las necesidades específicas de los estudiantes;
- Apoyo a los estudiantes con diversas necesidades de aprendizaje;
- Apoyo a los estudiantes en situación de vivienda temporaria;
- Apoyo a los estudiantes que están aprendiendo inglés; y
- Actualización de instalaciones para mejorar el ambiente educativo general de la nueva escuela. Las mejoras pueden incluir los patios de juego, laboratorios de ciencias e informáticos, aire acondicionado y otras.

Finalmente, los directores de todas las escuelas receptoras también dispondrán de fondos discrecionales adicionales que usarán en el apoyo de las necesidades únicas de todos los alumnos.

Una propuesta detallada se encuentra a continuación. Por favor, lean y consideren cuidadosamente los apoyos que estamos ofreciendo para ayudar a su niño a recibir una educación de calidad en su nueva escuela. Y por favor, sepan que nuestro trabajo no está completo y sus aportes serán críticos en las semanas venideras. Les pido que participen en las dos reuniones comunitarias, y en la audiencia pública, que se realizarán para su escuela. Les agradezco sus aportes continuados mientras trabajamos para ofrecer a su hijo y a todos los estudiantes de CPS la educación de calidad que merecen.

Nuestra propuesta e inversiones

Nuestra propuesta es cerrar la escuela Stockton, ubicada en 4420 N Beacon St, al final del actual año lectivo porque está subutilizada, con base en los Estándares de Uso del Espacio de CPS y en la cantidad de estudiantes matriculados en el 20° día de asistencia del año escolar 2012-2013. Específicamente, Stockton tenía 475 estudiantes matriculados en el 20° día de asistencia, pero una capacidad para servir a 1050 estudiantes. Los estudiantes de Stockton serán bienvenidos en Courtenay, y Courtenay pasará de su ubicación actual al 4420 N Beacon St. Por lo tanto, todos los estudiantes de Stockton continuarán reportándose en 4420 N Beacon St, bienvenidos por la administración, personal y alumnos de Courtenay. Aunque el cierre de Stockton no se debe a su rendimiento, es importante notar que Courtenay es una escuela de mejor rendimiento, según los Lineamientos de Acciones Escolares de la Directora Ejecutiva (Lineamientos).

Un borrador del plan de transición ha sido entregado por la escuela a los estudiantes para que lo lleven a sus casas, con las inversiones que apoyarán una transición sin problemas y segura.

Más aun, CPS se compromete a ofrecer oportunidades educativas que atiendan las necesidades únicas de cada estudiante y las prioridades familiares, y alienta a las familias a decidir si la escuela receptora asignada es la mejor para sus hijos. Para apoyar a las familias en esta decisión, la información sobre la Oficina de Acceso y Matriculación se encuentra en el borrador del plan de transición.

Área de asistencia de Stockton

También estoy proponiendo que el área geográfica asociada actualmente con Stockton sea reasignada a Courtenay, ubicada actualmente en 1726 W. Berteau Ave. con una propuesta para que sea instalada en 4420 N. Beacon St. Esto significa que Courtenay será la nueva escuela comunitaria de los estudiantes que vivan en el área de Stockton.

Comentarios del público sobre esta propuesta

El público podrá hacer comentarios durante las siguientes reuniones comunitarias, y en la audiencia pública:

Reunión comunitaria 1	Reunión comunitaria 2	Audiencia pública
Monday, April 08, 2013	Thursday, April 11, 2013	Tuesday, April 16, 2013
7:30pm-9:30pm	7:30pm-9:30pm	8:00pm-10:00pm
Amundsen High School	Amundsen High School	CPS Central Office
5110 North Damen Avenue	5110 North Damen Avenue	125 S. Clark St.

Los invito a compartir sus opiniones sobre esta propuesta en las reuniones comunitarias y en la audiencia pública. Si quieren participar tendrán que registrarse ese día en el lugar designado, a partir de una hora antes del comienzo y hasta una hora después de iniciada la reunión o audiencia. Dispondrán de dos minutos para hablar, a menos que el oficial a cargo de la audiencia o el organizador de la reunión otorguen una extensión. La audiencia concluirá a la hora señalada o después de los comentarios de la persona que hable por último, lo que ocurra primero.

Después de las reuniones comunitarias y de la audiencia pública voy a analizar el informe escrito del oficial encargado. En ese momento podré recomendar que la Junta de Educación de la ciudad de Chicago considere y apruebe la clausura de Stockton.

Más preguntas o preocupaciones:

Si tienen alguna pregunta o preocupación, por favor llamen al 311 (Servicios de la Ciudad) o visiten www.cps.edu/qualityschools.

Gracias por su consideración y paciencia durante este tiempo mientras trabajamos para ofrecer a sus hijos todos los recursos y apoyos que merecen.

Atentamente,

Barbara Byrd-Bennett

Directora Ejecutiva, Escuelas Públicas de Chicago

Byel-Bennet



DRAFT TRANSITION PLAN

For the Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School

i. Introduction

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is committed to ensuring that every student, in every community, has access to a high-quality, well-rounded education in order to graduate from high school ready to succeed in college, career, and life. From investments in early childhood education and a full school day to ensuring that there are effective principals and teachers in our schools, CPS is doing everything possible to provide Chicago's children with a 21st century education that helps them thrive and succeed. It is our obligation to work every day on behalf of our children's future.

However, our District faces a \$1 billion deficit, which threatens everything in our system by making it difficult to provide the robust supports and services that all children deserve. Our District's financial crisis is significantly challenged by underutilization, resulting in financial resources being invested in half-empty buildings that are costly to maintain and repair. Currently, CPS is financing schools and buildings with a capacity for 511,000 students while only serving 403,000 students. This utilization crisis is spreading our already scarce financial resources much too thin.

To address this crisis, CPS is proposing a plan to address underutilization based on significant input from partners including parents, students, teachers, principals, community and faith leaders, the independent Commission on School Utilization, the Chicago Police Department, and the Department of Family and Support Services. Through these collaborative efforts, CPS' plan represents a new day for Chicago Public Schools, and a fresh start for our students in Fall 2013.

The plan proposes to close schools that are underutilized. These actions will enable CPS to maximize resources by supporting a reduced number of school buildings, which will improve our capacity to provide all children with greater access to critical resources and supports such as libraries, technology, playgrounds, nurses, and counselors.

In order to ensure a quality education for students, CPS proposes to close Joseph Stockton Elementary School (Stockton). This decision is based on the underutilization of Stockton, in accordance with the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines (Guidelines). This action, if approved, will welcome returning students at Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center (Courtenay), which will be re-located.

The transition plan outlined below summarizes the proposal, identifies the supports that will be provided to impacted students to create a smooth and safe transition process, and notes opportunities for commenting on the action.

II. Summary of Action

Stockton is a neighborhood elementary school located at 4420 N. Beacon St., in the Ravenswood-Ridge Elementary Network of CPS. Stockton currently serves 475 students in PK & K-8th grades. CPS is proposing to close Stockton based on the school's underutilization. The closure meets the criteria of the Guidelines.

As a result of this action, all returning Stockton students will be welcomed by Courtenay. Courtenay will be re-located from its present location to the current Stockton facility, located at 4420 N. Beacon St. Thus, all Stockton students will continue to attend school at 4420 N. Beacon St., welcomed by the Courtenay administration, staff, and students. Families are also encouraged to pursue other educational options at CPS that best meet their student's learning needs and family priorities. Information about educational options is provided in detail in a subsequent section of this transition plan. The proposed investments CPS will make for transitioning students at both Stockton and Courtenay, as described in this transition plan, will provide students with a supportive learning environment and ease the transition process as much as possible.

The geographic boundary currently associated with Stockton will be reassigned to Courtenay, currently located at 1726 W. Berteau Ave. but proposed to be located at 4420 N. Beacon St. This means that Courtenay will be the new neighborhood school for students living in the Stockton boundary.

III. Safety and Security

CPS has engaged multiple experts regarding school safety to make decisions that will ensure children have a seamless transition next year at all welcoming schools. The Office of Safety and Security (OSS), Chicago Police Department, the Department of Family and Support Services, and community and faith partners were all consulted as part of the safety planning process.

CPS has prepared a plan for the safety of students and staff affected by the proposed closure of Stockton and the relocation of Courtenay to 4420 N. Beacon St. OSS will continue to partner on an on-going basis with local community groups, elected officials, sister agencies, and the Chicago Police Department to maintain a smooth and safe transition of students to a new school environment. As part of the transition process, OSS will:

- Review and update school safety audits
- Review security personnel allocations to ensure proper coverage
- Review school safety technology and enhance systems as appropriate
- · Address any safety concerns raised by students and staff
- Provide Safe Passage: CPS will invest in additional Safe Passage supports to address the safety of all students and staff traveling to and from school. Safe Passage workers wear identifiable vests and stand on designated street corners to monitor students' safety during their travel to school in the morning and home in the afternoon.
 Prior to the start of the 2013-2014 school year, OSS will work with the Courtenay administration and the community to designate specific intersections for safe passage supports
- As deemed necessary by OSS, in collaboration with the community, CPS will also provide a transition security
 officer to assist with safety and security needs.

IV. Supports for Students and Schools

CPS is committed to ensuring a productive and supportive remainder of the 2012-2013 school year at Stockton and Courtenay and ensuring a successful transition for the 2013-2014 school year. To accomplish this, CPS will provide the following supports to meet the academic, social and emotional, and specific learning needs of transitioning students. These resources may be further customized as feedback is obtained at community meetings and a public hearing regarding this action. Additionally, resources may be adjusted to meet the unique needs of the transitioning school population if deemed necessary by the Chief of Schools overseeing this Network.

Academic Needs of Students

If this proposal is approved, Stockton will be welcomed by Courtenay, which is a higher performing school. To ensure Stockton students receive high-quality academic instruction throughout the transition, Stockton and Courtenay will receive:

- Principal Transition Coordinator (PTC): PTCs are former principals, or other administrators with significant
 experience, who will be a resource to help the principal of Stockton maintain academic rigor in the classroom
 and ensure a smooth transition to Courtenay. The PTC will ensure continuity of support for faculty and students
 in the 2013-2014.
- Data Support: Preparation and planning are key to ensuring the right supports are in place and ready for the
 beginning of the school year. To help facilitate a smooth transition for all students, CPS will provide Courtenay
 with comprehensive data on all transitioning students. Student-specific data such as test scores, attendance,
 and grades will enable all school staff to proactively identify and prepare to meet the needs of every student.

Network Chief Office Hours: Network Chiefs, who oversee a geographic network of schools, will set aside
dedicated time to discuss concerns and educational options with families and students affected by this action.
 For specific dates and times, please contact your school or Network office.

Additionally, Stockton and Courtenay will receive discretionary resources to provide direct academic support to students. Principals, with local community input, will decide how best to utilize these resources. Selections will be approved by the Network Chief. Options for use include, but are not limited to:

- Instructional Coach or Teacher Leader: An instructional coach or teacher leader will ensure instruction quality remains high as students transition so that they do not lose any momentum.
- Academic tutoring resources: Resources for an academic tutoring position or program in reading and math may be provided.

Social Emotional Needs of Students

CPS understands that whenever students transition to a new school, additional support is needed to help them adjust. CPS will provide resources and work with schools to design a school-specific program of support which may include items such as:

- Intervention groups or peace circles aimed at helping students work through concerns associated with the transition as needed.
- Implementing restorative practices (such as peer circles and peer juries) to encourage peer-to-peer problem solving and resolution.
- Access to highly structured interventions for smaller groups of students in need of more individualized attention.
- Student Leadership and Culture-Building Activities: To foster an environment that is both supportive and
 inclusive for all students, CPS will provide resources to school leadership to help create positive relationships
 among students and implement culture-building activities (such as staff luncheons and team- and trust-building
 activities).

Additionally, CPS believes cultural integration of the two school communities is important for a successful, smooth transition. To support this, CPS will provide resources for "Fresh Start" Activities. Courtenay will be provided discretionary resources to implement "get to know your new school" activities, such as visits for families, coffee chats with the welcoming principal, picnics, field trips, and parent meetings.

Support for Specific Students Needs

To ensure students at Stockton who have unique needs or circumstances are adequately supported in this transition, CPS will provide the Network with additional resources to work directly with families and assist in explaining their school options. Additionally, CPS will provide the following:

Students with Diverse Learning Needs

- Students with disabilities at Stockton will continue to be provided instructional support both in the general education classroom and in small group or individual settings, in accordance with their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for the 2012-2013 school year.
- Once students transition to Courtenay, all instructional, clinical and related services will be provided in accordance with their IEPs. All specialized services, including nursing, speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, social work, psychology, assistive technology support, and special education instruction will continue to be provided in the manner stated on each student's current IEP.
- CPS will work with Courtenay to ensure classrooms are set up to meet student needs, to schedule all students in accordance with IEPs, and ensure there is adequate staff to fully implement student IEPs.
- In addition, to ensure IEP implementation, CPS will review all IEPs with the staff at Courtenay, provide
 observations of classrooms when school has resumed, and train Courtenay staff on specialized
 equipment for specific student needs.

- CPS will also provide disability awareness training to staff at Courtney targeting training based on the unique population of the students in the school.
- The facility at 4420 N. Beacon St. is not accessible to persons with disabilities according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information about a particular school, contact the CPS Director of ADA Policy at (773) 553-2158.

Students in Temporary Living Situations

- The CPS Office of Students in Temporary Living Situations (OSTLS) will continue the supports currently
 provided to Students in Temporary Living Situations (STLS) as required by law and as they transition to a
 new school. These include free school meals, enrollment support, provision of required school uniforms
 and school supplies as needed, transportation assistance when eligible, and waiver of all school related
 fees.
- Students in Temporary Living Situations will be encouraged to attend cultural integration and welcoming
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 this is not possible, efforts will be made to support families in placement through "Chicago: Ready to
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Community Meetings and Public Hearings:

CPS will hold two community meetings and one formal public hearing regarding this action. Public comment will be accepted during each meeting or hearing. CPS is committed to considering community feedback and will amend this draft transition plan accordingly.

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"Space Utilization Standards" mean the Chicago Public Schools' Space Utilization Standards, found at: http://www.cps.edu/About CPS/Policies and guidelines/Documents/SpaceUtilizationStandards.pdf, establishing standards for determining enrollment efficiency, overcrowding, and underutilization.

"Value Added" means the metric that assesses school effects on students' academic growth, controlling for student characteristics (including, but not limited to, student mobility rates, poverty rates, special education status and bilingual education status), grade level, and prior performance through a regression methodology. Academic growth is measured by the change in scale score points on the ISAT from one year to the next.



125 S. Clark Street • Chicago, Illinois 60603 • Phone: (773) 553-1500 • Fax School: (773) 553-1501

Barbara Byrd-Bennett Chief Executive Officer

DATE: March 21st, 2013

Administrators, Faculty, Staff and LSC Members Joseph Stockton Elementary School 4420 N. Beacon St. Administrators, Faculty, Staff and LSC Members Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center 1726 W. Berteau Ave.

Re: Board of Education Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center

Dear Administrators, Faculty, Staff, and Local School Council Members:

As Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), I am committed to ensuring that every child in every neighborhood receives a high-quality education that prepares them to succeed in college, career, and life. To do so, we must make certain that every child can attend a school that has the supports and resources needed to help every student flourish.

But right now, we have a school utilization crisis that is spreading our limited resources too thin. We are funding half-empty buildings that are costly to maintain and repair instead of using those funds to directly invest in our children's education. Combining schools will allow us to use more resources to ensure that every student attends a higher performing, 21st century school with updated amenities, more individual instruction, and the programs they need to compete and succeed. I have made the commitment that every student and parent will have the clear option to attend a higher performing school in the fall and that is a commitment you can be sure I will keep.

From investments in early childhood education and a full school day to ensuring there are strong principals and teachers in our schools, we are working each and every day towards achieving that goal and doing everything we can to make sure Chicago's children will thrive and succeed.

Make no mistake, this crisis did not happen overnight and we will not fix everything overnight either, but our children need and deserve for all of us to work each and every day to improve their chances to succeed. As a former teacher and a principal, I've lived through school closings. They are never easy, no matter where you are. But in my 40 years as an educator, I have never felt more certain that we need to take action now. If we do not take action, it is our children and their future that will pay the price for our delay.

I want to assure you that I have heard the concerns of parents, teachers, and school leaders and I have taken them to head and heart: I will never put our students' safety in jeopardy in our efforts to improve their education. As we work to improve our children's quality of education, we will also work to ensure they are supported and safe by coordinating and collaborating with city agencies such as the Chicago Police Department and the Department of Family and Support Services, as well as community and faith-based organizations.

With these principles in mind, and after a thoughtful, rigorous process in which we looked at each school and incorporated the feedback we received from more than 20,000 parents and community members, we are

making multiple proposals today, including a recommendation to close Joseph Stockton Elementary School (Stockton). This proposal helps address CPS' current underutilization challenge, enables us to move forward in a more sound and sustainable financial state, and allows us to better serve all of our students, both current and future.

And please know that our work is still not complete. Your continued input will be critical in the weeks ahead. There will be two community meetings and one public hearing for your school noted below. I thank you for your continued feedback as we work to provide all CPS students with the high-quality education they deserve.

There are a series of supports that we will provide in order for every child to have a safe and seamless transition to a higher performing academic environment at their welcoming school. These include:

- Access to a higher performing welcoming school equipped with new resources;
- A safety plan for all students and staff at all welcoming schools created in coordination with the Chicago Police Department and other community-based organizations;
- Social and emotional supports based on the specific needs of students at each welcoming school;
- Supports for students with diverse learning needs;
- Supports for students in temporary living situations;
- Supports for English language learners; and
- Facility improvements will be made to enhance the overall learning environment of the new school.

Several supports for teacher and PSRP members of the Chicago Teachers' Union (CTU) are also available through our negotiated collective bargaining agreement. These include:

- Tenured Teacher Assignment If vacancies are created in the welcoming school(s) due to the
 enrollment of students from your current school, tenured teachers rated in the top two performance
 rating categories may be assigned to those vacant positions, based upon seniority and certifications.
- Reassigned Teacher Pool Tenured teachers who are ineligible or unable to be assigned to the welcoming school(s) will be placed in the reassigned teacher pool—with full salary and benefits for up to 5 months—while they seek new job opportunities.
- PSRP Severance PSRPs at closing schools who are unable to find new employment by the start of
 next school year will be paid a \$1,000 severance and are eligible for up to 9 months of paid COBRA
 benefits.

CPS has also implemented an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that provides a safe, confidential environment to access grief counseling with a trained professional. This service is completely free, absolutely confidential, and available to all employees and members of their households, 24 hours per day and 7 days per week. EAP specialists have masters-level training and a minimum of 3 years of counseling experience.

To access EAP services, which also include mediation, and financial services support, please:

- Call 1-800-711-6087. When prompted, press '2' for members. You will be asked for your Member ID
 and you can say "I don't know it" to proceed. Lastly, please press '1' for EAP [(TDD) Dial 711 and enter
 number above]; or
- Visit http://liveandworkwell.com online. Web Access Code: 'CPS'.

Lastly, additional transition supports such as dedicated Career Events for teachers impacted by school actions and transition coaching sessions will be available and communicated to you in more detail through the coming weeks and months.

A detailed proposal is outlined below. Please read it and carefully consider the supports we are offering to help students receive a higher performing education in their dedicated welcoming school.

Our Proposal and Investments

Our proposal is that Stockton, located at 4420 N. Beacon St., be closed at the end of the current school year because it is underutilized, based on CPS Space Utilization Standards and student enrollment numbers recorded on the 20th attendance day for the 2012-2013 school year. Specifically, Stockton had 475 students enrolled on the 20th day of attendance, but has the capacity to serve 1,050 students. Stockton students will be welcomed by Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center (Courtenay), and Courtenay will be relocated from its present location to 4420 N. Beacon St. Thus, all Stockton students will continue to attend school at 4420 N Beacon St, welcomed by the Courtenay administration, staff and students. While the closure of Stockton is not related to performance, it is important to note that Courtenay is a higher performing school, according to the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions (Guidelines).

Please take a few moments to carefully review the draft transition plan on this proposed closing that you received at your school. In this draft transition plan you can learn more about why this school has been chosen to be closed and how we intend to make significant investments to help ensure our students' academic success in the transition.

Attendance Area Boundary of Stockton

I am also proposing that the geographic boundary currently associated with Stockton will be reassigned to Courtenay, currently located at 1726 W. Berteau Ave. but proposed to be located at 4420 N. Beacon St. This means that Courtenay will be the new neighborhood school for students living in the Stockton boundary.

Details for the Administrators, Faculty, Staff, and Local School Council Members

If this proposal is approved by the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board"), the employment status of all administrators, faculty, and staff will be determined pursuant to Board policies, practices, and any applicable contracts and collective bargaining agreements. If you have human resources questions or concerns, please contact us at (773)553-4748 (HR4U).

If the Board approves this proposal, the Local School Council (LSC) of Stockton will be dissolved at the end of the current school year. If you have any questions about how this proposal affects the LSC, please contact the Office of Local School Council Relations at 773-553-1400.

Public Comment on this Proposal

Public comment can be made during the following two community meetings and one public hearing:

Community Meeting 1	Community Meeting 2	<u>Public Hearing</u>
Monday, April 08, 2013	Thursday, April 11, 2013	Tuesday, April 16, 2013
7:30pm-9:30pm	7:30pm-9:30pm	8:00pm-10:00pm
Amundsen High School	Amundsen High School	CPS Central Office
5110 North Damen Avenue	5110 North Damen Avenue	125 S. Clark St.

I invite you to share your feedback on this proposal at the community meetings and public hearing. If you wish to comment at the community meetings or hearing, you must sign up to speak on the day of, at the designated location, beginning one hour before the designated start time and ending one hour after the start of the meeting or hearing. You will have two minutes to speak, unless the hearing officer or meeting organizer provides an extension. The hearing will conclude at the stated end time or following the comments of the last person who has signed up to speak, whichever occurs first.

After the community meetings and public hearing, I will review a written report from the hearing officer. At that time, I may recommend that the Board consider and approve the closure of Stockton.

Further Questions and Concerns:

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call 311 (City Services) or visit www.cps.edu/qualityschools.

L. Byel-Bennth

Sincerely,

Barbara Byrd-Bennett

CEO, Chicago Public Schools



DRAFT TRANSITION PLAN

For the Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School

I. Introduction

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is committed to ensuring that every student, in every community, has access to a high-quality, well-rounded education in order to graduate from high school ready to succeed in college, career, and life. From investments in early childhood education and a full school day to ensuring that there are effective principals and teachers in our schools, CPS is doing everything possible to provide Chicago's children with a 21st century education that helps them thrive and succeed. It is our obligation to work every day on behalf of our children's future.

However, our District faces a \$1 billion deficit, which threatens everything in our system by making it difficult to provide the robust supports and services that all children deserve. Our District's financial crisis is significantly challenged by underutilization, resulting in financial resources being invested in half-empty buildings that are costly to maintain and repair. Currently, CPS is financing schools and buildings with a capacity for 511,000 students while only serving 403,000 students. This utilization crisis is spreading our already scarce financial resources much too thin.

To address this crisis, CPS is proposing a plan to address underutilization based on significant input from partners including parents, students, teachers, principals, community and faith leaders, the independent Commission on School Utilization, the Chicago Police Department, and the Department of Family and Support Services. Through these collaborative efforts, CPS' plan represents a new day for Chicago Public Schools, and a fresh start for our students in Fall 2013.

The plan proposes to close schools that are underutilized. These actions will enable CPS to maximize resources by supporting a reduced number of school buildings, which will improve our capacity to provide all children with greater access to critical resources and supports such as libraries, technology, playgrounds, nurses, and counselors.

In order to ensure a quality education for students, CPS proposes to close Joseph Stockton Elementary School (Stockton). This decision is based on the underutilization of Stockton, in accordance with the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines (Guidelines). This action, if approved, will welcome returning students at Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center (Courtenay), which will be re-located.

The transition plan outlined below summarizes the proposal, identifies the supports that will be provided to impacted students to create a smooth and safe transition process, and notes opportunities for commenting on the action.

II. Summary of Action

Stockton is a neighborhood elementary school located at 4420 N. Beacon St., in the Ravenswood-Ridge Elementary Network of CPS. Stockton currently serves 475 students in PK & K-8th grades. CPS is proposing to close Stockton based on the school's underutilization. The closure meets the criteria of the Guidelines.

As a result of this action, all returning Stockton students will be welcomed by Courtenay. Courtenay will be re-located from its present location to the current Stockton facility, located at 4420 N. Beacon St. Thus, all Stockton students will continue to attend school at 4420 N. Beacon St., welcomed by the Courtenay administration, staff, and students. Families are also encouraged to pursue other educational options at CPS that best meet their student's learning needs and family priorities. Information about educational options is provided in detail in a subsequent section of this transition plan. The proposed investments CPS will make for transitioning students at both Stockton and Courtenay, as described in this transition plan, will provide students with a supportive learning environment and ease the transition process as much as possible.

The geographic boundary currently associated with Stockton will be reassigned to Courtenay, currently located at 1726 W. Berteau Ave. but proposed to be located at 4420 N. Beacon St. This means that Courtenay will be the new neighborhood school for students living in the Stockton boundary.

III. Safety and Security

CPS has engaged multiple experts regarding school safety to make decisions that will ensure children have a seamless transition next year at all welcoming schools. The Office of Safety and Security (OSS), Chicago Police Department, the Department of Family and Support Services, and community and faith partners were all consulted as part of the safety planning process.

CPS has prepared a plan for the safety of students and staff affected by the proposed closure of Stockton and the relocation of Courtenay to 4420 N. Beacon St. OSS will continue to partner on an on-going basis with local community groups, elected officials, sister agencies, and the Chicago Police Department to maintain a smooth and safe transition of students to a new school environment. As part of the transition process, OSS will:

- · Review and update school safety audits
- Review security personnel allocations to ensure proper coverage
- Review school safety technology and enhance systems as appropriate
- · Address any safety concerns raised by students and staff
- Provide Safe Passage: CPS will invest in additional Safe Passage supports to address the safety of all students and staff traveling to and from school. Safe Passage workers wear identifiable vests and stand on designated street corners to monitor students' safety during their travel to school in the morning and home in the afternoon. Prior to the start of the 2013-2014 school year, OSS will work with the Courtenay administration and the community to designate specific intersections for safe passage supports
- As deemed necessary by OSS, in collaboration with the community, CPS will also provide a transition security
 officer to assist with safety and security needs.

IV. Supports for Students and Schools

CPS is committed to ensuring a productive and supportive remainder of the 2012-2013 school year at Stockton and Courtenay and ensuring a successful transition for the 2013-2014 school year. To accomplish this, CPS will provide the following supports to meet the academic, social and emotional, and specific learning needs of transitioning students. These resources may be further customized as feedback is obtained at community meetings and a public hearing regarding this action. Additionally, resources may be adjusted to meet the unique needs of the transitioning school population if deemed necessary by the Chief of Schools overseeing this Network.

Academic Needs of Students

If this proposal is approved, Stockton will be welcomed by Courtenay, which is a higher performing school. To ensure Stockton students receive high-quality academic instruction throughout the transition, Stockton and Courtenay will receive:

- Principal Transition Coordinator (PTC): PTCs are former principals, or other administrators with significant experience, who will be a resource to help the principal of Stockton maintain academic rigor in the classroom and ensure a smooth transition to Courtenay. The PTC will ensure continuity of support for faculty and students in the 2013-2014.
- Data Support: Preparation and planning are key to ensuring the right supports are in place and ready for the
 beginning of the school year. To help facilitate a smooth transition for all students, CPS will provide Courtenay
 with comprehensive data on all transitioning students. Student-specific data such as test scores, attendance,
 and grades will enable all school staff to proactively identify and prepare to meet the needs of every student.

Network Chief Office Hours: Network Chiefs, who oversee a geographic network of schools, will set aside
dedicated time to discuss concerns and educational options with families and students affected by this action.
 For specific dates and times, please contact your school or Network office.

Additionally, Stockton and Courtenay will receive discretionary resources to provide direct academic support to students. Principals, with local community input, will decide how best to utilize these resources. Selections will be approved by the Network Chief. Options for use include, but are not limited to:

- Instructional Coach or Teacher Leader: An instructional coach or teacher leader will ensure instruction quality remains high as students transition so that they do not lose any momentum.
- Academic tutoring resources: Resources for an academic tutoring position or program in reading and math may be provided.

Social Emotional Needs of Students

CPS understands that whenever students transition to a new school, additional support is needed to help them adjust. CPS will provide resources and work with schools to design a school-specific program of support which may include items such as:

- Intervention groups or peace circles aimed at helping students work through concerns associated with the transition as needed.
- Implementing restorative practices (such as peer circles and peer juries) to encourage peer-to-peer problem solving and resolution.
- Access to highly structured interventions for smaller groups of students in need of more individualized attention.
- Student Leadership and Culture-Building Activities: To foster an environment that is both supportive and
 inclusive for all students, CPS will provide resources to school leadership to help create positive relationships
 among students and implement culture-building activities (such as staff luncheons and team- and trust-building
 activities).

Additionally, CPS believes cultural integration of the two school communities is important for a successful, smooth transition. To support this, CPS will provide resources for "Fresh Start" Activities. Courtenay will be provided discretionary resources to implement "get to know your new school" activities, such as visits for families, coffee chats with the welcoming principal, picnics, field trips, and parent meetings.

Support for Specific Students Needs

To ensure students at Stockton who have unique needs or circumstances are adequately supported in this transition, CPS will provide the Network with additional resources to work directly with families and assist in explaining their school options. Additionally, CPS will provide the following:

Students with Diverse Learning Needs

- Students with disabilities at Stockton will continue to be provided instructional support both in the general education classroom and in small group or individual settings, in accordance with their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for the 2012-2013 school year.
- Once students transition to Courtenay, all instructional, clinical and related services will be provided in accordance with their IEPs. All specialized services, including nursing, speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, social work, psychology, assistive technology support, and special education instruction will continue to be provided in the manner stated on each student's current IEP.
- CPS will work with Courtenay to ensure classrooms are set up to meet student needs, to schedule all students in accordance with IEPs, and ensure there is adequate staff to fully implement student IEPs.
- In addition, to ensure IEP implementation, CPS will review all IEPs with the staff at Courtenay, provide observations of classrooms when school has resumed, and train Courtenay staff on specialized equipment for specific student needs.

- CPS will also provide disability awareness training to staff at Courtney targeting training based on the unique population of the students in the school.
- The facility at 4420 N. Beacon St. is not accessible to persons with disabilities according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information about a particular school, contact the CPS Director of ADA Policy at (773) 553-2158.

Students in Temporary Living Situations

- The CPS Office of Students in Temporary Living Situations (OSTLS) will continue the supports currently
 provided to Students in Temporary Living Situations (STLS) as required by law and as they transition to a
 new school. These include free school meals, enrollment support, provision of required school uniforms
 and school supplies as needed, transportation assistance when eligible, and waiver of all school related
 fees.
- Students in Temporary Living Situations will be encouraged to attend cultural integration and welcoming events to introduce them to their new school, teachers, and administrators, as described above.
- STLS students affected by this action may choose to attend Courtenay or meet with OSTLS staff to
 identify enrollment options available. For families currently enrolled in the STLS program, younger
 siblings may attend the same school that their older sibling elects under this proposed action.
- Additionally, CPS will provide professional development and support to Courtenay staff on providing transition services for STLS students.

English Language Learners (ELL)

- Current and future ELLs attending Courtenay will receive state mandated transitional bilingual program
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Additionally, as described above, Network Chiefs will set aside time specifically to discuss concerns and educational options with families and students affected by this action. Parents and guardians will also have the option of visiting schools of choice prior to making their enrollment decision. This will be facilitated by the Network Office in accordance with all applicable policies.

Recognizing that many families would have applied for other options if they had known their school was going to be affected by school actions, CPS will reopen the application period for families affected by school actions. Students affected by school actions will be given the chance to apply to magnet cluster and neighborhood schools that have available seats. Students must apply and submit an application to the Office of Access & Enrollment by the deadline of April 19, 2013 to be considered. The application has been sent home with your child and is also available at www.cpsoae.org, by calling (773) 553-2060, or in person at 125 S. Clark St., 10th floor.

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"Performance Policy" means the Board of Education of the City of Chicago's School Performance, Remediation and Probation Policy, 12-0725-PO2, establishing standards and criteria for placing a school on Remediation or Probation for the 2012-2013 school year based on assessments administered in Spring 2012 and other performance data from prior school years. The score and status are determined by evaluating key indicators that assess a school's current performance, trend over time and student growth.

"School action" means any school closing; school consolidation; co-location; boundary change that requires reassignment of students, unless the reassignment is to a new school with an attendance area boundary and is made to relieve overcrowding; or phase-out.

"Space Utilization Standards" mean the Chicago Public Schools' Space Utilization Standards, found at: http://www.cps.edu/About CPS/Policies and guidelines/Documents/SpaceUtilizationStandards.pdf, establishing standards for determining enrollment efficiency, overcrowding, and underutilization.

"Value Added" means the metric that assesses school effects on students' academic growth, controlling for student characteristics (including, but not limited to, student mobility rates, poverty rates, special education status and bilingual education status), grade level, and prior performance through a regression methodology. Academic growth is measured by the change in scale score points on the ISAT from one year to the next.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

In The Matters Of:

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE PROPOSALS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO CLOSE, PHASE-OUT, AND CO-LOCATE SCHOOLS

AFFIDAVIT OF JEFF BROOM

I, JEFF BROOM, state as follows:

- 1. I am a resident of Illinois, of legal age, and competent to give testimony under oath. I have personal knowledge of the matters contained in this affidavit. If called to testify in the above-captioned proceeding, I would testify as to the matters stated in this affidavit.
- 2. I am currently employed as a Performance Data Analyst at the Chicago Board of Education.
- 3. In connection with the recently announced proposals of the Chief Executive Officer to close, phase-out, and co-locate schools, letters signed by the Chief Executive Officer were addressed to the parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members, and board members for charter schools, of all proposed closing, welcoming, and co-locating schools. The purpose of the letters was to advise all recipients of the Chief Executive Officer's proposals, provide an explanation of the basis for the proposed actions, identify how the proposed actions meet the criteria set forth in the Guidelines for School Actions, and inform recipients of the date, time, and place of the hearings and meetings to be held for public comment on the proposals. Also included with the letters were draft transition plans outlining the specific supports that the Chicago Board of Education plans to implement at the affected schools if the proposals are approved.
- 4. On or about March 16, 2013, I caused copies of letters addressed to the parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members, and board members for charter schools, and draft transition plans for the schools listed below ("affected schools") to be delivered to Lowitz & Sons Inc., GEM Printing, Inc., and K&M Printing for printing and packaging for delivery.
- 5. On or about March 16, 2013, I caused home addresses of record for students enrolled in affected schools, copies of the letters addressed to the parents or guardians, and draft transition plans for all affected schools to be delivered to K&M Printing for mailing.
- 6. On information and belief, the letters addressed to parents or guardians and draft transition plans were mailed by K&M Printing to the home addresses of the parents or guardians of students enrolled at the affected schools on or about March 21, 2013, or March 22, 2013 as detailed in paragraph 9.
- 7. On information and belief, letters and draft transition plans were delivered to affected schools by Lowitz & Sons Inc., GEM Printing, Inc., and K&M Printing for personal delivery to administrators, faculty, staff, students, and Local School Council members on March 21, 2013, or March 22, 2013 as detailed in paragraph 9.
- 8. On information and belief, Lowitz & Sons Inc. printed and packaged for delivery letters and draft transition plans addressed to the parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members, and board members for charter schools, of the following schools for the proposals specified:
 - a. George Leland Elementary School regarding Proposed Closure of Louis Armstrong Math & Science Elementary School and Relocation of George Leland Elementary School and the Proposed Closure

- of Horatio May Elementary Community Academy and Relocation of George Leland Elementary School
- b. Benjamin Banneker Elementary School and Benjamin E. Mays Elementary Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Benjamin Banneker Elementary School and Relocation of Benjamin E. Mays Elementary Academy
- c. Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School and John Milton Gregory Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School
- d. Arna Wendell Bontemps Elementary School and Nicholson Technology Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Arna Wendell Bontemps Elementary School
- e. Bowen High school regarding the Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with Bowen High School
- f. John Calhoun North Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of John Calhoun North Elementary School
- g. Miriam G. Canter Middle School, Williams H. Ray Elementary School, and Bret Harte Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Miriam G. Canter Middle School
- h. George H. Corliss High School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with George H. Corliss High School
- i. Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of Richard T. Crane Medical Preparatory High School with Chicago Talent Development High School and Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School
- j. Genevieve Melody Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Edward C. Delano Elementary School and Relocation of Genevieve Melody Elementary School
- k. Oscar DePriest Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Robert Emmet Elementary School
- 1. James Wadsworth Elementary School and Dumas Technology Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of James Wadsworth Elementary School and Relocation of Dumas Technology Academy
- m. Charles Sumner Math & Science Community Academy Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Leif Ericson Elementary Scholastic Academy
- n. Enrico Fermi Elementary School and South Shore Fine Arts Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Enrico Fermi Elementary School
- o. Garfield Park Preparatory Academy Elementary School and Michael Faraday Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Garfield Park Preparatory Academy Elementary School
- p. Marcus Moziah Garvey Elementary School and Mount Vernon Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Marcus Moziah Garvey Elementary School
- q. Nathan R. Goldblatt Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Nathan R. Goldblatt Elementary School
- r. Walter Q. Gresham Elementary School and Kwame Nkrumah Academy Elementary School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of Kwame Nkrumah Academy Elementary School with Walter Q. Gresham Elementary School
- s. Hope College Preparatory High School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of a new KIPP Middle School Campus with Hope College Preparatory High School
- t. Matthew A. Henson Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Matthew A. Henson Elementary School
- u. Victor Herbert Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Victor Herbert Elementary School and Relocation of Robert Nathaniel Dett Elementary School
- v. Mahalia Jackson Elementary School and Fort Dearborn Elementary school regarding the Proposed Closure of Mahalia Jackson Elementary School
- w. William H. King Elementary School and Jensen Elementary Scholastic Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of William H. King Elementary School
- x. Alfred David Kohn Elementary School, Countee Cullen Elementary School, Langston Hughes Elementary School, and Mildred I. Lavizzo Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Alfred David Kohn Elementary School

- y. Robert H. Lawrence Elementary School and Burnham Elementary Inclusive Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Robert H. Lawrence Elementary School and Relocation of Burnham Elementary Inclusive Academy
- z. Guglielmo Marconi Elementary Community Academy and George W. Tilton Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Guglielmo Marconi Elementary Community Academy
- aa. Garrett A. Morgan Elementary School and William H. Ryder Math & Science Specialty Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Garrett A. Morgan Elementary School
- bb. Moses Montefiore Special Elementary School and Kate S. Buckingham Special Education Center regarding the Proposed Closure of Kate S. Buckingham Special Education Center
- cc. Moses Montefiore Special Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Near North Elementary School
- dd. Luke O'Toole Elementary School and The Montessori School of Englewood Charter regarding the Proposed Co-Location of The Montessori School of Englewood Charter with Luke O'Toole Elementary School
- ee. Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy and Samuel Gompers Fine Arts Options Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy
- ff. Ignance Paderewski Elementary Learning Academy, Rosario Castellanos Elementary School, and Lazaro Cardenas Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Ignance Paderewski Elementary Learning Academy
- gg. Nathaniel Pope Elementary School and James Weldon Johnson Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Nathaniel Pope Elementary School
- hh. Noble Street Charter Gary Comer College Prep and Paul Revere Elementary School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of Noble Street Charter Gary Comer College Prep with Paul Revere Elementary School
- ii. Songhai Elementary Learning Institute and George W. Curtis Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Songhai Elementary Learning Institute
- jj. West Pullman Elementary School and Alex Haley Elementary Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of West Pullman Elementary School
- kk. Granville T. Woods Math & Science Academy Elementary School and Perkins Bass Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Granville T. Woods Math & Science Academy Elementary School
- 11. Elihu Yale Elementary School and John Harvard Elementary School of Excellence regarding the Proposed Closure of Elihu Yale Elementary School
- mm. Mary Mapes Dodge Elementary Renaissance Academy and Morton School of Excellence regarding the Proposed Co-Location of Mary Mapes Dodge Elementary Renaissance Academy with Morton School of Excellence
- 9. On information and belief, Lowitz & Sons Inc. printed and packaged for delivery letters and draft transition plans addressed to the parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members, and board members for charter schools, of the following schools for the proposals specified on March 22, 2013:
 - a. John P. Altgeld Elementary School and Daniel S. Wentworth Elementary School regarding Proposed Closure of John P. Altgeld Elementary School and Relocation of Daniel S. Wentworth Elementary School
 - b. Elaine O. Goodlow Elementary Magnet School and Charles W. Earle Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Elaine O. Goodlow Elementary Magnet School and Relocation of Charles W. Earle Elementary School
- 10. On information and belief, GEM Printing, Inc. printed and packaged for delivery letters and draft transition plans addressed to the parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members, and board members for charter schools, the following schools for the proposals specified:

- a. Crispus Attucks Elementary School and Ludwig Van Beethoven Elementary School regarding the Proposed Phase-Out of Crispus Attucks Elementary School
- b. John B. Drake Elementary School and Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Bronzeville regarding Proposed Co-Location of John B. Drake Elementary School with Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Bronzeville
- c. William J. & Charles H. Mayo Elementary School and Ida B. Wells Preparatory Elementary Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of William J. & Charles H. Mayo Elementary School and Relocation of Ida B. Wells Preparatory Elementary Academy
- d. Anthony Overton Elementary School and Irvin C. Mollison Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Anthony Overton Elementary School
- e. Francis Parkman Elementary School and Jesse Sherwood Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Francis Parkman Elementary School
- f. Pershing West Middle School and John J. Pershing Elementary Humanities Magnet regarding the Proposed Closure of Pershing West Middle School and Relocation of John J. Pershing Elementary Humanities Magnet
- g. Betsey Ross Elementary School and John Foster Dulles Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Betsey Ross Elementary School
- h. Austin O. Sexton Elementary School and John Fiske Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Austin O. Sexton Elementary School and Relocation of John Fiske Elementary School
- i. Williams Multiplex Elementary School and John B. Drake Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Williams Multiplex Elementary School and Relocation of John B. Drake Elementary School
- j. Williams Preparatory Academy Middle School and John B. Drake Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Williams Preparatory Academy Middle School and Relocation of John B. Drake Elementary School
- 11. On information and belief, K&M Printing printed and packaged for delivery letters and draft transition plans addressed to the parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members, and board members for charter schools, of the following schools for the proposals specified:
 - a. Louis Armstrong Math & Science Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Louis Armstrong Math & Science Elementary School and Relocation of George Leland Elementary School
 - b. Horatio May Elementary Community Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Horatio May Elementary Community Academy and Relocation of George Leland Elementary School
 - Willa Cather Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of John Calhoun North Elementary School
 - d. Chicago Talent Development High School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of Richard T. Crane Medical Preparatory High School with Chicago Talent Development High School and Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School
 - e. Edward C. Delano Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Edward C. Delano Elementary School and Relocation of Genevieve Melody Elementary School
 - f. Ana Roque de Duprey Elementary School and Jose De Diego Elementary Community Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Ana Roque de Duprey Elementary School
 - g. Alexander von Humboldt Elementary School and Jose De Diego Elementary Community Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Alexander von Humboldt Elementary School
 - h. Robert Emmet Elementary School and Edward K. Ellington Elementary regarding the Proposed closure of Robert Emmet Elementary School
 - i. Leif Ericson Elementary Scholastic Academy regarding the Proposed Closure of Leif Ericson Elementary Scholastic Academy
 - j. Helen M. Hefferan Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Nathan R. Goldblatt Elementary School
 - k. Charles Evans Hughes Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Matthew A. Henson Elementary School

- 1. Robert Nathaniel Dett Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Victor Herbert Elementary School and Relocation of Robert Nathaniel Dett Elementary School
- m. Francis Scott Key Elementary School and Edward K. Ellington Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Francis Scott Key Elementary School
- n. Jean D. Lafayette Elementary School and Frederic Chopin Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Jean D. Lafayette Elementary School
- o. George Manierre Elementary School and Edward Jenner Elementary Academy of the Arts regarding the Proposed Closure of George Manierre Elementary School
- p. Disney II Magnet School and Thurgood Marshall Middle School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of Disney II Magnet School with Thurgood Marshall Middle School
- q. Near North Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Near North Elementary School
- r. Belmont-Cragin Elementary School and Northwest Middle School regarding the Proposed Co-Location of Belmont-Cragin Elementary School with Northwest Middle School
- s. Elizabeth Peabody Elementary School and James Otis Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Elizabeth Peabody Elementary School
- t. Martin A. Ryerson Elementary School and Laura S. Ward Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Martin A. Ryerson Elementary School and Relocation of Laura S. Ward Elementary School
- u. Graeme Stewart Elementary School and Joseph Brennemann Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Graeme Stewart Elementary School
- v. Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center regarding the Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center
- w. Lyman Trumbull Elementary School, John T. McCutcheon Elementary School, James B. McPherson Elementary School, and Eliza Chappell Elementary School regarding the Proposed Closure of Lyman Trumbull Elementary School
- 12. On information and belief, letters addressed to the board members for Noble Street Charter Schools, Urban Prep Academies, Kwame Nkrumah Charter Academy, The Montessori School of Englewood, and Chicago Talent Development Charter High School were mailed to the charter school address on or about March 21, 2013 in connection with the following proposals:
 - a. Proposed Co-Location of Noble Street Charter Gary Comer College Prep with Paul Revere Elementary School
 - b. Proposed Co-Location of John B. Drake Elementary School with Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Bronzeville
 - c. Proposed Co-Location of Kwame Nkrumah Academy Elementary School with Walter Q. Gresham Elementary School
 - d. Proposed Co-Location of The Montessori School of Englewood Charter with Luke O'Toole Elementary School
 - e. Proposed Co-Location of Richard T. Crane Medical Preparatory High School with Chicago Talent Development High School and Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School
- 13. On information and belief, letters addressed to the board members for Noble Street Charter Schools and KIPP Chicago College Prep Public Schools were sent via electronic mail to the Noble Street Charter School board president and KIPP Chicago College Prep Public Schools board president on or about March 21, 2013 in connection with the following proposals:
 - a. Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with Bowen High School
 - b. Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with George H. Corliss High
 - c. Proposed Co-Location of a new KIPP Middle School Campus with Hope College Preparatory High School

VERIFICATION BY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

JEFF BROOM

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

In The Matters Of:

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE PROPOSALS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO CLOSE, PHASE-OUT, AND CO-LOCATE SCHOOLS

AFFIDAVIT OF LEONARD LANGSTON

L LEONARD LANGSTON, state as follows:

- A. I am a resident of Illinois, of legal age, and competent to give testimony under oath. I have personal knowledge of the matters contained in this affidavit. If called to testify in the above-captioned proceeding, I would testify as to the matters stated in this affidavit.
- B. I am currently employed as the Chief of Staff for Public and Community Affairs at the Chicago Board of Education.
- C. In connection with the proposals of the Chief Executive Officer to close, phase-out, and co-locate schools, I sent notices to each school's State Senator, State Representative, and Chicago City Council Alderman. The notices were sent via electronic mail and included attached Notice Letters, dated March 21, 2013, and Draft Transition Plan.
- D. The following electronic mail messages were sent on March 21, 2013:
 - 1. In connection with the proposal to close John P. Altgeld Elementary School and relocate Daniel S. Wentworth Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins of the 16th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Andre M. Thapedi of the 32nd District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Latasha R. Thomas of the 17th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
 - 2. In connection with the proposal to phase-out and close Crispus Attucks Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Pat Dowell of the 3rd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
 - 3. In connection with the proposal to close Benjamin Banneker Elementary School and relocate Benjamin E. Mays Elementary Academy, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Roderick T. Sawyer of the 6th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman JoAnn Thompson of the 16th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
 - 4. In connection with the proposal to co-locate Belmont-Cragin Elementary School with Northwest Middle School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator William Delgado of the 2nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Luis Arroyo of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Ariel Reboyras of the 30th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Emma Mitts of the 37th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
 - 5. In connection with the proposal to close Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Jason C. Ervin of the 28th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Michael Chandler of the 24th Ward of the Chicago City Council.

- 6. In connection with the proposal to close Arna Wendell Bontemps Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman JoAnn Thompson of the 16th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 7. In connection with the proposal to co-locate a new Noble Street Charter School campus with Bowen High School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Donne E. Trotter of the 17th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Marcus C. Evans, Jr. of the 33rd District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Natashia L. Holmes of the 7th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 8. In connection with the proposal to close Kate S. Buckingham Special Education Center, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Kwame Raoul of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Barbara Flynn Currie of the 25th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Natashia L. Holmes of the 7th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2nd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 9. In connection with the proposal to close John Calhoun North Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2nd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 10. In connection with the proposal to close Miriam G. Canter Middle School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Kwame Raoul of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Barbara Flynn Currie of the 25th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman William D. Burns of the 4th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Leslie A. Hairston of the 5th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 11. In connection with the proposal to co-locate Richard T. Crane Medical Preparatory High School with Chicago Talent Development High School and Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2nd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 12. In connection with the proposal to co-locate a new Noble Street Charter School campus with George H. Corliss High School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Donne E. Trotter of the 17th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Elgie R. Sims, Jr. of the 34th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Anthony A. Beale of the 9th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 13. In connection with the proposal to close Edward C. Delano Elementary School and relocate Genevieve Melody Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Jason C. Ervin of the 28th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Michael Chandler of the 24th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 14. In connection with the proposal to co-locate Disney II Magnet School with Thurgood Marshall Middle School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Iris Y. Martinez of the 20th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Deborah Mell of the 40th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Timothy M. Cullerton of the 38th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Margaret Laurino of the 39th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 15. In connection with the proposal to co-locate Mary Mapes Dodge Elementary Renaissance Academy with Morton School of Excellence, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of

- the 5^{th} District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10^{th} District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2^{nd} Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Walter Burnett of the 27^{th} Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 16. In connection with the proposal to close Dumas Technology Academy and relocate James Wadsworth Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Kwame Raoul of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Christian L. Mitchell of the 26th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Leslie A. Hairston of the 5th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Willie B. Cochran of the 20th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 17. In connection with the proposal to close Ana Roque de Duprey Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator William Delgado of the 2nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Cynthia Soto of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Roberto Maldonado of the 26th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Proco (Joe) Moreno of the 1st Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 18. In connection with the proposal to close Robert Emmet Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Kimberly A. Lightford of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative La Shawn K. Ford of the 8th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Deborah L. Graham of the 29th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 19. In connection with the proposal to close Leif Ericson Elementary Scholastic Academy, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Jason C. Ervin of the 28th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Michael Chandler of the 24th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 20. In connection with the proposal to close Enrico Fermi Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Kwame Raoul of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Christian L. Mitchell of the 26th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Leslie A. Hairston of the 5th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 21. In connection with the proposal to close Garfield Park Preparatory Academy Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Jason C. Ervin of the 28th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 22. In connection with the proposal to close Marcus Moziah Garvey Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Emil Jones, III of the 14th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Monique D. Davis of the 27th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Carrie M. Austin of the 34th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 23. In connection with the proposal to close Nathan R. Goldblatt Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Jason C. Ervin of the 28th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 24. In connection with the proposal to close Elaine O. Goodlow Elementary Magnet School and relocate Charles W. Earle Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Toni Foulkes of the 15th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 25. In connection with the proposal to co-locate Kwame Nkrumah Academy Elementary School with Walter Q. Gresham Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Emil Jones, III of

- the 14th District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Donne E. Trotter of the 17th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Monique D. Davis of the 27th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Elgie R. Sims, Jr. of the 34th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Howard B. Brookins of the 21st Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Michelle Harris of the 8th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 26. In connection with the proposal to close Matthew A. Henson Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Michael Chandler of the 24th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 27. In connection with the proposal to close Victor Herbert Elementary School and relocate Robert Nathaniel Dett Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2nd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 28. In connection with the proposal to co-locate a new KIPP Middle School campus with Hope College Preparatory High School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Pat Dowell of the 3rd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 29. In connection with the proposal to close William J. & Charles H. Mayo Elementary School and relocate Ida B. Wells Preparatory Elementary Academy, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Pat Dowell of the 3rd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 30. In connection with the proposal to close Francis Scott Key Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Don Harmon of the 39th District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Kimberly A. Lightford of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Camille Y. Lilly of the 78th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative La Shawn K. Ford of the 8th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Deborah L. Graham of the 29th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 31. In connection with the proposal to close William H. King Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2nd Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Jason C. Ervin of the 28th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 32. In connection with the proposal to close Alfred David Kohn Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Emil Jones, III of the 14th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Robert Rita of the 28th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Carrie M. Austin of the 34th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Anthony A. Beale of the 9th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 33. In connection with the proposal to close Jean D. Lafayette Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator William Delgado of the 2nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Cynthia Soto of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Proco (Joe) Moreno of the 1st Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 34. In connection with the proposal to close Martin A. Ryerson Elementary School and relocate Laura S. Ward Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Walter Burnett of the 27th Ward of the Chicago City Council.

- 35. In connection with the proposal to close Robert H. Lawrence Elementary School and relocate Burnham Elementary Inclusive Academy, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Donne E. Trotter of the 17th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Marcus C. Evans of the 33rd District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Natashia L. Holmes of the 7th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 36. In connection with the proposal to close Louis Armstrong Math & Science Elementary School and the relocate George Leland Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Kimberly A. Lightford of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative La Shawn K. Ford of the 8th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Deborah L. Graham of the 29th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 37. In connection with the proposal to close Mahalia Jackson Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Emil Jones, III of the 14th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Monique D. Davis of the 27th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Howard B. Brookins of the 21st Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 38. In connection with the proposal to close George Manierre Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Walter Burnett of the 27th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 39. In connection with the proposal to close Guglielmo Marconi Elementary Community Academy, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Derrick Smith of the 10th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Jason C. Ervin of the 28th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 40. In connection with the proposal to close Horatio May Elementary Community Academy and relocate George Leland Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Kimberly A. Lightford of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative La Shawn K. Ford of the 8th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Deborah L. Graham of the 29th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 41. In connection with the proposal to co-locate The Montessori School of Englewood Charter with Luke O'Toole Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins of the 16th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Andre M. Thapedi of the 32nd District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Toni Foulkes of the 15th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 42. In connection with the proposal to close Garrett A. Morgan Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Emil Jones, III of the 14th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Monique D. Davis of the 27th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Howard B. Brookins of the 21st Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 43. In connection with the proposal to close Near North Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator William Delgado of the 2nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Cynthia Soto of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Walter Burnett of the 27th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2nd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 44. In connection with the proposal to co-locate Noble Street Charter Gary Comer College Prep with Paul Revere Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Leslie A. Hairston of the 5th Ward of the Chicago City Council.

- 45. In connection with the proposal to close Anthony Overton Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Pat Dowell of the 3rd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 46. In connection with the proposal to close Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Napoleon Harris, III of the 15th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Thaddeus Jones of the 29th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Anthony A. Beale of the 9th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 47. In connection with the proposal to close Ignance Paderewski Elementary Learning Academy, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Steven M. Landek of the 12th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Elizabeth Hernandez of the 24th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Ricardo Munoz of the 22nd Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 48. In connection with the proposal to close Francis Parkman Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Pat Dowell of the 3rd Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Willie B. Cochran of the 20th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 49. In connection with the proposal to close Elizabeth Peabody Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator William Delgado of the 2nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Cynthia Soto of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Walter Burnett of the 27th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 50. In connection with the proposal to close Pershing West Middle School and Relocate John J. Pershing Elementary Humanities Magnet, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Kwame Raoul of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Christian L. Mitchell of the 26th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Robert Fioretti of the 2nd Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman William D. Burns of the 4th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 51. In connection with the proposal to close Nathaniel Pope Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Patricia Van Pelt of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Arthur Turner of the 9th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Michael Chandler of the 24th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 52. In connection with the proposal to close Betsy Ross Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Willie B. Cochran of the 20th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 53. In connection with the proposal to close Austin O. Sexton Elementary School and Relocate John Fiske Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Kwame Raoul of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Willie B. Cochran of the 20th Ward of the Chicago City Council.

- 54. In connection with the proposal to close Songhai Elementary Learning Institute, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Emil Jones, III of the 14th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Robert Rita of the 28th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Carrie M. Austin of the 34th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Anthony A. Beale of the 9th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 55. In connection with the proposal to close Graeme Stewart Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Heather A. Steans of the 7th District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator John J. Cullerton of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Greg S. Harris of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative of the 12th District of the Illinois Legislature and Alderman James Cappleman of the 46th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 56. In connection with the proposal to close Joseph Stockton Elementary School and relocate Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Heather A. Steans of the 7th District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator John J. Cullerton of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Greg S. Harris of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman James Cappleman of the 46th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Ameya Pawar of the 47th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 57. In connection with the proposal to close Lyman Trumbull Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Heather A. Steans of the 7th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Greg S. Harris of the 13th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Patrick O'Connor of the 40th Ward of the Chicago City Council, Alderman Harry Osterman of the 48th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Ameya Pawar of the 47th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 58. In connection with the proposal to close Alexander von Humboldt Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator William Delgado of the 2nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Cynthia Soto of the 4th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Roberto Maldonado of the 26th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Proco (Joe) Moreno of the 1st Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 59. In connection with the proposal to close West Pullman Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Emil Jones, III of the 14th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Robert Rita of the 28th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Carrie M. Austin of the 34th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 60. In connection with the proposals to close Williams Multiplex Elementary School and Williams Preparatory Academy Middle School and relocate John B. Drake Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Pat Dowell of the 3rd Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman William D. Burns of the 4th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 61. In connection with the proposal to close Granville T. Woods Math & Science Academy Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins of the 16th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, Andre M. Thapedi of the 32nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman JoAnn Thompson of the 16th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Latasha R. Thomas of the 17th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
- 62. In connection with the proposal to close Elihu Yale Elementary School, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins of the 16th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Andre M. Thapedi of the 32nd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Mary E.

Flowers of the 31st District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Roderick T. Sawyer of the 6th Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman Latasha R. Thomas of the 17th Ward of the Chicago City Council.

- E. The following electronic mail messages were sent on March 22, 2013:
 - 1. In connection with the proposal to co-locate John B. Drake Elementary School with Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Bronzeville, I sent notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Kenneth Dunkin of the 5th District of the Illinois Legislature, Alderman Pat Dowell of the 3rd Ward of the Chicago City Council, and Alderman William D. Burns of the 4th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
 - 2. In connection with the proposal to close John P. Altgeld Elementary School and relocate Daniel S. Wentworth Elementary School, I sent revised notice to the following elected officials: Senator Jacqueline Y. Collins of the 16th District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Andre M. Thapedi of the 32nd District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Latasha R. Thomas of the 17th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
 - 3. In connection with the proposal to close Elaine O. Goodlow Elementary Magnet School and relocate Charles W. Earle Elementary School, I sent revised notice to the following elected officials: Senator Mattie Hunter of the 3rd District of the Illinois Legislature, Representative Esther Golar of the 6th District of the Illinois Legislature, and Alderman Toni Foulkes of the 15th Ward of the Chicago City Council.
 - 4. In connection with the proposal to close Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy, I resent notice to Senator Napoleon Harris, III of the 15th District of the Illinois Legislature.

VERIFICATION BY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

LEONARD LANGSTON

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

In The Matter Of:

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE PROPOSALS OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO CLOSE, PHASE-OUT, AND CO-LOCATE SCHOOLS

AFFIDAVIT OF JASON VAN PATTEN

I, JASON VAN PATTEN, state as follows:

- 1. I am a resident of Illinois, of legal age, and competent to give testimony under oath. I have personal knowledge of the matters contained in this affidavit. If called to testify in the above-captioned proceeding, I would testify as to the matters stated in this affidavit.
- 2. I am currently employed as the Director of Web Services at the Chicago Board of Education.
- 3. On information and belief, copies of the List of Independent Hearing Officers for Hearings, compiled by the General Counsel, and the Draft Guidelines for School Actions, 2012-2013 School Year, for public comment, were published on the CPS website on October 31, 2012 at http://cps.edu/About_CPS/Policies_and_guidelines/Pages/qualityschools.aspx.
- 4. On information and belief, a copy of the final Guidelines for School Actions, 2012-2013 School Year, was published on the CPS website on November 30, 2012 at http://cps.edu/About CPS/Policies and guidelines/Pages/2013GuidelinesforSchoolActions.aspx.
- 5. On information and belief, in connection with the recently announced proposals of the Chief Executive Officer to close, phase-out, and co-locate schools, copies of the notice letters addressed to parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members, and board members for charter schools, and draft transition plans were published on the CPS website on March 21, 2013 at http://cps.edu/qualityschools/Pages/qualityschools.aspx. Notice letters and draft transition plans were published for the following proposals:
 - a. Proposed Phase-Out and Closure of Crispus Attucks Elementary School
 - b. Proposed Closure of Benjamin Banneker Elementary School and Relocation of Benjamin E. Mays Elementary Academy
 - c. Proposed Co-Location of Belmont-Cragin Elementary School with Northwest Middle School
 - d. Proposed Closure of Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School
 - e. Proposed Closure of Arna Wendell Bontemps Elementary School
 - f. Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with Bowen High School
 - g. Proposed Closure of Kate S. Buckingham Special Education Center
 - h. Proposed Closure of John Calhoun North Elementary School
 - i. Proposed Closure of Miriam G. Canter Middle School
 - j. Proposed Co-Location of Richard T. Crane Medical Preparatory High School with Chicago Talent Development High School and Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School
 - k. Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with George H. Corliss High School
 - l. Proposed Closure of Edward C. Delano Elementary School and Relocation of Genevieve Melody Elementary School
 - m. Proposed Co-Location of Disney II Magnet School with Thurgood Marshall Middle School
 - n. Proposed Co-Location of Mary Mapes Dodge Elementary Renaissance Academy with Morton School of Excellence

- o. Proposed Co-Location of John B. Drake Elementary School with Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Bronzeville
- Proposed Closure of Dumas Technology Academy and Relocation of James Wadsworth Elementary School
- q. Proposed Closure of Ana Roque de Duprey Elementary School
- r. Proposed Closure of Robert Emmet Elementary School
- s. Proposed Closure of Leif Ericson Elementary Scholastic Academy
- t. Proposed Closure of Enrico Fermi Elementary School
- u. Proposed Closure of Garfield Park Preparatory Academy Elementary School
- v. Proposed Closure of Marcus Moziah Garvey Elementary School
- w. Proposed Closure of Nathan R. Goldblatt Elementary School
- x. Proposed Co-Location of Kwame Nkrumah Academy Elementary School with Walter Q. Gresham Elementary School
- y. Proposed Closure of Matthew A. Henson Elementary School
- z. Proposed Closure of Victor Herbert Elementary School and Relocation of Robert Nathaniel Dett Elementary School
- aa. Proposed Co-Location of a new KIPP Middle School campus with Hope College Preparatory High School
- bb. Proposed Closure of William J. & Charles H. Mayo Elementary School and Relocation of Ida B. Wells Preparatory Elementary Academy
- cc. Proposed Closure of Francis Scott Key Elementary School
- dd. Proposed Closure of William H. King Elementary School
- ee. Proposed Closure of Alfred David Kohn Elementary School
- ff. Proposed Closure of Jean D. Lafayette Elementary School
- gg. Proposed Closure of Martin A. Ryerson Elementary School and Relocation of Laura S. Ward Elementary School
- hh. Proposed Closure of Robert H. Lawrence Elementary School and Relocation of Burnham Elementary Inclusive Academy
- Proposed Closure of Louis Armstrong Math & Science Elementary School and the Relocation of George Leland Elementary School
- jj. Proposed Closure of Mahalia Jackson Elementary School
- kk. Proposed Closure of George Manierre Elementary School
- ll. Proposed Closure of Guglielmo Marconi Elementary Community Academy
- mm. Proposed Closure of Horatio May Elementary Community Academy and Relocation of George Leland Elementary School
- nn. Proposed Co-Location of The Montessori School of Englewood Charter with Luke O'Toole Elementary School
- oo. Proposed Closure of Garrett A. Morgan Elementary School
- pp. Proposed Closure of Near North Elementary School
- qq. Proposed Co-Location of Noble Street Charter Gary Comer College Prep with Paul Revere Elementary School
- rr. Proposed Closure of Anthony Overton Elementary School
- ss. Proposed Closure of Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy
- tt. Proposed Closure of Ignance Paderewski Elementary Learning Academy
- uu. Proposed Closure of Francis Parkman Elementary School
- vv. Proposed Closure of Elizabeth Peabody Elementary School
- ww. Proposed Closure of Pershing West Middle School and Relocation of John J. Pershing Elementary Humanities Magnet
- xx. Proposed Closure of Nathaniel Pope Elementary School
- yy. Proposed Closure of Betsy Ross Elementary School
- zz. Proposed Closure of Austin O. Sexton Elementary School and Relocation of John Fiske Elementary School
- aaa. Proposed Closure of Songhai Elementary Learning Institute
- bbb. Proposed Closure of Graeme Stewart Elementary School

- ccc. Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center
- ddd. Proposed Closure of Lyman Trumbull Elementary School
- eee. Proposed Closure of Alexander von Humboldt Elementary School
- fff. Proposed Closure of West Pullman Elementary School
- ggg. Proposed Closure of Williams Multiplex Elementary School and Relocation of John B. Drake Elementary School
- hhh. Proposed Closure of Williams Preparatory Academy Middle School and Relocation of John B. Drake Elementary School
- iii. Proposed Closure of Granville T. Woods Math & Science Academy Elementary School
- jjj. Proposed Closure of Elihu Yale Elementary School
- On information and belief, in connection with the recently announced proposals of the Chief Executive Officer to close, phase-out, and co-locate schools, copies of the notice letters addressed to parents or guardians, administrators, faculty, staff, Local School Council members and draft transition plans were published on the CPS website on March 22, 2013 at http://cps.edu/qualityschools/Pages/qualityschools.aspx. Notice letters and draft transition plans were published for the following proposals:
 - a. Proposed Closure of John P. Altgeld Elementary School and Relocation of Daniel S. Wentworth Elementary School
 - b. Proposed Closure of Elaine O. Goodlow Elementary Magnet School and Relocation of Charles W. Earle Elementary School
- 7. On information and belief, in connection with the Chief Executive Officer's proposals, summaries of the April 6, 2013 community meetings detailed below were published on the CPS website on or before April 11, 2013 at http://cps.edu/qualityschools/pages/schools.aspx:
 - a. Proposed Co-Location of Noble Street Charter Gary Comer College Prep with Paul Revere Elementary School, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 10:00am-12:00pm
 - b. Proposed Closure of Louis Armstrong Math & Science Elementary School and the Relocation of George Leland Elementary School and Proposed Closure of Horatio May Elementary Community Academy and Relocation of George Leland Elementary School, Meeting at Austin Business and Entrepreneurship Academy High School from 10:00am-1:00pm
 - c. Proposed Closure of Leif Ericson Elementary Scholastic Academy, Meeting at Manley Career Academy High School from 12:30pm-2:30pm
 - d. Proposed Closure of William H. King Elementary School, Meeting at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School from 10:00am-12:00pm
 - e. Proposed Closure of Garfield Park Preparatory Academy Elementary School, Meeting at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School from 12:30pm-2:30pm
 - f. Proposed Co-Location of Richard T. Crane Medical Preparatory High School with Chicago Talent Development High School and Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory High School, Meeting at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School from 3:00pm-5:00pm
 - g. Proposed Co-Location of Belmont-Cragin Elementary School with Northwest Middle School, Meeting at Charles Allen Prosser Career Academy High School from 10:00am-12:00pm
 - h. Proposed Co-Location of The Montessori School of Englewood Charter with Luke O'Toole Elementary School, Meeting at TEAM Englewood Community Academy High School from 10:00am-12:00pm
 - i. Proposed Co-Location of a new KIPP Middle School campus with Hope College Preparatory High School, Meeting at TEAM Englewood Community Academy High School from 12:30pm-2:30pm
 - j. Proposed Closure of Elihu Yale Elementary School, Meeting at TEAM Englewood Community Academy High School from 3:00pm-5:00pm
 - k. Proposed Closure of Songhai Elementary Learning Institute, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 10:00am-12:00pm
 - l. Proposed Closure of Kate S. Buckingham Special Education Center, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 12:30pm-2:30pm

- m. Proposed Co-Location of Kwame Nkrumah Academy Elementary School with Walter Q. Gresham Elementary School, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 3:00pm-5:00pm
- 8. On information and belief, in connection with the Chief Executive Officer's proposals, summaries of the April 8, 2013 community meetings detailed below were published on the CPS website on or before April 13, 2013 at http://cps.edu/qualityschools/pages/schools.aspx:
 - a. Proposed Closure of Pershing West Middle School and Relocation of John J. Pershing Elementary Humanities Magnet, Meeting at Paul Laurence Dunbar Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - b. Proposed Closure of Anthony Overton Elementary School, Meeting at Paul Laurence Dunbar Career Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - c. Proposed Closure of Miriam G. Canter Middle School, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - d. Proposed Closure of Betsy Ross Elementary School, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - e. Proposed Closure of Martin A. Ryerson Elementary School and Relocation of Laura S. Ward Elementary School, Meeting at Al Raby High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - f. Proposed Co-Location of Mary Mapes Dodge Elementary Renaissance Academy with Morton School of Excellence, Meeting at Al Raby High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - g. Proposed Closure of Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School, Meeting at Manley Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - h. Proposed Closure of Matthew A. Henson Elementary School, Meeting at Manley Career Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - i. Proposed Closure of Elizabeth Peabody Elementary School, Meeting at Roberto Clemente Community Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - j. Proposed Closure of Jean D. Lafayette Elementary School, Meeting at Roberto Clemente Community Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - k. Proposed Closure of Graeme Stewart Elementary School, Meeting at Roald Amundsen High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center, Meeting at Roald Amundsen High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - m. Proposed Closure of Mahalia Jackson Elementary School, Meeting at William Rainey Harper High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - n. Proposed Closure of Garrett A. Morgan Elementary School, Meeting at William Rainey Harper High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - o. Proposed Closure of Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - p. Proposed Closure of West Pullman Elementary School, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
- 9. On information and belief, in connection with the Chief Executive Officer's proposals, summaries of the April 9, 2013 community meetings detailed below were published on the CPS website on or before April 14, 2013 at http://cps.edu/qualityschools/pages/schools.aspx:
 - a. Proposed Closure of Francis Parkman Elementary School, Meeting at Paul Laurence Dunbar Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - Proposed Phase-Out and Closure of Crispus Attucks Elementary School, Meeting at Paul Laurence Dunbar Career Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - c. Proposed Closure of William J. & Charles H. Mayo Elementary School and Relocation of Ida B. Wells Preparatory Elementary Academy, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - d. Proposed Closure of Austin O. Sexton Elementary School and Relocation of John Fiske Elementary School, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm

- e. Proposed Closure of John Calhoun North Elementary School, Meeting at Al Raby High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- f. Proposed Closure of Guglielmo Marconi Elementary Community Academy, Meeting at Al Raby High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
- g. Proposed Closure of Nathaniel Pope Elementary School, Meeting at Manley Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- h. Proposed Closure of Ignance Paderewski Elementary Learning Academy, Meeting at Manley Career Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
- i. Proposed Closure of Victor Herbert Elementary School and Relocation of Robert Nathaniel Dett Elementary School, Meeting at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- j. Proposed Closure of Alexander von Humboldt Elementary School and Proposed Closure of Ana Roque de Duprey Elementary School, meeting at Roberto Clemente Community Academy High School from 5:00pm-8:00pm
- k. Proposed Closure of Lyman Trumbull Elementary School, Meeting at Roald Amundsen High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- 1. Proposed Closure of Granville T. Woods Math & Science Academy Elementary School, Meeting at William Rainey Harper High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- m. Proposed Closure of Arna Wendell Bontemps Elementary School, Meeting at William Rainey Harper High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
- n. Proposed Closure of Alfred David Kohn Elementary School, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- o. Proposed Closure of Marcus Moziah Garvey Elementary School, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
- p. Proposed Closure of Elaine O. Goodlow Elementary Magnet School and Relocation of Charles W. Earle Elementary School, Meeting at Robert Lindblom Math & Science Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- 10. On information and belief, in connection with the Chief Executive Officer's proposals, summaries of the April 10, 2013 community meetings detailed below were published on the CPS website on or before April 15, 2013 at http://cps.edu/qualityschools/pages/schools.aspx:
 - a. Proposed Closure of Williams Multiplex Elementary School and Relocation of John B. Drake Elementary School, Proposed Closure of Williams Preparatory Academy Middle School and Relocation of John B. Drake Elementary School, and Proposed Co-Location of John B. Drake Elementary School with Urban Prep Academy for Young Men Bronzeville, Meeting at Paul Laurence Dunbar Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-8:00pm
 - b. Proposed Closure of Dumas Technology Academy and Relocation of James Wadsworth Elementary School, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - c. Proposed Closure of Enrico Fermi Elementary School, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - d. Proposed Closure of Nathan R. Goldblatt Elementary School, Meeting at Al Raby High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - e. Proposed Closure of Edward C. Delano Elementary School and Relocation of Genevieve Melody Elementary School, Meeting at Al Raby High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - f. Proposed Closure of Francis Scott Key Elementary School, Meeting at Austin Business and Entrepreneurship Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - g. Proposed Closure of Robert Emmet Elementary School, Meeting at Austin Business and Entrepreneurship Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - h. Proposed Co-Location of Disney II Magnet School with Thurgood Marshall Middle School, Meeting at Carl Schurz High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - i. Proposed Closure of George Manierre Elementary School, Meeting at Lincoln Park High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - j. Proposed Closure of Near North Elementary School, Meeting at Lincoln Park High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm

- k. Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with George H. Corliss High School, Meeting at Chicago Vocational Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- 1. Proposed Co-Location of a new Noble Street Charter School campus with Bowen High School, Meeting at Chicago Vocational Career Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
- m. Proposed Closure of Benjamin Banneker Elementary School and Relocation of Benjamin E. Mays Elementary Academy, Meeting at William Rainey Harper High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- n. Proposed Closure of John P. Altgeld Elementary School and Relocation of Daniel S. Wentworth Elementary School, Meeting at William Rainey Harper High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
- o. Proposed Closure of Robert H. Lawrence Elementary School and Relocation of Burnham Elementary Inclusive Academy, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
- On information and belief, in connection with the Chief Executive Officer's proposals, summaries of the April 11, 2013 community meetings detailed below were published on the CPS website on or before April 16, 2013 at http://cps.edu/qualityschools/pages/schools.aspx:
 - a. Proposed Co-Location of Noble Street Charter Gary Comer College Prep with Paul Revere Elementary School, Meeting at Kenwood Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - b. Proposed Closure of Louis Armstrong Math & Science Elementary School and the Relocation of George Leland Elementary School and Proposed Closure of Horatio May Elementary Community Academy and Relocation of George Leland Elementary School, Meeting at Austin Business and Entrepreneurship Academy High School from 5:00pm-8:00pm
 - c. Proposed Closure of Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School, Meeting at Manley Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - d. Proposed Closure of Matthew A. Henson Elementary School, Meeting at Manley Career Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - e. Proposed Closure of William H. King Elementary School, Meeting at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - f. Proposed Closure of Garfield Park Preparatory Academy Elementary School, Meeting at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - g. Proposed Co-Location of Belmont-Cragin Elementary School with Northwest Middle School, Meeting at Charles Allen Prosser Career Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - h. Proposed Closure of Graeme Stewart Elementary School, Meeting at Roald Amundsen High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center, Meeting at Roald Amundsen High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - j. Proposed Closure of Elaine O. Goodlow Elementary Magnet School and Relocation of Charles W. Earle Elementary School, Meeting at William Rainey Harper High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - k. Proposed Closure of Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - 1. Proposed Closure of West Pullman Elementary School, Meeting at John M. Harlan Community Academy High School from 7:30pm-9:30pm

VERIFICATION BY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section 1-109 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, the undersigned certifies that the statements set forth in this instrument are true and correct, except as to matters therein stated to be on information and belief and as to such matters the undersigned certifies as aforesaid that he verily believes the same to be true.

JASON VAN PATTEN

POBLIC HEARINGS

THE OFFICE AND ADDRESS STATE AN

CLASSIFIEDS **312.321.2345**

Page 1

Formerly cited as IL ST CH 122 ¶ 34-18

>

Effective: July 13, 2012

West's Smith-Hurd Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated <u>Currentness</u> Chapter 105. Schools (<u>Refs & Annos</u>)

Common Schools

Act 5. School Code (Refs & Annos)

Article 34. Cities of Over 500,000 Inhabitants-Board of Education (Refs & Annos)

 $\rightarrow \rightarrow 5/34-18$. Powers of the board

§ 34-18. Powers of the board. The board shall exercise general supervision and jurisdiction over the public education and the public school system of the city, and, except as otherwise provided by this Article, shall have power:

- 1. To make suitable provision for the establishment and maintenance throughout the year or for such portion thereof as it may direct, not less than 9 months, of schools of all grades and kinds, including normal schools, high schools, night schools, schools for defectives and delinquents, parental and truant schools, schools for the blind, the deaf and the physically disabled, schools or classes in manual training, constructural and vocational teaching, domestic arts and physical culture, vocation and extension schools and lecture courses, and all other educational courses and facilities, including establishing, equipping, maintaining and operating playgrounds and recreational programs, when such programs are conducted in, adjacent to, or connected with any public school under the general supervision and jurisdiction of the board; provided that the calendar for the school term and any changes must be submitted to and approved by the State Board of Education before the calendar or changes may take effect, and provided that in allocating funds from year to year for the operation of all attendance centers within the district, the board shall ensure that supplemental general State aid funds are allocated and applied in accordance with Section 18-8 or 18-8.05. To admit to such schools without charge foreign exchange students who are participants in an organized exchange student program which is authorized by the board. The board shall permit all students to enroll in apprenticeship programs in trade schools operated by the board, whether those programs are unionsponsored or not. No student shall be refused admission into or be excluded from any course of instruction offered in the common schools by reason of that student's sex. No student shall be denied equal access to physical education and interscholastic athletic programs supported from school district funds or denied participation in comparable physical education and athletic programs solely by reason of the student's sex. Equal access to programs supported from school district funds and comparable programs will be defined in rules promulgated by the State Board of Education in consultation with the Illinois High School Association. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, neither the board of education nor any local school council or other school official shall recommend that children with disabilities be placed into regular education classrooms unless those children with disabilities are provided with supplementary services to assist them so that they benefit from the regular classroom instruction and are included on the teacher's regular education class register;
- 2. To furnish lunches to pupils, to make a reasonable charge therefor, and to use school funds for the payment of such expenses as the board may determine are necessary in conducting the school lunch program;
- 3. To co-operate with the circuit court;
- 4. To make arrangements with the public or quasi-public libraries and museums for the use of their facilities by

teachers and pupils of the public schools;

- 5. To employ dentists and prescribe their duties for the purpose of treating the pupils in the schools, but accepting such treatment shall be optional with parents or guardians;
- 6. To grant the use of assembly halls and classrooms when not otherwise needed, including light, heat, and attendants, for free public lectures, concerts, and other educational and social interests, free of charge, under such provisions and control as the principal of the affected attendance center may prescribe;
- 7. To apportion the pupils to the several schools; provided that no pupil shall be excluded from or segregated in any such school on account of his color, race, sex, or nationality. The board shall take into consideration the prevention of segregation and the elimination of separation of children in public schools because of color, race, sex, or nationality. Except that children may be committed to or attend parental and social adjustment schools established and maintained either for boys or girls only. All records pertaining to the creation, alteration or revision of attendance areas shall be open to the public. Nothing herein shall limit the board's authority to establish multi-area attendance centers or other student assignment systems for desegregation purposes or otherwise, and to apportion the pupils to the several schools. Furthermore, beginning in school year 1994-95, pursuant to a board plan adopted by October 1, 1993, the board shall offer, commencing on a phased-in basis, the opportunity for families within the school district to apply for enrollment of their children in any attendance center within the school district which does not have selective admission requirements approved by the board. The appropriate geographical area in which such open enrollment may be exercised shall be determined by the board of education. Such children may be admitted to any such attendance center on a space available basis after all children residing within such attendance center's area have been accommodated. If the number of applicants from outside the attendance area exceed the space available, then successful applicants shall be selected by lottery. The board of education's open enrollment plan must include provisions that allow low income students to have access to transportation needed to exercise school choice. Open enrollment shall be in compliance with the provisions of the Consent Decree and Desegregation Plan cited in Section 34-1.01;
- 8. To approve programs and policies for providing transportation services to students. Nothing herein shall be construed to permit or empower the State Board of Education to order, mandate, or require busing or other transportation of pupils for the purpose of achieving racial balance in any school;
- 9. Subject to the limitations in this Article, to establish and approve system-wide curriculum objectives and standards, including graduation standards, which reflect the multi-cultural diversity in the city and are consistent with State law, provided that for all purposes of this Article courses or proficiency in American Sign Language shall be deemed to constitute courses or proficiency in a foreign language; and to employ principals and teachers, appointed as provided in this Article, and fix their compensation. The board shall prepare such reports related to minimal competency testing as may be requested by the State Board of Education, and in addition shall monitor and approve special education and bilingual education programs and policies within the district to assure that appropriate services are provided in accordance with applicable State and federal laws to children requiring services and education in those areas;
- 10. To employ non-teaching personnel or utilize volunteer personnel for: (i) non-teaching duties not requiring instructional judgment or evaluation of pupils, including library duties; and (ii) supervising study halls, long distance teaching reception areas used incident to instructional programs transmitted by electronic media such as computers, video, and audio, detention and discipline areas, and school-sponsored extracurricular activities. The board may further utilize volunteer non-certificated personnel or employ non-certificated personnel to assist in the instruction of pupils under the immediate supervision of a teacher holding a valid certificate, directly engaged in teaching subject matter or conducting activities; provided that the teacher shall be continuously aware of the non-certificated persons' activities and shall be able to control or modify them. The general superintendent shall determine qualifications of such personnel and shall prescribe rules for determining the duties and activities to be as-

signed to such personnel;

- 10.5. To utilize volunteer personnel from a regional School Crisis Assistance Team (S.C.A.T.), created as part of the Safe to Learn Program established pursuant to Section 25 of the Illinois Violence Prevention Act of 1995, [FN1] to provide assistance to schools in times of violence or other traumatic incidents within a school community by providing crisis intervention services to lessen the effects of emotional trauma on individuals and the community; the School Crisis Assistance Team Steering Committee shall determine the qualifications for volunteers;
- 11. To provide television studio facilities in not to exceed one school building and to provide programs for educational purposes, provided, however, that the board shall not construct, acquire, operate, or maintain a television transmitter; to grant the use of its studio facilities to a licensed television station located in the school district; and to maintain and operate not to exceed one school radio transmitting station and provide programs for educational purposes;
- 12. To offer, if deemed appropriate, outdoor education courses, including field trips within the State of Illinois, or adjacent states, and to use school educational funds for the expense of the said outdoor educational programs, whether within the school district or not;
- 13. During that period of the calendar year not embraced within the regular school term, to provide and conduct courses in subject matters normally embraced in the program of the schools during the regular school term and to give regular school credit for satisfactory completion by the student of such courses as may be approved for credit by the State Board of Education;
- 14. To insure against any loss or liability of the board, the former School Board Nominating Commission, Local School Councils, the Chicago Schools Academic Accountability Council, or the former Subdistrict Councils or of any member, officer, agent or employee thereof, resulting from alleged violations of civil rights arising from incidents occurring on or after September 5, 1967 or from the wrongful or negligent act or omission of any such person whether occurring within or without the school premises, provided the officer, agent or employee was, at the time of the alleged violation of civil rights or wrongful act or omission, acting within the scope of his employment or under direction of the board, the former School Board Nominating Commission, the Chicago Schools Academic Accountability Council, Local School Councils, or the former Subdistrict Councils; and to provide for or participate in insurance plans for its officers and employees, including but not limited to retirement annuities, medical, surgical and hospitalization benefits in such types and amounts as may be determined by the board; provided, however, that the board shall contract for such insurance only with an insurance company authorized to do business in this State. Such insurance may include provision for employees who rely on treatment by prayer or spiritual means alone for healing, in accordance with the tenets and practice of a recognized religious denomination;
- 15. To contract with the corporate authorities of any municipality or the county board of any county, as the case may be, to provide for the regulation of traffic in parking areas of property used for school purposes, in such manner as is provided by Section 11-209 of The Illinois Vehicle Code, approved September 29, 1969, [FN2] as amended;
- 16. (a) To provide, on an equal basis, access to a high school campus and student directory information to the official recruiting representatives of the armed forces of Illinois and the United States for the purposes of informing students of the educational and career opportunities available in the military if the board has provided such access to persons or groups whose purpose is to acquaint students with educational or occupational opportunities available to them. The board is not required to give greater notice regarding the right of access to recruiting representatives than is given to other persons and groups. In this paragraph 16, "directory information" means a high school student's name, address, and telephone number.

- (b) If a student or his or her parent or guardian submits a signed, written request to the high school before the end of the student's sophomore year (or if the student is a transfer student, by another time set by the high school) that indicates that the student or his or her parent or guardian does not want the student's directory information to be provided to official recruiting representatives under subsection (a) of this Section, the high school may not provide access to the student's directory information to these recruiting representatives. The high school shall notify its students and their parents or guardians of the provisions of this subsection (b).
- (c) A high school may require official recruiting representatives of the armed forces of Illinois and the United States to pay a fee for copying and mailing a student's directory information in an amount that is not more than the actual costs incurred by the high school.
- (d) Information received by an official recruiting representative under this Section may be used only to provide information to students concerning educational and career opportunities available in the military and may not be released to a person who is not involved in recruiting students for the armed forces of Illinois or the United States;
- 17. (a) To sell or market any computer program developed by an employee of the school district, provided that such employee developed the computer program as a direct result of his or her duties with the school district or through the utilization of the school district resources or facilities. The employee who developed the computer program shall be entitled to share in the proceeds of such sale or marketing of the computer program. The distribution of such proceeds between the employee and the school district shall be as agreed upon by the employee and the school district, except that neither the employee nor the school district may receive more than 90% of such proceeds. The negotiation for an employee who is represented by an exclusive bargaining representative may be conducted by such bargaining representative at the employee's request.
- (b) For the purpose of this paragraph 17:
 - (1) "Computer" means an internally programmed, general purpose digital device capable of automatically accepting data, processing data and supplying the results of the operation.
 - (2) "Computer program" means a series of coded instructions or statements in a form acceptable to a computer, which causes the computer to process data in order to achieve a certain result.
 - (3) "Proceeds" means profits derived from marketing or sale of a product after deducting the expenses of developing and marketing such product;
- 18. To delegate to the general superintendent of schools, by resolution, the authority to approve contracts and expenditures in amounts of \$10,000 or less;
- 19. Upon the written request of an employee, to withhold from the compensation of that employee any dues, payments or contributions payable by such employee to any labor organization as defined in the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act. [FN3] Under such arrangement, an amount shall be withheld from each regular payroll period which is equal to the pro rata share of the annual dues plus any payments or contributions, and the board shall transmit such withholdings to the specified labor organization within 10 working days from the time of the withholding;
- 19a. Upon receipt of notice from the comptroller of a municipality with a population of 500,000 or more, a county with a population of 3,000,000 or more, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or a housing authority of a municipality with a population of 500,000 or more that a debt is due and owing the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago

Transit Authority, or the housing authority by an employee of the Chicago Board of Education, to withhold, from the compensation of that employee, the amount of the debt that is due and owing and pay the amount withheld to the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing authority; provided, however, that the amount deducted from any one salary or wage payment shall not exceed 25% of the net amount of the payment. Before the Board deducts any amount from any salary or wage of an employee under this paragraph, the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing authority shall certify that (i) the employee has been afforded an opportunity for a hearing to dispute the debt that is due and owing the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing authority and (ii) the employee has received notice of a wage deduction order and has been afforded an opportunity for a hearing to object to the order. For purposes of this paragraph, "net amount" means that part of the salary or wage payment remaining after the deduction of any amounts required by law to be deducted and "debt due and owing" means (i) a specified sum of money owed to the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing authority for services, work, or goods, after the period granted for payment has expired, or (ii) a specified sum of money owed to the municipality, the county, the Cook County Forest Preserve District, the Chicago Park District, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, the Chicago Transit Authority, or the housing authority pursuant to a court order or order of an administrative hearing officer after the exhaustion of, or the failure to exhaust, judicial review;

- 20. The board is encouraged to employ a sufficient number of certified school counselors to maintain a student/counselor ratio of 250 to 1 by July 1, 1990. Each counselor shall spend at least 75% of his work time in direct contact with students and shall maintain a record of such time;
- 21. To make available to students vocational and career counseling and to establish 5 special career counseling days for students and parents. On these days representatives of local businesses and industries shall be invited to the school campus and shall inform students of career opportunities available to them in the various businesses and industries. Special consideration shall be given to counseling minority students as to career opportunities available to them in various fields. For the purposes of this paragraph, minority student means a person who is any of the following:
- (a) American Indian or Alaska Native (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America, including Central America, and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment).
- (b) Asian (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, but not limited to, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam).
- (c) Black or African American (a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa). Terms such as "Haitian" or "Negro" can be used in addition to "Black or African American".
- (d) Hispanic or Latino (a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race).
- (e) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands).

Counseling days shall not be in lieu of regular school days;

- 22. To report to the State Board of Education the annual student dropout rate and number of students who graduate from, transfer from or otherwise leave bilingual programs;
- 23. Except as otherwise provided in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act [FN4] or other applicable State or federal law, to permit school officials to withhold, from any person, information on the whereabouts of any child removed from school premises when the child has been taken into protective custody as a victim of suspected child abuse. School officials shall direct such person to the Department of Children and Family Services, or to the local law enforcement agency if appropriate;
- 24. To develop a policy, based on the current state of existing school facilities, projected enrollment and efficient utilization of available resources, for capital improvement of schools and school buildings within the district, addressing in that policy both the relative priority for major repairs, renovations and additions to school facilities, and the advisability or necessity of building new school facilities or closing existing schools to meet current or projected demographic patterns within the district;
- 25. To make available to the students in every high school attendance center the ability to take all courses necessary to comply with the Board of Higher Education's college entrance criteria effective in 1993;
- 26. To encourage mid-career changes into the teaching profession, whereby qualified professionals become certified teachers, by allowing credit for professional employment in related fields when determining point of entry on teacher pay scale;
- 27. To provide or contract out training programs for administrative personnel and principals with revised or expanded duties pursuant to this Act in order to assure they have the knowledge and skills to perform their duties;
- 28. To establish a fund for the prioritized special needs programs, and to allocate such funds and other lump sum amounts to each attendance center in a manner consistent with the provisions of part 4 of Section 34-2.3. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require any additional appropriations of State funds for this purpose;
- 29. (Blank);
- 30. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or any other law to the contrary, to contract with third parties for services otherwise performed by employees, including those in a bargaining unit, and to layoff those employees upon 14 days written notice to the affected employees. Those contracts may be for a period not to exceed 5 years and may be awarded on a system-wide basis. The board may not operate more than 30 contract schools, provided that the board may operate an additional 5 contract turnaround schools pursuant to item (5.5) of subsection (d) of Section 34-8.3 of this Code;
- 31. To promulgate rules establishing procedures governing the layoff or reduction in force of employees and the recall of such employees, including, but not limited to, criteria for such layoffs, reductions in force or recall rights of such employees and the weight to be given to any particular criterion. Such criteria shall take into account factors including, but not be limited to, qualifications, certifications, experience, performance ratings or evaluations, and any other factors relating to an employee's job performance;
- 32. To develop a policy to prevent nepotism in the hiring of personnel or the selection of contractors;
- 33. To enter into a partnership agreement, as required by Section 34-3.5 of this Code, and, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, to promulgate policies, enter into contracts, and take any other action necessary to accomplish the objectives and implement the requirements of that agreement; and

34. To establish a Labor Management Council to the board comprised of representatives of the board, the chief executive officer, and those labor organizations that are the exclusive representatives of employees of the board and to promulgate policies and procedures for the operation of the Council.

The specifications of the powers herein granted are not to be construed as exclusive but the board shall also exercise all other powers that they may be requisite or proper for the maintenance and the development of a public school system, not inconsistent with the other provisions of this Article or provisions of this Code which apply to all school districts.

In addition to the powers herein granted and authorized to be exercised by the board, it shall be the duty of the board to review or to direct independent reviews of special education expenditures and services. The board shall file a report of such review with the General Assembly on or before May 1, 1990.

CREDIT(S)

Laws 1961, p. 31, § 34-18, eff. July 1, 1961. Amended by Laws 1961, p. 500, § 1, eff. July 1, 1961; Laws 1963, p. 1107, § 1, eff. July 1, 1963; Laws 1963, p. 3264, § 1, eff. Aug. 21, 1963; Laws 1965, p. 1604, § 1, eff. July 15. 1965; Laws 1967, p. 395, § 1, eff. July 1, 1967; Laws 1967, p. 3304, § 1, eff. Aug. 21, 1967; Laws 1968, p. 430, § 1, eff. July 1, 1969; P.A. 76-1481, § 1, eff. Sept. 22, 1969; P.A. 77-717, § 1, eff. Aug. 12, 1971; P.A. 77-1187, § 1, eff. Aug. 19, 1971; P.A. 77-2829, § 60, eff. Dec. 22, 1972; P.A. 78-255, § 61, eff. Oct. 1, 1973; P.A. 78-881, § 1, eff. Oct. 1, 1973; P.A. 78-1297, § 58, eff. March 4, 1975; P.A. 79-597, § 1, eff. Oct. 1, 1975; P.A. 79-693, § 1, eff. Oct. 1, 1975; P.A. 79-791, § 1, eff. Sept. 5, 1975; P.A. 79-1366, § 49, eff. Oct. 1, 1976; P.A. 79-1454, § 60, eff. Aug. 31, 1976; P.A. 80-1412, § 1, eff. Aug. 31, 1978; P.A. 80-1495, § 53, eff. Jan. 8, 1979; P.A. 81-1508, § 13, eff. Sept. 25, 1980; P.A. 82-161, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1982; P.A. 82-543, § 1, eff. Sept. 16, 1981; P.A. 82-783, Art. III, § 64, eff. July 13, 1982; P.A. 83-797, § 1, eff. Sept. 24, 1983; P.A. 83-1014, § 22, eff. Jan. 1, 1984; P.A. 83-1362, Art. II, § 153, eff. Sept. 11, 1984; P.A. 84-662, § 1, eff. Sept. 20, 1985; P.A. 84-663, § 1, eff. Sept. 20, 1985; P.A. 84-1308, Art. II, § 172, eff. Aug. 25, 1986; P.A. 85-238, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1988; P.A. 85-410, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1988; P.A. 85-1209, Art. II, § 2-96, eff. Aug. 30, 1988; P.A. 85-1418, § 1, eff. May 1, 1989; P.A. 85-1440, Art. II, § 2-54, eff. Feb. 1, 1989; P.A. 86-124, § 1, eff. July 28, 1989; P.A. 86-623, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1990; P.A. 86-1002, § 2, eff. July 1, 1990; P.A. 86-1028, Art. II, § 2-83, eff. Feb. 5, 1990. Reenacted by P.A. 86-1477, § 2, eff. Jan. 11, 1991. Amended by P.A. 87-455, § 1, eff. Sept. 11, 1991; P.A. 88-89, Art. 2, § 2-5, eff. July 14, 1994; P.A. 88-511, § 45, eff. Nov. 14, 1993; P.A. 88-686, § 5, eff. Jan. 24, 1995; P.A. 89-15, § 5, eff. May 30, 1995; P.A. 89-397, § 5, eff. Aug. 20, 1995; P.A. 89-626, Art. 2, § 2-36, eff. Aug. 9, 1996; P.A. 90-22, § 15, eff. June 20, 1997; P.A. 90-548, 1st Sp.Sess., Art. 5, § 5-915, eff. Jan. 1, 1998; P.A. 92-109, § 23, eff. July 20, 2001; P.A. 92-527, § 5, eff. June 1, 2002; P.A. 92-724, § 5, eff. July 25, 2002; P.A. 93-3, § 5, eff. April 16, 2003; P.A. 93-1036, § 90, eff. Sept. 14, 2004; P.A. 96-105, § 5, eff. July 30, 2009; P.A. 97-227, § 60, eff. Jan. 1, 2012; P.A. 97-396, § 40, eff. Jan. 1, 2012; P.A. 97-813, § 230, eff. July 13, 2012.

Formerly Ill.Rev.Stat.1991, ch. 122, ¶ 34-18.

[FN1] 20 ILCS 4027/25 (Repealed)

[FN2] 625 ILCS 5/11-209

[FN3] 115 ILCS 5/1 et. seq.

[FN4] 325 ILCS 5/1 et. seq.

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Section 2 of P.A. 77-717, provided:

"If any provision of this amendatory Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this amendatory Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this amendatory Act are severable."

Section 90 of P.A. 96-105, provided:

"Section 90. The non-State agency parties that engaged in the negotiation of this Act shall, within 30 days after the effective date of this Act, enter into a memorandum of understanding, which shall include without limitation language whereby, through June 30, 2013, and subject to any legislative changes required by federal law, such parties shall not propose any changes to Article 27A of the School Code other than legislation to establish an independent, State-level, charter school authorizing entity".

P.A. 97-813, the First 2012 General Revisory Act, amended various Acts to delete obsolete text, to correct patent and technical errors, to revise cross references, to resolve multiple actions in the 96th and 97th General Assemblies and to make certain technical corrections in P.A. 96-1480 through P.A. 97-625.

Source. Laws 1909, p. 342, §§ 136, 137, 139; Laws 1917, p. 723, § 1; Laws 1929, p. 704, § 1; Laws 1931-32, 1st Sp.Sess., p. 128, § 1; Laws 1935, p. 1331, § 1; S.H.A., ch. 122, ¶ 159, 160, 162.

Laws 1945, p. 1331, § 34-17; Laws 1951, p. 501, § 1; Laws 1953, p. 1033, § 1; Laws 1955, p. 1186, § 1; Laws 1955, p. 2055, § 1; Laws 1957, p. 2863, § 1; Laws 1961, p. 1947, § 1; S.H.A. ch. 122, ¶ 34-17.

Prior Laws:

Laws 1909, p. 342, § 97.

Laws 1935, p. 1392, § 1.

Laws 1945, p. 1331, § 27-16.

Laws 1949, p. 1446, § 1.

CROSS REFERENCES

Alternative schools, Chicago public schools, contracts for services, see 105 ILCS 5/13A-11. Areas of education, see 105 ILCS 5/27-1. Certification of teachers, see 105 ILCS 5/21-1b et seq. Courses of study, control by superintendent, see 105 ILCS 5/34-8. Lunch programs, equipment, see 105 ILCS 5/10-22.26. Power of school board to contract for educational television, see 105 ILCS 5/10-22.30.

LAW REVIEW AND JOURNAL COMMENTARIES

Access to government information. 68 Nw.U.L.Rev. 363 (1973).

All wired up: An analysis of the FCC's order to internally connect schools. 50 Fed.Comm.L.J. 215. (1997).

Collective bargaining power of school board employees. 33 U.Chi.L.Rev. 852 (1966).

Current issues in Illinois school law: The consumer's perspective. Patrick A. Keenan, 23 DePaul L.Rev. 402 (1973).

Equal education opportunity for Negroes: Abstraction or reality. Robert L. Carter, 1968 U.III.L.F. 160.

Integrity, accountability, and efficiency: Using disclosure to fight the appearance of nepotism in school board contracting. 94 Nw.U.L.Rev. 657 (2000).

Kids surfing the Net at school: What are the legal issues? 24 Rutgers Computer & Tech.L.J. 417 (1998).

Liability of local governments and their employees in Illinois. 58 Ill.B.J. 620 (1970).

Privacy regulation of computer-assisted testing and instruction. 63 Wash.L.Rev. 841 (1988).

Responding to students' pleas for relief: The need for a consistent approach to peer sexual harassment claims. 17 N.III.U.L.Rev. 479 (1997).

School desegregation: De facto and de jure segregation. 18 DePaul L.Rev. 305 (1968).

Teacher negotiations. 1973 U.Ill.L.F. 307.

Universal service in the schools: One step too far? 50 Fed.Comm.L.J. 237 (1997).

When the free-market visits public schools: Answering the roll call for disadvantaged students. 15 Nat'l Black L.J. 26 (1997-1998).

With all deliberate speed. 1968 U.Ill.L.F. 105.

LIBRARY REFERENCES

Schools 55.

Westlaw Topic No. 345.

C.J.S. Schools and School Districts §§ 149 to 150, 191 to 194, 196 to 199, 310, 372, 507, 570.

RESEARCH REFERENCES

ALR Library

127 ALR 1298, Teachers' Tenure Statutes.

Encyclopedias

Am. Jur. 2d Schools § 82, Other Court Remedies.

Illinois Law and Practice Schools § 194, Dismissal or Other Adverse Action.

Illinois Law and Practice Schools § 218, Curriculum, Grades, and Textbooks.

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

Establishment clause, federally funded materials and equipment loaned to the public and private schools, direct aid to parochial schools, neutral availability, see <u>People v. Brewer, 2000, 711 N.Y.S.2d 161, 95 N.Y.2d 793, 733 N.E.2d 233, 2000 WL 826371</u>, Unreported.

NOTES OF DECISIONS

Budget 6 Bus contracts 8 Constitutional issues 1 Curriculum 10 Delegation of powers 4 Desegregation plans 15 Discipline of students 12 Employment contracts 7 Fraternities or sororities 17 Lay-offs 18 Legislative intent 2 Maintenance and development of schools 5 Nature and scope of powers 3 Racial discrimination 14 Religious instruction 16 School property, use of 13 Subdistricts 9 Termination 19 Textbooks 11

1. Constitutional issues

Act which removed from nonteacher school employees' unions their exclusive bargaining power with school district did not violate contract clause by impairing union constitutions and bylaws, assuming that constitutions and bylaws constituted contracts between unions and employees for purposes of contract clause analysis; although act substantially impaired contractual obligation by removing unions as employees' exclusive bargaining agent, such impairment was rationally related to legitimate interest of eliminating inefficiency and waste in school system. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill.1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 2664; Constitutional Law 2751; Labor And Employment 1154

Act that removed unions' exclusive bargaining power with school district as to nonteacher employees did not violate equal protection guarantees since, in distinguishing certificated from noncertificated employees, and third parties contracting with state from unions, act did not discriminate against similarly situated individuals, and, even if equal protection clause did apply, act was rationally related to legitimate goal of bringing financial stability to system. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill.1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 3599; Labor And Employment 1154

Act that removed from nonteacher school employees' unions their exclusive bargaining power with school district did not violate employees' substantive due process rights; eliminating civil service status of nonteachers in order to

avoid expensive hearings was rationally related to legitimate purpose of improving efficiency of school system. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill.1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 4184; Labor And Employment 1154

Although nonteacher school employees had property interest in continued employment absent cause based on state law that conferred civil service status on union employees, they were not deprived of such interest without due process by act that removed unions' exclusive bargaining power with school district; legislative process created all procedural safeguards necessary to provide employees with due process. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill. 1996, 922 F. Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 4184; Constitutional Law 4185

Nonteacher school employees had no property rights to continued employment absent cause based in contract, for purposes of determining whether act that removed unions' exclusive bargaining power with school district violated employees' procedural due process rights; although employees had had property rights in collective bargaining agreements, those property rights ended when collective bargaining agreements expired. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. III. 1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 4184; Labor And Employment 1302

Section of School Code governing school board's power to promulgate layoff procedures and recall procedures did not provide laid-off tenured teachers with any procedural rights during rehiring process following economic layoff; section merely provided board with authority to promulgate such procedures as it saw fit, but section contained no mandatory language. Chicago Teachers Union, Local No. 1 v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, 2012, 357 III.Dec. 520, 963 N.E.2d 918, answer to certified question conformed to 476 Fed.Appx. 83, 2012 WL 1355610. Schools 147.48

2. Legislative intent

Specific powers granted by legislature to board of education are not intended to exclude others requisite and proper to the development of a public school system, so long as exercise of assertedly requisite and proper power is not inconsistent with the code that governs school administration. <u>Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union, Local 1, Am. Federation of Teachers, App. 1 Dist. 1975, 26 Ill. App. 3d 806, 326 N.E. 2d 158.</u> Schools 55

3. Nature and scope of powers

Under Illinois law, school board has final policymaking authority regarding decisions to hire and fire teachers, for purposes of determining whether there was action by persons with that authority, for purposes of finding entity liable for civil rights violations under §§ 1983. <u>Bogosian v. Board of Educ. of Community Unit School Dist. 200, N.D. Ill. 2001</u>, 134 F.Supp. 2d 952. Civil Rights 1351(5)

Power vested in a school board and its superintendent by the school code is not absolute. Stasica v. Hannon, App. 1 Dist.1979, 27 Ill.Dec. 147, 70 Ill.App.3d 785, 388 N.E.2d 1110. Schools 55

The Board of Education of the City of Chicago is a body politic and corporate, created to carry out certain governmental functions in connection with the education of children of the School District of Chicago, and has only such powers as are expressly conferred upon it by the Legislature or such as may be necessary to carry into effect granted powers. Rosenheim, First Securities Co. of Chicago, Intervener v. City of Chicago, App. 1956, 12 Ill. App. 2d 382, 139 N.E. 2d 856. Schools 55

A board of education can exercise no greater power than the legislature can confer upon it. Adams v. Brenan, 1898, 52 N.E. 314, 177 Ill. 194, 69 Am.St.Rep. 222. Schools 55

Chicago Board of Education, like all municipal bodies has only such powers as are expressly given to it, or as result by fair implication from powers granted by statute giving board power to furnish schools with necessary fixtures, furniture and apparatus to maintain schools, and supply funds for salaries from school taxes, etc. Harris v. Kill, 1903, 108 Ill.App. 305.

4. Delegation of powers

Powers of a school board to control budgetary considerations and to set earlier closing dates are discretionary unto itself and may not be delegated. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union, Local 1, 1981, 58 III.Dec. 860, 88 III.2d 63, 430 N.E.2d 1111. Schools 162.1

Board of Education of City of Chicago did not improperly delegate its discretionary power to fix salaries of teachers when it entered into collective bargaining agreement and adopted specific annual salaries set forth therein and also adopted a budget. <u>Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union, Local No. 1, 1981, 56 Ill.Dec. 653, 86 Ill.2d 469, 427 N.E.2d 1199.</u>

Authority of board of education to contract for teachers' services is a discretionary power that cannot be delegated, through collective bargaining agreement or otherwise, to third party such as an arbitrator. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union, Local 1, American Federation of Teachers, App. 1 Dist.1980, 45 Ill.Dec. 236, 89 Ill.App.3d 861, 412 N.E.2d 587, reversed on other grounds 58 Ill.Dec. 860, 88 Ill.2d 63, 430 N.E.2d 1111. Labor And Employment 1542; Schools 55

5. Maintenance and development of schools

Power of board of education of city of Chicago to control and manage schools and to adopt rules and regulations necessary for that purpose as authorized by Const. 1870, Art. 8, § 1, and legislation adopted pursuant thereto, is ample and full, and exercise of discretion by board in determining what rules and by-laws are necessary to proper conduct and management of schools will not be interfered with or set aside by courts, in absence of clear abuse of power and discretion conferred. Favorite v. Board of Education of Chicago, 1908, 235 Ill. 314, 85 N.E. 402; Wilson v. Board of Education of Chicago, 1908, 233 Ill. 464, 84 N.E. 697, 13 Ann.Cas. 330.

Acquisition of funds for operation of school system is proper for maintenance and fullest development of an efficient school system. <u>Loeb v. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago, N.D. Ill.1952, 103 F.Supp. 876</u>, reversed on other grounds 203 F.2d 775. Schools 17

Under ¶ 162 of former chapter 122, incorporated in § 34-17, School Code of 1945, providing that a board of education shall exercise all powers that may be requisite or proper for maintenance and fullest development of an efficient public school system, Board of Education of Chicago was empowered to issue tax anticipation warrants. <u>Loeb v. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago, N.D. Ill.1952, 103 F.Supp. 876</u>, reversed on other grounds 203 F.2d 775. Schools 95(1)

This paragraph, that permits school board to exercise powers requisite or proper for maintenance and development of public school system, authorized board to make whatever provisions were necessary for appointment of district supervising engineer in compliance with civil service law, and, thus, inapplicability of city personnel code to school board and abolition of civil service commission did not make it legally impossible to make appointments in compliance with civil service law. Local 143 Intern. Union of Operating Engineers v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago. App. 1 Dist.1987, 108 Ill.Dec. 816, 156 Ill.App.3d 431, 509 N.E.2d 512, appeal denied 113 Ill.Dec. 301, 116 Ill.2d 560, 515 N.E.2d 110. Officers And Public Employees 11.1

Employment of personnel to operate and maintain physical plants of school buildings is necessary for proper maintenance and development of school system within meaning of this paragraph, that permits school board to exercise powers requisite or proper for maintenance and development of public school system. <u>Local 143 Intern. Union of Operating Engineers v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist. 1987, 108 III.Dec. 816, 156 III.App.3d 431, 509 N.E.2d 512, appeal denied 113 III.Dec. 301, 116 III.2d 560, 515 N.E.2d 110. Schools 63(1)</u>

6. Budget

School board had discretionary power under the School Code to control budgetary considerations and to set a closing date earlier than that set on the annual calendar so long as the minimum number of days had been met. <u>Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union, Local 1, 1981, 58 Ill.Dec. 860, 88 Ill.2d 63, 430 N.E.2d 1111.</u> Schools 162,1

Not only is Board of Education of City of Chicago obligated by law to honor its contracts as would an individual, but it must practice sound management in planning its budget and in entering into contract and that duty necessitates setting duration of school year within financial limitations of the Board, entailing financial predictions by Board in setting of its school calendar and in contract drafting. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union. Local 1, American Federation of Teachers, App. 1 Dist. 1980, 45 Ill. Dec. 236, 89 Ill. App. 3d 861, 412 N.E. 2d 587, reversed on other grounds 58 Ill. Dec. 860, 88 Ill. 2d 63, 430 N.E. 2d 1111. Schools 80(1)

In light of a huge accumulated deficit and a reduction in anticipated revenue from both state aid and local property taxes, action of school board in closing schools one day early pursuant to its statutory authority, on a day when students were scheduled for only two hours, was neither arbitrary, discriminatory, nor unreasonable. <u>Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union, Local 1, American Federation of Teachers, App. 1 Dist.1980, 45 Ill.Dec. 236, 89 Ill.App.3d 861, 412 N.E.2d 587, reversed on other grounds 58 Ill.Dec. 860, 88 Ill.2d 63, 430 N.E.2d 1111.</u>

Collective bargaining agreement requirement that salary schedules for teachers be subject to terms of appropriations contained in school budgets did not subject agreement to budget provision that no employee had right to continuous employment if it became necessary to lay him off for lack of funds and, once board made appropriation in budget, thereby implementing salary provisions of the agreement, board's contractual obligation to provide annual salaries was fixed. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Chicago Teachers Union, Local 1, American Federation of Teachers, App. 1 Dist.1980, 45 Ill.Dec. 236, 89 Ill.App.3d 861, 412 N.E.2d 587, reversed on other grounds 58 Ill.Dec. 860, 88 Ill.2d 63, 430 N.E.2d 1111. Labor And Employment 1279

7. Employment contracts

Act which removed from nonteacher school employees' unions their exclusive bargaining power with school district did not violate contract clause by impairing union constitutions and bylaws, assuming that constitutions and bylaws constituted contracts between unions and employees for purposes of contract clause analysis; although act substantially impaired contractual obligation by removing unions as employees' exclusive bargaining agent, such impairment was rationally related to legitimate interest of eliminating inefficiency and waste in school system. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill.1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 2664; Constitutional Law 2751; Labor And Employment 1154

Nonteacher school employees had no property rights to continued employment absent cause based in contract, for purposes of determining whether act that removed unions' exclusive bargaining power with school district violated employees' procedural due process rights; although employees had had property rights in collective bargaining agreements, those property rights ended when collective bargaining agreements expired. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill, 1996, 922 F. Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 4184; Labor And Employment 1302

Although nonteacher school employees had property interest in continued employment absent cause based on state law that conferred civil service status on union employees, they were not deprived of such interest without due process by act that removed unions' exclusive bargaining power with school district; legislative process created all procedural safeguards necessary to provide employees with due process. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill. 1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 4184; Constitutional Law 4185

Act that removed from nonteacher school employees' unions their exclusive bargaining power with school district did not violate employees' substantive due process rights; eliminating civil service status of nonteachers in order to avoid expensive hearings was rationally related to legitimate purpose of improving efficiency of school system.

Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. Ill.1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 4184; Labor And Employment 1154

Act that removed unions' exclusive bargaining power with school district as to nonteacher employees did not violate equal protection guarantees since, in distinguishing certificated from noncertificated employees, and third parties contracting with state from unions, act did not discriminate against similarly situated individuals, and, even if equal protection clause did apply, act was rationally related to legitimate goal of bringing financial stability to system. Bricklayers Union Local 21 v. Edgar, N.D. III.1996, 922 F.Supp. 100. Constitutional Law 3599; Labor And Employment 1154

8. Bus contracts

School board's two percent local business preference for bus contracts had no proper legislative authority and was unconstitutionally arbitrary and capricious delegation of power to municipal unit. Best Bus Joint Venture v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.1997, 224 Ill.Dec. 255, 288 Ill.App.3d 770, 681 N.E.2d 570. Constitutional Law 2437; Public Contracts 129

9. Subdistricts

A suit in mandamus to compel admission of colored children to certain school on ground that subdistricts established by board of education had been gerrymandered for racial reasons, was properly dismissed, where evidence showed no gerrymandering or racial discrimination. People ex rel. Warfield v. Board of Education of City of Chicago, App. 1944, 55 N.E.2d 297, 323 Ill.App. 294. Mandamus 168(4)

10. Curriculum

Under this paragraph, Chicago School Board has power to create and maintain experimental education programs for Chicago public school children so long as methods so adopted are otherwise consistent with provisions of school code, Morton v. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago, App. 1966, 69 Ill. App. 2d 38, 216 N.E. 2d 305. Schools 55

11. Textbooks

A resolution of the board of education of the city of Chicago, providing for free text-books for children of the first four grades of the elementary schools, was illegal and unauthorized, and enjoined at the petition of a taxpayer. <u>Harris v. Kill, 1903, 108 Ill.App. 305</u>.

12. Discipline of students

Even though student was not regularly employed, this paragraph and other paragraphs of School Code were not

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Formerly cited as IL ST CH 122 ¶ 34-18

shown to prevent school board from transferring her to continuation school as disciplinary measure in case where her conduct could have been visited with suspension or expulsion. Betts v. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago, C.A.7 (Ill.) 1972, 466 F.2d 629. Schools 169

13. School property, use of

Contracts involving the rental of school lands vitally affect the public interest and are to be construed liberally in favor of the public. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago v. Crilly, App.1941, 37 N.E.2d 873, 312 Ill.App. 16. Schools 65

14. Racial discrimination

Allegation, in complaint by school board and superintendent, that effect of statutory reduction in state aid was to discriminate against relatively poorer school districts such as Chicago merited consideration, but board did not have standing to protest alleged racial discrimination inasmuch as board was not member of the protected class of pupils, nor was superintendent of the board in any better position. Cronin v. Lindberg, 1976, 4 Ill.Dec. 424, 66 Ill.2d 47, 360 N.B.2d 360. Schools 114

Discrimination on account of color by establishing separate schools not allowed. People ex rel. Bibb v. Mayor of City of Alton, 1901, 61 N.E. 1077, 193 Ill. 309.

The free schools in the state are public institutions, and in their management and control the law contemplates that they should be so managed that all the children within the district, regardless of race or color, shall have equal and the same rights to participate in the benefits to be derived therefrom. Chase v. Stephenson, 1874, 71 Ill. 383. Schools 151

15. Desegregation plans

School desegregation decree would be terminated since consequences of segregation had been eliminated; there was no showing that unequal educational attainment was due to school board's past illegalities rather than other factors such as poverty, parents' education and employment, family size, parental attitudes and behavior, prenatal, neonatal, and child health care, peer-group pressures, and ethnic culture, and no showing that minority students were enrolling in advanced classes at a lower rate than white students because of school segregation. People Who Care v. Rockford Bd. of Educ., School Dist. 205, C.A.7 (Ill.)2001, 246 F.3d 1073, rehearing and rehearing en banc denied, on remand 2001 WL 755306. Schools 13(20)

Article 10, § 2 of the 1970 Constitution which grants Board of Education authority to establish goals, determine policies, and provide for planning and evaluating education programs did not authorize Board to enact rules relating to desegregation where legislature placed duty to prevent segregation in hands of local school boards. Aurora East Public School Dist. No. 131 v. Cronin, 1982, 66 Ill.Dec. 85, 92 Ill.2d 313, 442 N.E.2d 511. Schools 13(8)

Though prospect of white flight and consequent resegregation could not justify failure to comply with a court decree ordering integration, where it was evident that voluntary action of school board was motivated by a good-faith effort to stabilize enrollments at high schools and to promote integration not only at those schools but also at alternative high schools designated under the segregation plans, racial quotas imposed were not intended to retard integration and to create racial imbalance at subject high schools. <u>Aurora East Public School Dist. No. 131 v. Cronin, 1982, 66 Ill.Dec. 85, 92 Ill.2d 313, 442 N.E.2d 511</u>.

Provision of the Illinois School Code investing the board of education with sufficient discretionary authority to

achieve the prevention of segregation and the elimination of separation of children in public schools because of color, race, sex or nationality must not be read as foreclosing the board from restricting the racial composition of the enrollment at a school within a particular attendance area where such a remedial measure achieves the prevention of de facto segregation in the public schools. <u>Aurora East Public School Dist. No. 131 v. Cronin, 1982, 66 Ill.Dec. 85.</u> 92 Ill.2d 313, 442 N.E.2d 511.

Student racial stabilization code instituted by board of education at high schools in district to prevent de facto racial segregation were statutorily and constitutionally permissible where, prior to implementation of plans, attendance areas for schools were rapidly changing in residential occupancy from white to black and trend in enrollments was toward segregated student bodies, whereas plans successfully arrested trend so that all high school students living in those attendance areas were provided with a meaningful and viable opportunity to attend an integrated high school. Aurora East Public School Dist. No. 131 v. Cronin, 1982, 66 Ill.Dec. 85, 92 Ill.2d 313, 442 N.E.2d 511.

16. Religious instruction

Pupils cannot be compelled to join in religious worship. Reading Bible barred. People ex rel. Ring v. Board of Education of Dist. 24, 1910, 92 N.E. 251, 245 Ill. 334, 19 Am. Ann. Cas. 220.

The reading of the Bible, singing of hymns, and repeating of the Lord's Prayer in a public school constitutes the giving of sectarian instruction and was forbidden by the Constitution of the State. <u>People ex rel. Ring v. Board of Education of Dist. 24, 1910, 92 N.E. 251, 245 Ill. 334, 19 Am. Ann. Cas. 220</u>.

Mandamus against the board of directors of a school district is a proper method to compel the board to refrain from conducting religious exercises in the public schools. People ex rel. Ring v. Board of Education of Dist. 24, 1910, 92 N.E. 251, 245 III. 334, 19 Am.Ann.Cas. 220.

17. Fraternities or sororities

"Anti fraternity rule" of Board of Education of city of Chicago was valid exercise of board's power. Favorite v. Board of Education of Chicago, 1908, 85 N.E. 402, 235 Ill. 314.

Rule adopted by board of education of city of Chicago on recommendation of superintendent of schools after thorough investigation, requiring teachers to refuse public recognition to secret fraternities and sororities, to refuse to permit their meetings in school buildings, to allow name of school to be used by such organizations, and to refuse to allow any member of such societies to represent schools in any literary or athletic contest, or in any public capacity, and to inform parents of pupils that such societies were condemned, but not withdrawing from pupils who were members thereof any public school privileges, was neither unlawful nor unreasonable. Wilson v. Board of Education of Chicago, 1908, 84 N.E. 697, 233 Ill. 464, 13 Am. Ann. Cas. 330. Schools 172

18. Lay-offs

Section of School Code governing school board's power to promulgate layoff procedures and recall procedures did not provide laid-off tenured teachers with a substantive right to be rehired after an economic layoff; section was plainly an authorizing or enabling provision and did not contain any mandatory terms, and the legislature intended merely to confer a power which the board could exercise or not, as it saw fit, accordingly, section could not be the basis of a substantive right to be rehired after an economic layoff. Chicago Teachers Union, Local No. 1 v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, 2012, 357 Ill.Dec. 520, 963 N.E.2d 918, answer to certified question conformed to 476 Fed.Appx. 83, 2012 WL 1355610. Schools 147.48

Genuine issue of material fact as to whether school board properly delegated responsibility for making any or all of the determinations required by its policy in laying off tenured public school teachers and, if so, whether the party to whom authority was delegated acted in accordance with the policy, precluded summary judgment in favor of board in action brought by teachers challenging their terminations. Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, 2002, 269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249. Judgment 181(27)

Legislature clearly empowered the school board to lay off "employees." Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.2001, 259 Ill.Dec. 49, 325 Ill.App.3d 294, 757 N.E.2d 912, rehearing denied, appeal allowed 262 Ill.Dec. 620, 198 Ill.2d 593, 766 N.E.2d 240, affirmed in part, reversed in part 269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249. Schools 63(1)

"Employees," as used in statute empowering school board to lay off employees, embodies all persons who work for and are compensated by public schools, including tenured teachers. Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.2001, 259 Ill.Dec. 49, 325 Ill.App.3d 294, 757 N.E.2d 912, rehearing denied, appeal allowed 262 Ill.Dec. 620, 198 Ill.2d 593, 766 N.E.2d 240, affirmed in part, reversed in part 269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249. Schools 147.10

Five "honorably terminated" tenured public school teachers waived appellate review of claim that school board violated tenure laws by failing to first lay off temporary teachers, probationary teachers, or newly hired teachers, due to their failing to present any competent evidentiary matter to support assertion that they were laid off while temporary teachers, probationary teachers, or newly hired teachers were retained. Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.2001, 259 Ill.Dec. 49, 325 Ill.App.3d 294, 757 N.E.2d 912, rehearing denied, appeal allowed 262 Ill.Dec. 620, 198 Ill.2d 593, 766 N.E.2d 240, affirmed in part, reversed in part 269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249. Appeal And Error 179(2)

Although school board could establish a layoff policy, as authorized by section of School Code, it could not through that policy delegate its absolute layoff power to school administrators. Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.2001, 259 Ill.Dec. 49, 325 Ill.App.3d 294, 757 N.E.2d 912, rehearing denied, appeal allowed 262 Ill.Dec. 620, 198 Ill.2d 593, 766 N.E.2d 240, affirmed in part, reversed in part 269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249. Schools 63(1)

Genuine issue of material fact as to whether school board or some other entity or person determined that tenured teachers should have been laid off precluded summary judgment in favor of board in action brought by teachers challenging their "honorable terminations." <u>Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.2001, 259 Ill.Dec. 49, 325 Ill.App.3d 294, 757 N.E.2d 912</u>, rehearing denied, appeal allowed <u>262 Ill.Dec. 620, 198 Ill.2d 593, 766 N.E.2d 240</u>, affirmed in part, reversed in part <u>269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249</u>. <u>Judgment 181(27)</u>

Tenured teachers were properly notified of their termination, as was required under due process clause and school board's layoff policy; terminations were not "for cause," so as to trigger hearing procedures contained in tenure statutes, and teachers conceded that they received written notice of termination from board within the prescribed 14-day period. Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.2001, 259 Ill.Dec. 49, 325 Ill.App.3d 294, 757 N.E.2d 912, rehearing denied, appeal allowed 262 Ill.Dec. 620, 198 Ill.2d 593, 766 N.E.2d 240, affirmed in part, reversed in part 269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249. Constitutional Law 4202; Schools 147.34(1)

Included in powers of school board is authority to lay off employees in good faith for lack of work or purposes of economy, but board's actions may not be arbitrary, discriminatory or unreasonable, and board must act in good faith in ordering layoff of employees. Perlin v. Board of Ed. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist. 1980, 41 Ill.Dec. 294, 86 Ill.App.3d 108, 407 N.E.2d 792. Schools 63(1)

Termination

Male elementary school teacher could claim that school district wrongfully terminated him, under Illinois law, based on false charges that he improperly touched female first grade students, even though he sent letter of resignation, when letter came after district told him not to report for fall term and stopped paying him. Bogosian v. Board of Educ. of Community Unit School Dist. 200, N.D. Ill. 2001, 134 F. Supp. 2d 952. Schools 139

Failure of school board to explain why tenured physical education teacher was terminated precluded claim that he was validly dismissed for one of the reasons set forth in school termination policy. Chandler v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, N.D. Ill.2000, 92 F.Supp.2d 760. Schools 147.9

Failure of terminated physical education instructor to allege that school officers terminated him in deliberate or reckless disregard of his constitutional rights, or that conduct causing deprivation took place at their direction or with their knowledge and consent, precluded wrongful termination suit against officers in their individual capacities. Chandler v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, N.D. Ill.2000, 92 F.Supp.2d 760. Schools 63(3)

Public school district complied with procedures for "honorably terminating" tenured public school teachers; teachers were laid off because their teaching positions were closed and they received notification of the closings within the prescribed period. Land v. Board of Educ. of City of Chicago, App. 1 Dist.2001, 259 Ill.Dec. 49, 325 Ill.App.3d 294, 757 N.E.2d 912, rehearing denied, appeal allowed 262 Ill.Dec. 620, 198 Ill.2d 593, 766 N.E.2d 240, affirmed in part, reversed in part 269 Ill.Dec. 452, 202 Ill.2d 414, 781 N.E.2d 249. Schools 147.34(1)

105 I.L.C.S. 5/34-18, IL ST CH 105 § 5/34-18

Current through P.A. 97-1170 of the 2012 Reg. Sess., and through P.A. 98-4 of the 2013 Reg. Sess.

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Westlaw. 105 ILCS 5/34-200

Effective: July 13, 2012

West's Smith-Hurd Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated <u>Currentness</u> Chapter 105. Schools (<u>Refs & Annos</u>)

Common Schools

Act 5. School Code (Refs & Annos)

<u>Marticle 34.</u> Cities of Over 500,000 Inhabitants--Board of Education (Refs & Annos)

School Action and Facility Master Planning

 $\rightarrow \rightarrow 5/34-200$. Definitions

§ 34-200. Definitions. For the purposes of Sections 34-200 through 34-235 of this Article:

"Capital improvement plan" means a plan that identifies capital projects to be started or finished within the designated period, excluding projects funded by locally raised capital not exceeding \$10,000.

"Community area" means a geographic area of the City of Chicago defined by the chief executive officer as part of the development of the educational facilities master plan.

"Space utilization" means the percentage achieved by dividing the school's actual enrollment by its design capacity.

"School closing" or "school closure" means the closing of a school, the effect of which is the assignment and transfer of all students enrolled at that school to one or more designated receiving schools.

"School consolidation" means the consolidation of 2 or more schools by closing one or more schools and reassigning the students to another school.

"Phase-out" means the gradual cessation of enrollment in certain grades each school year until a school closes or is consolidated with another school.

"School action" means any school closing; school consolidation; co-location; boundary change that requires reassignment of students, unless the reassignment is to a new school with an attendance area boundary and is made to relieve overcrowding; or phase-out.

CREDIT(S)

Laws 1961, p. 31, § 34-200, added by <u>P.A. 97-473, § 5, eff. Jan. 1, 2012; P.A. 97-474, § 5, eff. Aug. 22, 2011.</u> Amended by <u>P.A. 97-813, § 230, eff. July 13, 2012.</u>

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Sections 97 of P.A. 97-474, approved and effective Aug. 22, 2011, provided:

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"Section 97. Control over other Act. Senate Bill 620 of the 97th General Assembly passed both houses on May 31, 2011. Thus, this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly (Senate Bill 630) is the one last acted upon by the General Assembly. If Senate Bill 620 becomes law and this amendatory Act (Senate Bill 630) becomes law, then this amendatory Act (Senate Bill 630) controls as provided in Section 6 of the Statute on Statutes (5 ILCS 70/6).

P.A. 97-813, the First 2012 General Revisory Act, amended various Acts to delete obsolete text, to correct patent and technical errors, to revise cross references, to resolve multiple actions in the 96th and 97th General Assemblies and to make certain technical corrections in P.A. 96-1480 through P.A. 97-625.

105 I.L.C.S. 5/34-200, IL ST CH 105 § 5/34-200

Current through P.A. 97-1165 of the 2012 Reg. Sess., and through P.A. 98-2 of the 2013 Reg. Sess.

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Effective: November 30, 2012

West's Smith-Hurd Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated <u>Currentness</u> Chapter 105. Schools (<u>Refs & Annos</u>)

Common Schools

Act 5. School Code (Refs & Annos)

<u>Marticle 34.</u> Cities of Over 500,000 Inhabitants—Board of Education (Refs & Annos)

School Action and Facility Master Planning

→ → 5/34-225. School transition plans

§ 34-225. School transition plans.

- (a) If the Board approves a school action, the chief executive officer or his or her designee shall work collaboratively with local school educators and families of students attending a school that is the subject of a school action to ensure successful integration of affected students into new learning environments.
- (b) The chief executive officer or his or her designee shall prepare and implement a school transition plan to support students attending a school that is the subject of a school action that accomplishes the goals of this Section. The chief executive must identify and commit specific resources for implementation of the school transition plan for a minimum of the full first academic year after the board approves a school action.
- (c) The school transition plan shall include the following:
 - (1) services to support the academic, social, and emotional needs of students; supports for students with disabilities, homeless students, and English language learners; and support to address security and safety issues;
 - (2) options to enroll in higher performing schools;
 - (3) informational briefings regarding the choice of schools that include all pertinent information to enable the parent or guardian and child to make an informed choice, including the option to visit the schools of choice prior to making a decision; and
 - (4) the provision of appropriate transportation where practicable.
- (d) When implementing a school action, the Board must make reasonable and demonstrated efforts to ensure that:
 - (1) Affected students receive a comparable level of social support services provided by Chicago Public Schools that were available at the previous school, provided that the need for such social support services continue to exist; and
 - (2) Class sizes of any receiving school do not exceed those established under the Chicago Public Schools policy regarding class size, subject to principal discretion.

105 ILCS 5/34-225 Page 2

CREDIT(S)

Laws 1961, p. 31, § 34-225, added by <u>P.A. 97-473, § 5, eff. Jan. 1, 2012; P.A. 97-474, § 5, eff. Aug. 22, 2011.</u> Amended by <u>P.A. 97-813, § 230, eff. July 13, 2012; P.A. 97-1133, § 5, eff. Nov. 30, 2012.</u>

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Sections 97 of P.A. 97-474, approved and effective Aug. 22, 2011, provided:

"Section 97. Control over other Act. Senate Bill 620 of the 97th General Assembly passed both houses on May 31, 2011. Thus, this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly (Senate Bill 630) is the one last acted upon by the General Assembly. If Senate Bill 620 becomes law and this amendatory Act (Senate Bill 630) becomes law, then this amendatory Act (Senate Bill 630) controls as provided in Section 6 of the Statute on Statutes (5 ILCS 70/6).

P.A. 97-813, the First 2012 General Revisory Act, amended various Acts to delete obsolete text, to correct patent and technical errors, to revise cross references, to resolve multiple actions in the 96th and 97th General Assemblies and to make certain technical corrections in P.A. 96-1480 through P.A. 97-625.

P.A. 97-1133 incorporated the amendments by P.A. 97-473, P.A. 97-474, and P.A. 97-813.

105 I.L.C.S. 5/34-225, IL ST CH 105 § 5/34-225

Current through P.A. 97-1165 of the 2012 Reg. Sess., and through P.A. 98-2 of the 2013 Reg. Sess.

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END OF DOCUMENT

Effective: August 22, 2011

West's Smith-Hurd Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated Currentness Chapter 105. Schools (Refs & Annos)

Common Schools

Act 5. School Code (Refs & Annos)

「国 Article 34. Cities of Over 500,000 Inhabitants—Board of Education (Refs & Annos)

'国 School Action and Facility Master Planning

 \rightarrow \rightarrow 5/34-230. School action public meetings and hearings

§ 34-230. School action public meetings and hearings.

- (a) By November I of each year, the chief executive officer shall prepare and publish guidelines for school actions. The guidelines shall outline the academic and non-academic criteria for a school action. These guidelines, and each subsequent revision, shall be subject to a public comment period of at least 21 days before their approval.
- (b) The chief executive officer shall announce all proposed school actions to be taken at the close of the current academic year consistent with the guidelines by December 1 of each year.
- (c) On or before December 1 of each year, the chief executive officer shall publish notice of the proposed school
- (1) Notice of the proposal for a school action shall include a written statement of the basis for the school action, an explanation of how the school action meets the criteria set forth in the guidelines, and a draft School Transition Plan identifying the items required in Section 34-225 of this Code for all schools affected by the school action. The notice shall state the date, time, and place of the hearing or meeting.
- (2) The chief executive officer or his or her designee shall provide notice to the principal, staff, local school council, and parents or guardians of any school that is subject to the proposed school action.
- (3) The chief executive officer shall provide written notice of any proposed school action to the State Senator, State Representative, and alderman for the school or schools that are subject to the proposed school action.
- (4) The chief executive officer shall publish notice of proposed school actions on the district's Internet website.
- (5) The chief executive officer shall provide notice of proposed school actions at least 30 calendar days in advance of a public hearing or meeting. No Board decision regarding a proposed school action may take place less than 60 days after the announcement of the proposed school action.
- (d) The chief executive officer shall publish a brief summary of the proposed school actions and the date, time, and place of the hearings or meetings in a newspaper of general circulation.
- (e) The chief executive officer shall designate at least 3 opportunities to elicit public comment at a hearing or meeting on a proposed school action and shall do the following:

- (1) Convene at least one public hearing at the centrally located office of the Board.
- (2) Convene at least 2 additional public hearings or meetings at a location convenient to the school community subject to the proposed school action.
- (f) Public hearings shall be conducted by a qualified independent hearing officer chosen from a list of independent hearing officers. The general counsel shall compile and publish a list of independent hearing officers by November 1 of each school year. The independent hearing officer shall have the following qualifications:
 - (1) he or she must be a licensed attorney eligible to practice law in Illinois;
 - (2) he or she must not be an employee of the Board; and
- .(3) he or she must not have represented the Board, its employees or any labor organization representing its employees, any local school council, or any charter or contract school in any capacity within the last year.
- (4) The independent hearing officer shall issue a written report that summarizes the hearing and determines whether the chief executive officer complied with the requirements of this Section and the guidelines.
- (5) The chief executive officer shall publish the report on the district's Internet website within 5 calendar days after receiving the report and at least 15 days prior to any Board action being taken.
- (g) Public meetings shall be conducted by a representative of the chief executive officer. A summary of the public meeting shall be published on the district's Internet website within 5 calendar days after the meeting.
- (h) If the chief executive officer proposes a school action without following the mandates set forth in this Section, the proposed school action shall not be approved by the Board during the school year in which the school action was proposed.

CREDIT(S)

Laws 1961, p. 31, § 34-230, added by P.A. 97-473, § 5, eff. Jan. 1, 2012; P.A. 97-474, § 5, eff. Aug. 22, 2011.

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

Sections 97 of P.A. 97-474, approved and effective Aug. 22, 2011, provided:

"Section 97. Control over other Act. Senate Bill 620 of the 97th General Assembly passed both houses on May 31, 2011. Thus, this amendatory Act of the 97th General Assembly (Senate Bill 630) is the one last acted upon by the General Assembly. If Senate Bill 620 becomes law and this amendatory Act (Senate Bill 630) becomes law, then this amendatory Act (Senate Bill 630) controls as provided in Section 6 of the Statute on Statutes (5 ILCS 70/6).

P.A. 97-473 and P.A. 97-474 added identical versions of this section.

105 I.L.C.S. 5/34-230, IL ST CH 105 § 5/34-230

Current through P.A. 97-615 of the 2011 Reg. Sess.

Westlaw. 105 ILCS 5/34-232

Effective: November 30, 2012

West's Smith-Hurd Illinois Compiled Statutes Annotated <u>Currentness</u>

Chapter 105. Schools (Refs & Annos)

Common Schools

Act 5. School Code (Refs & Annos)

<u>^Garticle 34</u>. Cities of Over 500,000 Inhabitants-Board of Education (Refs & Annos)

School Action and Facility Master Planning

→→ 5/34-232. Proposed school action announcement and notice; 2012-2013 school year

§ 34-232. Proposed school action announcement and notice; 2012-2013 school year. The following apply for school actions proposed during the 2012-2013 school year:

- (1) On or before March 31, 2013, the chief executive officer shall announce all proposed school actions to be taken at the close of the current academic year consistent with the guidelines published under Section 34-230 of this Code.
- (2) On or before March 31, 2013, the chief executive officer shall publish notice of the proposed school actions.
- (3) The chief executive officer shall provide notice of proposed school actions at least 15 calendar days in advance of a public hearing or meeting.

All other provisions of Section 34-230 of this Code that do not conflict with this Section must be followed when proposing school actions.

CREDIT(S)

Laws 1961, p. 31, § 34-232, added by P.A. 97-1133, § 5, eff. Nov. 30, 2012.

105 I.L.C.S. 5/34-232, IL ST CH 105 § 5/34-232

Current through P.A. 97-1165 of the 2012 Reg. Sess., and through P.A. 98-2 of the 2013 Reg. Sess.

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Chicago Public Schools Policy Manual

Title:

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE, REMEDIATION AND PROBATION POLICY FOR THE

2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

Section:

302.6A

Board Report:

10-0728-PO4

Date Adopted: July 28, 2010

Policy:

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Chicago Board of Education adopt a School Performance, Remediation and Probation Policy for the 2011-2012 School Year.

POLICY TEXT:

Purpose and Goals

This policy shall establish the standards and criteria for placing a school on Remediation or Probation for the 2011-2012 school year based on assessments administered in Spring 2011 and other performance data from prior school years. A school's accountability status from the 2010-2011 school year shall remain in effect until such time as the school is notified of their new status issued in accordance with this policy.

This policy sets out a systematic means for identifying schools in need of remedial assistance and increased oversight due to insufficient levels of achievement. Section 5/34-8.3 of the Illinois School Code provides for the remediation and probation of attendance centers and requires the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") to monitor the performance of each school using the criteria and rating system established by the Board to identify those schools in which: (1) there is a failure to develop, implement, or comply with the school improvement plan; (2) there is a pervasive breakdown in the educational program as indicated by various factors such as the absence of improvement in reading and math achievement scores, an increased drop-out rate, a decreased graduation rate, or a decrease in the rate of student attendance, or (3) there is a failure or refusal to comply with the provisions of the School Code, other applicable laws, collective bargaining agreements, court orders, or with applicable Board rules and policies.

The Board recognizes that an effective and fair school remediation and probation system considers student test score performance, student growth and progress trends. Therefore, this policy establishes a comprehensive system to assess school performance in order to identify, monitor and assist schools with low student test scores as well as schools with stagnant or insufficient rates of student improvement.

II. Scope of the Policy

All Chicago Public Schools ("CPS") shall be subject to this policy, except charter schools under contract with the Board. A charter school shall receive an accountability designation using the criteria hereunder for purposes of comparison to other CPS schools and public reporting. A decision to renew or revoke a school's charter is governed by the terms of a school's applicable performance agreement and accountability plan with the Board.

Schools newly established by the Board shall receive an accountability designation after the third year of operation or at such time as adequate measures of student achievement become available.

III. Definitions

Remediation: An accountability designation assigned to schools where the CEO determines that a school's budget or any amendment thereto may compromise the implementation of the school's No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Corrective Action measures or Restructuring Plan.

Probation: An accountability designation assigned to non-performing schools where the CEO determines, utilizing the criteria set out in this policy, that a school requires remedial probation measures as described in this policy, including increased oversight, to address performance deficiencies.

Good Standing: An accountability designation assigned to schools where the CEO determines, based on the criteria set out in this policy, that student performance and improvement meets or exceeds district standards.

Adequate Yearly Progress: School rating issued by the Illinois State Board of Education that identifies if students are improving their performance based on the established annual targets.

Achievement Level 1: Shall mean the rating for:

- an elementary school that obtains a total performance score of thirty (30) or above or with at least 71% of the available performance points; or
- a high school that obtains a total performance score of twenty-eight (28) or above or with at least 66.7% of the available performance points.

Achievement Level 2: Shall mean the rating for:

- an elementary school that obtains a total performance score of twenty-one (21) to twenty-nine (29) or with 50%-70.9% of the available performance points; or
- a high school that obtains a total performance score of eighteen and two-thirds (18.67) to twenty-seven and two-thirds (27.67) or with 44%-66.6% of the available performance points.

Achievement Level 3: Shall mean the rating for:

- an elementary school that obtains a total performance score of twenty (20) or below or with less than 50% of the available performance points; or
- a high school that obtains a total performance score of eighteen and one-third (18.33) or below or with less than 44% of the available performance points.

Value-Added: Shall mean the metric that assesses school effects on students' academic growth, controlling for student characteristics, grade level, and prior performance through a regression methodology. Academic growth is measured by the change in scale score points on the ISAT from one year to the next.

ISAT: means the Illinois Standards Achievement Test.

ISAT Composite: means the composite score from ISAT Reading, Mathematics and Science test results.

PSAE: means the Prairie State Achievement Examination.

PSAE Composite: means the composite score from PSAE Reading, Mathematics and Science test results.

EPAS: means the series of three assessments (EXPLORE, PLAN and ACT) that are administered to high school students in the following order: (1) EXPLORE – administered to high school freshmen, (2) PLAN – administered to high school sophomores, and (3) ACT – administered to high school juniors.

Freshmen On-Track: Shall mean the percentage of first-time freshmen students who earn five credits in their freshman year and fail no more than one semester core course (English, Mathematics, Science and Social Science).

One-Year Drop-out Rate: Shall mean the percentage of students who drop-out in a given year who have not previously dropped out.

Membership Days: Shall mean the number of days that the students on a school's enrollment register should be in attendance. Membership days will end for 8th and 12th graders on the date of graduation authorized by the Board and shall be adjusted for students with medically fragile conditions.

Attendance Rate: Shall mean the total number of actual student attendance days divided by the number of total student membership days.

Advanced Placement (AP) Class: Shall mean a college-level course approved by the College Board to be designated as AP in accordance with established requirements.

International Baccalaureate (IB) Class: Shall mean a college-level course approved by the International Baccalaureate Organization to be designated as an IB class in accordance with established requirements.

AP Exam: Shall mean the end of course exam established by the College Board that is administered upon completion of an AP class.

IB Exam: Shall mean the end of course exam established by the International Baccalaureate Organization that is administered upon completion of an IB class.

IV. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEM

A. Calculation of Score

Every school shall receive a performance score based upon its level of current performance, trend over time and student growth as described in Section V below. A school will be evaluated on each of the accountability indicators identified in Section V using best available data and will receive a score for each indicator as well as a total performance score that accounts for the school's overall performance on all accountability indicators. The total performance score will be used to determine whether a school qualifies for an Achievement Level 1, 2 or 3 rating. A school shall receive an accountability status hereunder whereby the school shall be identified as either on Probation, in Good Standing or in Remediation, as further described herein.

B. Determinations

- 1. Scoring Exceptions: Schools that do not qualify for all points hereunder due to the following circumstances shall have their Achievement level determinations based on the percentage of available points earned rather than the actual points earned: (a) if data for two previous years is not available for a particular metric measuring change over time, the school will not get a score for that metric; (b) if data is available but not reliable due to no fault of the school, the CEO may remove the affected metric from consideration and the school will not get a score for that metric. ISAT and PSAE scores of students who are English Language Learners in program years 0-5 will not be factored into current status or trend scores hereunder.
- 2. Accountability Status Determination: A school with an Achievement Level 3 score hereunder shall receive Probation status. A school with an Achievement Level 1 score or an Achievement Level 2 score hereunder shall receive Good Standing status, except for the following which shall receive Probation status hereunder:
- A school that has not satisfied the following minimum ISAT or PSAE composite score requirement:
 - Elementary school minimum 2011 ISAT Composite score 50% meeting or exceeding state standards
 - High school minimum 2011 PSAE Composite score 10% meeting or exceeding state standards.
- b. A school that has not satisfied all applicable sustained academic improvement requirements set out in Section VII as follows:
 - i. A school that has been on Probation status for 2 or more consecutive years must receive a Level 1 or Level 2 rating for 2 consecutive years to be removed from Probation; or
 - ii. A school where the Board has taken an action under 105 ILCS 5/34-8.3(d)(2) or (4) must remain on Probation for a minimum of 5 years or until the school has made Adequate Yearly Progress for 2 consecutive years, whichever occurs later.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a school with Good Standing status may be placed in Remediation in accordance with Section IV.B.3.

3. NCLB School Improvement Status: For schools not on Probation but that have either "Corrective Action", "Restructuring Planning" or "Restructuring Implementation" status under NCLB, the CEO reserves the right to place the school in Remediation status at any time if the CEO determines that the school's budget or any amendment thereto may compromise the implementation of the school's NCLB Corrective Action or Restructuring Plan.

V. ACCOUNTABILITY INDICATORS, STANDARDS AND SCORING

A. Elementary School Indicators, Standards and Scoring

An elementary school may receive a total performance rating score ranging from zero (0) to forty (42). For the 2011-2012 school year, the current status, trend and growth indicators and standards that determine an elementary school's performance score shall be as follows:

1. ISAT Mathematics – 6 possible points

a. Current Status - An elementary school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students *meeting or exceeding* state standards as indicated by the school's ISAT mathematics results. Current status is determined by averaging the school's ISAT mathematics results from tests administered in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011. If the school does not have two years of data, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

80% or more meeting or exceeding = 3 points
70%-79.9% meeting or exceeding = 2 points
50%-69.9% meeting or exceeding = 1 point
Under 50% meeting or exceeding = 0 points

- b. Trend An elementary school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students *meeting or exceeding* state standards on ISAT mathematics. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT mathematics assessment, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 3.0 percentage points = 1 point
Improvement of at least 3.0 but under 6.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 6.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with 90% or more of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT mathematics assessment automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

2. ISAT Reading – 6 possible points

a. Current Status - An elementary school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students **meeting or exceeding** state standards as indicated by the school's ISAT reading results. Current status is determined by averaging the school's ISAT reading results from tests administered in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011. If the school does not have two years of data, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

80% or more meeting or exceeding = 3 points
70%-79.9% meeting or exceeding = 2 points
50%-69.9% meeting or exceeding = 1 point
Under 50% meeting or exceeding = 0 points

- **b.** Trend An elementary school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students *meeting or exceeding* state standards on ISAT reading. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT reading assessment, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 3.0 percentage points = 1 point

Improvement of at least 3.0 but under 6.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 6.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with 90% or greater of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT reading assessment automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

3. ISAT Science – 6 possible points

a. Current Status - An elementary school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students meeting or exceeding state standards as indicated by the school's ISAT science results. Current status is determined by averaging the school's ISAT science results from tests administered in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011. If the school does not have two years of data, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

80% or more meeting or exceeding = 3 points
70%-79.9% meeting or exceeding = 2 points
50%-69.9% meeting or exceeding = 1 point
Under 50% meeting or exceeding = 0 points

- **b.** Trend An elementary school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students *meeting or exceeding* state standards on ISAT science. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT science assessment, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 3.0 percentage points = 1 point
Improvement of at least 3.0 but under 6.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 6.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with 90% or greater of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT science assessment automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

4. ISAT Composite - All Grades - 6 possible points

a. Current Status - An elementary school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students in all grades who are **exceeding** state standards as indicated by the school's ISAT Composite. Current status is determined by averaging the school's ISAT Composite results from tests administered in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011. If the school does not have two years of data, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

 25% or more exceeding
 =
 3 points

 15%-24.9% exceeding
 =
 2 points

 5%-14.9% exceeding
 =
 1 point

 Under 5% exceeding
 =
 0 points

- **b.** Trend An elementary school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students in all grades who are **exceeding** state standards on ISAT Composite. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score for all students with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students in all grades exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT Composite, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 3.0 percentage points = 1 point

Improvement of at least 3.0 but under 6.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 6.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with 90% or greater of students in all grades exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT Composite automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

5. ISAT Composite – Highest Grade Students – 6 possible points

a. Current Status - An elementary school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students in the school's highest grade level who are **exceeding** state standards as indicated by the school's ISAT Composite. Current status is determined by averaging the school's ISAT Composite results for students in the highest grade from tests administered in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011. If the school does not have two years of data, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

25% or more exceeding	=	3 points
15%-24.9% exceeding	=	2 points
5%-14.9% exceeding	=	1 point
Under 5% exceeding	=	0 points

- **b.** Trend An elementary school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students in the school's highest grade level who are **exceeding** state standards on ISAT Composite. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score for students in the highest grade with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students in the highest grade exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT Composite, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement	=	0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 3.0 percentage points	=	1 point
Improvement of at least 3.0 but under 6.0 percentage points	=	2 points
Improvement of at least 6.0 percentage points	=	3 points

 Schools with 90% or greater of students in the highest grade exceeding state standards on the 2011 ISAT Composite automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

6. Attendance – 6 possible points

a. Current Status - An elementary school shall be evaluated on its average attendance rate from the two most recent school years. To determine current status, a school's average attendance rates from the 2009-2010 school year and from the 2010-2011 school year will be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

95% or more attendance rate	=	3 points
93%-94.9% attendance rate	=	2 points
90%-92.9% attendance rate	=	1 point
Under 90% attendance rate	=	0 points

- **b.** Trend An elementary school shall be evaluated on improvement of its average attendance rate. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2010-2011 attendance rate with the average rate of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with a 2010-2011 attendance rate of 0%-94.9%, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement	=	0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 0.5 percentage points	=	1 point
Improvement of at least 0.5 but under 1.0 percentage points	=	2 points

 Schools with a 2010-2011 attendance rate of 95% or greater earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

7. Value-Added – ISAT Reading – 3 possible points

Value-Added Score – An elementary school shall be evaluated on its Value-Added scale score gain for ISAT reading and shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

At least one standard deviation above the district average in 2011 = 3 points

Greater than or equal to the district average, but less than one standard deviation above the district average in 2011 = 2 points

Below the district average, but by no more than one standard deviation in 2011 = 1 point

More than one standard deviation below the district average in 2011 = 0 points

8. Value-Added - ISAT Mathematics - 3 possible points

Value-Added Score – An elementary school shall be evaluated on its Value-Added scale score gain for ISAT mathematics and shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

At least one standard deviation above the district average in 2011 = 3 points

Greater than or equal to the district average, but less than one standard deviation above the district average in 2011 = 2 points

Below the district average, but by no more than one standard deviation in 2011 = 1 point

More than one standard deviation below the district average in 2011 = 0 points

B. <u>High School Indicators, Standards and Scoring</u>

A high school may receive a total performance score ranging from zero (0) to forty-two (42). For the 2011-2012 school year, the current status, trend, and growth indicators and standards that determine a high school's performance score shall be as follows:

1. One-Year Drop-Out Rate – 6 possible points

a. Current Status - A high school shall be evaluated on its one-year drop-out rate averaged from the two most recent school years. To determine current status, a school's one-year drop-out rates from the 2009-2010 school year and from the 2010-2011 school year will be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

2% or less drop out in one year = 3 points
2.1% - 6% drop out in one year = 2 points
6.1% - 10% drop out in one year = 1 point
More than 10% drop out in one year = 0 points

- **b.** Trend A high school shall be evaluated on improvement of its one-year drop-out rate. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2010-2011 rate with the average rate of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with a 2010-2011 one-year drop-out rate of more than 0.5%, points are earned as follows:

No reduction = 0 points

Reduction of at least 0.1 but under 1.0 percentage points = 1 point

Reduction of at least 1.0 but under 3.0 percentage points = 2 points

Reduction of at least 3.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with a 2010-2011 one-year drop-out rate of 0.5% or less automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement

2. Freshmen On-Track – 6 possible points

a. Current Status – A high school shall be evaluated on its Freshmen On-Track rate averaged from the two most recent school years. To determine current status, a school's Freshmen On-Track rates for the 2009-2010 school year and the 2010-2011 school year will be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

 80% or more on track
 =
 3 points

 60%-79.9% on track
 =
 2 points

 45%-59.9% on track
 =
 1 point

 Less than 45% on track
 =
 0 points

- **b.** Trend A high school shall be evaluated on improvement of its Freshmen On-Track rate. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2010-2011 rate with the average rate of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. The school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with a 2010-2011 Freshman On-Track rate of 0%-89.9%, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 2.5 percentage points = 1 point
Improvement of at least 2.5 but under 5.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 5.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with a 2010-2011 Freshman On-Track rate of 90% or greater automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

3. ACT Score – 6 possible points

a. Current Status – A high school shall be evaluated on its average ACT score. To determine current status, a school's average ACT scores for tests administered to students in Grade 11 during the Spring 2010 PSAE administration and during the Spring 2011 PSAE administration will be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. The school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

Average ACT score is 20 or more = 3 points

Average ACT score is at least 18, but less than 20 = 2 points

Average ACT score is at least 16, but less than 18 = 1 point

Average ACT score is less than 16 = 0 points

- **b.** Trend A high school shall be evaluated on improvement of its average ACT score. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 average ACT score with the average ACT score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. The school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with a 2011 average ACT score of 0-22.9, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 0.5 = 1 point
Improvement of at least 0.5 but under 1.0 = 2 points
Improvement of at least 1.0 = 3 points

 Schools with a 2011 average ACT of 23 or greater automatically earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

4. PSAE Reading Score- 2 possible points

a. Current Status - A high school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students meeting or exceeding state standards as indicated by the school's PSAE reading results averaged from the two most recent school years. To determine current status, the school's PSAE reading results from tests administered to students in Grade 11 in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011 shall be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

70% or more meeting or exceeding = 1 point 50%-69.9% meeting or exceeding = 2/3 point 30%-49.9% meeting or exceeding = 1/3 point Less than 30% meeting or exceeding = 0 points

- b. Trend A high school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students *meeting* or exceeding state standards on PSAE reading. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 PSAE reading assessment, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 2.5 percentage points = 1/3 point
Improvement of at least 2.5 but under 5.0 percentage points = 2/3 point
Improvement of at least 5.0 percentage points = 1 point

 Schools with 90% or greater of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 PSAE reading assessment automatically earn 1 point regardless of improvement.

5. PSAE Mathematics Score— 2 possible points

a. Current Status - A high school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students meeting or exceeding state standards as indicated by the school's PSAE mathematics results averaged from the two most recent school years. To determine current status, the school's PSAE mathematics results from tests administered to students in Grade 11 in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011 shall be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

70% or more meeting or exceeding = 1 point 50%-69.9% meeting or exceeding = 2/3 point 30%-49.9% meeting or exceeding = 1/3 point Less than 30% meeting or exceeding = 0 points

- **b.** Trend A high school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students *meeting* or exceeding state standards on PSAE mathematics. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 PSAE mathematics assessment, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 2.5 percentage points = 1/3 point
Improvement of at least 2.5 but under 5.0 percentage points = 2/3 point
Improvement of at least 5.0 percentage points = 1 point

 Schools with 90% or greater of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 PSAE mathematics assessment automatically earn 1 point regardless of improvement.

6. PSAE Science Score- 2 possible points

a. Current Status - A high school shall be evaluated on the percentage of students meeting or exceeding state standards as indicated by the school's PSAE science results averaged from the two most recent school years. To determine current status, the school's PSAE science results from tests administered to students in Grade 11 in Spring 2010 and Spring 2011 shall be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

70% or more meeting or exceeding = 1 point 50%-69.9% meeting or exceeding = 2/3 point 30%-49.9% meeting or exceeding = 1/3 point Less than 30% meeting or exceeding = 0 points

- **b.** Trend A high school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of students *meeting* or *exceeding* state standards on PSAE science. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2011 score with the average score of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with 0%-89.9% of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 PSAE science assessment, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 2.5 percentage points = 1/3 point
Improvement of at least 2.5 but under 5.0 percentage points = 2/3 point
Improvement of at least 5.0 percentage points = 1 point

 Schools with 90% or greater of students meeting or exceeding state standards on the 2011 PSAE science assessment automatically earn 1 point regardless of improvement.

7. Attendance – 6 possible points

a. Current Status - A high school shall be evaluated on its average attendance rate from the two most recent school years. To determine current status, a school's attendance rates from the 2009-2010 school year and the 2010-2011 school year will be averaged. If two years of data are not available, one year of data will be used. A school shall receive points towards its overall performance score as follows:

95% or more attendance rate = 3 points 90%-94.9% attendance rate = 2 points 85%-89.9% attendance rate = 1 point Under 85% attendance rate = 0 points

- **b.** Trend A high school shall be evaluated on improvement of its average attendance rate. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2010-2011 attendance rate with the average rate of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:
 - For schools with a 2010-2011 attendance rate of 0%-94.9%, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 0.5 percentage points = 1 point
Improvement of at least 0.5 but under 1.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 1.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with a 2010-2011 attendance rate of 95% or greater earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

8. Students Enrolled in AP or IB Classes – 3 Possible Points

Trend – A high school shall be evaluated on improvement in the percentage of its students enrolled in at least one AP or IB class. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2010-2011 enrollment

percentage with the average percentage of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:

• For schools with a 2010-2011 AP/IB enrollment rate of 0%-34.9%, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 2.5 percentage points = 1 point
Improvement of at least 2.5 but under 5.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 5.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with a 2010-2011 AP/IB enrollment rate of 35% or greater earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

9. Students Scoring 3+ on AP Exams or 4+ on IB Exams - 3 Possible Points

Trend – A high school shall be evaluated on improvement on the percentage of its students who are enrolled in AP classes that score 3+ on at least one AP exam, or are enrolled in IB classes that score 4+ on at least one IB exam. Improvement trend is determined by comparing the 2010-2011 AP/IB success percentage with the average percentage of the three previous years. If the school does not have three previous years of data, two years of data will be used. A school shall receive points as follows:

 For schools with 0%-89.9% of AP/IB enrolled students scoring 3+ on AP exams or 4+ on IB exams in 2010-2011, points are earned as follows:

No Improvement = 0 points
Improvement of at least 0.1 but under 1.0 percentage points = 1 point
Improvement of at least 1.0 but under 3.0 percentage points = 2 points
Improvement of at least 3.0 percentage points = 3 points

 Schools with 90% or greater of AP/IB enrolled students scoring 3+ on AP exams or 4+ on IB exams in 2010-2011 earn 3 points regardless of improvement.

10. Students Making Expected EPAS Reading Gains - 3 possible points

Current Status - A high school shall be evaluated on the percentage of its students making expected gains in reading from one year to the next on the EPAS assessment series as follows:

Schools with an EPAS Reading Gains score at or above the 85th district-wide percentile = 3 points Schools with an EPAS Reading Gains score at or above the 50th district-wide percentile, but below the 85th district-wide percentile = 2 points Schools with an EPAS Reading Gains score at or above the 15th district-wide percentile, but below the 50th district-wide percentile = 1 point Schools with an EPAS Reading Gains score below the 15th district-wide percentile = 0 points

11. Students Making Expected EPAS Mathematics Gains – 3 possible points

Current Status - A high school shall be evaluated on the percentage of its students making expected gains in mathematics from one year to the next on the EPAS assessment series as follows:

Schools with an EPAS Mathematics Gains score at or above the 85th district-wide percentile = 3 points Schools with an EPAS Mathematics Gains score at or above the 50th district-wide percentile, but below the 85th district-wide percentile = 2 points Schools with an EPAS Mathematics Gains score at or above the 15th district-wide percentile, but below the 50th district-wide percentile = 1 point Schools with an EPAS Mathematics Gains score below the 15th district-wide percentile = 0 points

VI. SCHOOLS IDENTIFIED AS NEEDING REMEDIAL ASSISTANCE

On a date to be determined by the CEO or his designee, after school performance data is available, schools will be notified as to their accountability designation hereunder.

A. Schools Placed on Remediation

Any school that receives a Remediation status as described in Section IV.B. hereunder shall participate in a remedial program in which a Remediation Plan is developed by the CEO. A Remediation Plan may include one or more of the following components:

- 1. Drafting a new school improvement plan;
- Additional training for the local school council;
- 3. Directing the implementation of the school improvement plan; and
- Mediating disputes or other obstacles to reform or improvement at the school.

In creating a Remediation Plan, the CEO or designee shall monitor and give assistance to these schools to ensure that all aspects of the plan, including the school budget, address the educational deficiencies at these schools and ensure the development and full implementation of a school's NCLB Corrective Action measures and/or Restructuring plan.

For all schools placed on Remediation, the CEO or designee shall approve the final Remediation Plan, including the school budget.

B. Schools Placed on Probation

1. School Improvement Plan and Budget: Each school placed on Probation shall have a school improvement plan and a school budget for correcting deficiencies identified by the Board. The CEO or designee shall develop a school improvement plan that shall contain specific steps that the local school council and the school staff must take to correct identified deficiencies. The school budget shall include specific expenditures directly calculated to correct educational and operational deficiencies identified at the school.

In creating or updating the required plan, the CEO or designee shall give assistance to Probation schools to ensure that all aspects of the plan, including the school budget, reflect and are tailored to the individual needs of the school and that the plan addresses the educational deficiencies at these schools. For schools with a federal school improvement status for failure to make adequate yearly progress (AYP), the school improvement plan shall also include strategies and activities to achieve AYP and ensure the development and full implementation of the school's NCLB Corrective Action measures and/or Restructuring plan, as applicable.

The Board shall approve school improvement plans and budget for all schools, including schools placed on Probation, as part of the annual school fiscal year budget resolution. Any updates to such school improvement plan or school budget to address new data on the deficiencies at Probation schools and schools with a federal school improvement status shall be approved by the Board in accordance with the state's timeline for Board approval of federal school improvement plans. Thereafter, any amendments to the school improvement plan or budget shall be approved by the CEO or designee.

Except when otherwise specified by the CEO, the Chief Area Officer (CAO) and CAO designees shall serve as the probation team that will identify the educational and operational deficiencies at Probation schools in their Area to be addressed in the school improvement plan and budget presented to the Board for approval.

2. Monitoring: The CEO or designee shall monitor each Probation school's implementation of the final plan and the progress the school makes toward implementation of the plan and the correction of its educational deficiencies.

- 3. Additional Corrective Measures: Schools placed on Probation that, after at least one year, fail to make adequate progress in correcting deficiencies are subject to the following actions by the approval of the Board, after an opportunity for a hearing:
 - a. Ordering new local school council elections;
 - b. Removing and replacing the principal:
 - c. Replacement of faculty members, subject to the provisions of Section 24A-5 of the Illinois School Code:
 - d. Reconstitution of the attendance center and replacement and reassignment by the CEO of all employees of the attendance center;
 - e. Intervention under Section 34-8.4 of the Illinois School Code:
 - f. Operating an attendance center as a contract turnaround school;
 - g. Closing of the school; or
 - h. Any other action authorized under Section 34-8.3 of the Illinois School Code

The Law Department shall develop and disseminate hearing procedures for hearings required before taking any of the corrective actions specified above.

VII. REMOVAL FROM PROBATION STATUS - SUSTAINED ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT REQUIREMENTS

- A. The Chief Executive Officer shall remove from Probation any school that no longer meets the criteria established by the Board for a Probation status as follows:
- 1. Except as provided in Section VII.B below, schools in their first year of Probation status during the 2010-2011 school year shall be removed from probation if they achieve Achievement Level 1 or Achievement Level 2 rating hereunder.
- 2. Except as provided in Section VII.B below, schools in their second or later year of probation status during the 2010-2011 school year must show sustained academic improvement with two consecutive years of Achievement Level 1 or Achievement Level 2 ratings to be removed from Probation.
- B. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, for schools where the Board has taken action under 105 ILCS 5/34-8.3(d)(2) or (4), the school will remain on Probation until such time as the school makes Adequate Yearly Progress for two consecutive years or until a period of five (5) years has passed since the Board took such 8.3(d)(2) or (4) action, whichever occurs later.

Amends/Rescinds: Adopted 10-0728-PO4 (2011-2012 School Year)

Cross References: 10-0728-PO3; 09-0624-PO1; 08-0602-PO2; 07-0328-PO1; 06-0823-PO2;

06-0322-PO2; 04-0225-PO3; 03-0423-PO03; 02-1218-PO01; 99-0825-PO2

Legal References: 105 ILCS 5/34-8.3; 105 ILCS 5/34-8.4; 105 ILCS 5/24A-5.

Chicago Public Schools Policy Manual

Title: REVIEW AND ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES

Section: 703.2

Board Report: 05-0622-PO1 Date Adopted: June 22, 2005

Policy:

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

Adopt a policy for the review and establishment of school attendance boundaries.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish a process and procedures for the establishment of attendance boundaries for new schools and for the review and revision of attendance boundaries that the Board may determine are necessary from time to time.

POLICY TEXT:

I. Annual Review of Attendance Boundaries

The Department of School Demographics and Planning (DSP) shall review the enrollment at existing schools to determine if there is a need to revise existing boundaries as necessary. If it is determined that there is a need to revise any existing boundaries, DSP shall develop and recommend any proposed changes to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the beginning of the school year in which the changes will take effect. In addition, DSP shall have responsibility for developing and recommending proposed boundaries for new schools to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the beginning of the school year in which the new school boundaries will take effect.

II. Factors to be Considered

In reviewing and proposing revisions to boundaries for existing schools and proposing attendance boundaries for new schools, DSP shall consider a range of factors, including the following:

A. Capacities of Each of the Schools Involved in the Proposed Boundary Revisions

In considering whether to revise attendance boundaries at existing schools, DSP will consider the extent to which a school is overcrowded or underutilized. Where feasible, the goal is for elementary schools to be utilized at not more than eighty percent of design capacity, and for high schools at not more than one hundred percent of program capacity. Schools will be considered severely overcrowded if they are operating in excess of 100% utilization and significantly underutilized if they are less than thirty percent. DSP also shall consider these utilization rates when proposing revisions to attendance boundaries for existing schools and when proposing attendance boundaries for new schools.

B. Current and Projected Racial and Ethnic Composition of the Schools Affected

Where feasible, DSP shall propose establishing or revising attendance boundaries to maintain or promote stably desegregated enrollments in each of the affected schools and to avoid the creation of one-race schools.

C. Geographic Barriers

In proposing new or revised attendance boundaries, DSP shall consider geographical barriers so as to promote safety and minimize transportation burdens, to the extent feasible.

D. Travel Time and Distance

In proposing new or revised attendance boundaries, DSP will seek to minimize travel time and distance, to the extent feasible.

E. Program Considerations

In proposing new or revised boundaries, DSP shall consider the placement of programs, such as programs for English Language Learners and for special education students. In addition, DSP shall consider the impact of magnet schools and programs and the requirements of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*.

III. Process

As necessary, DSP shall provide a report to the CEO regarding whether there is a need for changes to existing boundaries or for developing boundaries for new schools. For each proposed attendance boundary, DSP shall develop at least two alternatives. For each alternative, DSP shall prepare a report for the CEO showing three-year enrollment projections by racial/ethnic group for all schools affected by the proposed change pursuant to each alternative. The report shall document for each alternative the impact on the affected schools for the factors of capacity, geographic barriers, travel time and program considerations. In developing alternatives, DSP shall consider whether any feasible alternatives would better maintain or promote stably desegregated enrollments in each of the affected schools and/or better avoid the creation of one-race schools. The CEO shall review the report and may suggest additional alternatives.

As necessary, the CEO shall report to the Board if he/she is recommending any changes to existing boundaries and boundaries for new schools. If the CEO is recommending any changes to existing boundaries or any boundaries for new schools, the CEO will provide the Board with the report of the alternatives considered, including data on the factors of capacity, geographic barriers, travel time and program considerations and will recommend the alternative that is being recommended.

Prior to taking action on the establishment or revision of any attendance boundaries, the Board shall conduct public hearings on the proposed changes and the CEO's recommendation. Prior to the public hearing, the Board will make available data on the factors of capacity, geographic barriers, travel time and program considerations. In making its decision, the Board shall consider the factors of capacity, geographic barriers, travel time and distance and program considerations.

Amends/Rescinds: Amends 04-0526-PO4, Adopted 04-0526-PO4 Cross References:

Cross References: Legal References:

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPACE UTILIZATION STANDARDS

December 28, 2011

I. Executive Summary

A. Rationale and Importance for Space Utilization Standards

1. Education

It is important for CPS to codify space utilization standards so that it can clearly define what is adequate teaching and learning space within all of the school facilities it operates. These standards will help to ensure that all students have equal access to a learning environment that effectively supports strong instructional programs. At the early childhood, primary, intermediate, middle and high school levels, the foundation for success is a facility where the amount of existing space and its utilization enables the broad array of instructional programs available and is sufficient to accommodate superior new programs.

CPS is focused on introducing a capacity and space utilization methodology that principals, parents and guardians and community stakeholders can understand. Rather than narrowly prescribe the manner of classroom use, the standards were developed to promote flexibility and to ensure that the space can be programmed to fit student needs.

2. Operations

In an effort to achieve its educational goals, the space utilization standards will also help ensure that each school facility is utilized in a manner that improves efficiency, thereby ensuring that the district's limited resources are deployed and operated in an effective manner. Optimizing efficiency can only be accomplished when the district, in partnership with families, local school council members, and community agencies, can rely upon a comprehensive set of measurable indicators that portray the availability and usage of classrooms spaces.

B. Summary of P.A. 097-0474

On August 22, 2011, Governor Quinn signed Public Act 097-0474, amending the Illinois School Code by adding requirements for School Action and Facility Master Planning. Public Act 097-0474 requires that the Chicago Public Schools ("CPS") publish space utilization standards by January 1, 2012. Space utilization standards shall include:

(1) the method by which design capacity is calculated, including consideration of the requirements of elementary and secondary programs, shared campuses, after school programming, the facility needs, grade and age ranges of the attending students, and use of school buildings by governmental agencies and community organizations; (2) the method to determine efficient use of a school building based upon educational program design capacity; (3) the rate of utilization; and (4) the standards for overcrowding and underutilization.

105 ILCS 5/34-205 (a)(1)-(4).

CPS must also publish a space utilization report for each school building operated by CPS by December 31 of each year.

C. Summary of Standards

For elementary schools, CPS provides an enrollment efficiency range based primarily upon the total number of instructional classrooms available in the main/permanent school building. Each elementary school building is allotted a number of dedicated general education homeroom classrooms, equaling approximately 76% of the total classrooms available. Each elementary school building is also allotted a number of ancillary classrooms equal to approximately 24% of the total classrooms available. As an elementary school's enrollment increases above the efficiency range, a school may be considered overcrowded as programming options are reduced and/or compromised. As an elementary school's enrollment decreases below the efficiency range, a school may be considered underutilized as classrooms are unused and/or poorly programmed making the use of limited resources less effective.

For high schools, CPS provides an enrollment efficiency range based primarily upon the total number of instructional classrooms available in the main/permanent building. Each high school's design capacity, aka maximum capacity, is identified as function of the total number of instructional classrooms multiplied by 30. A high school's enrollment that remains within the 75-80% of design capacity is considered efficiently enrolled, while a high school's enrollment that decreases below 75% of design capacity is considered underutilized and a high school's enrollment that increases above 80% is considered overcrowded.

II. Core Concepts

A. Elementary Schools - Definitions

The proposed changes to the way the district calculates space utilization and capacity provides a greater level of detail and will allow principals to better align instructional programming to physical capacity. The new space utilization standards rely upon both familiar defined concepts from the historical methodology and new concepts defined below.

Maximum Capacity is defined as the number of classroom spaces designed as such in a given facility multiplied by 30.

Allotted Dedicated General Education Homerooms Classrooms ("Allotted Homeroom Classrooms") is defined as the number of classrooms spaces required for homeroom use derived as a consistent and adequate proportion of the total number of classrooms present in a given facility.

Allotted Ancillary Classrooms is defined as the number of classrooms spaces required for non-homeroom uses, such as science labs, computer labs, art rooms, music rooms, resource rooms,

special education rooms, governmental agencies and/or community organization special programs, after school programs, and other appropriate uses.

Ideal Program Enrollment is defined as allotted homerooms multiplied by 301.

Enrollment Efficiency is defined as an enrollment range defined as Ideal Enrollment less 20% to Ideal Enrollment plus 20%.

Overcrowded status is defined as an enrollment range greater than Enrollment Efficiency.

Underutilization is defined as an enrollment range less than Enrollment Efficiency.

The proposed space utilization standards for elementary school essentially creates a range of efficiency based primarily upon a school facility's total number of classrooms, estimated requirements for dedicated homeroom use, and estimated requirements for ancillary, non-dedicated homerooms use.

B. Elementary Schools - Calculations

The baseline efficiency ranges are derived from the district's new construction prototype schools.

The prototype new construction school elementary school contains 39 classrooms: 30 dedicated general education homeroom classrooms and 9 ancillary classrooms. The 9 ancillary classrooms are generally programmed—though not required to be used—as 1 science room, 2 music/art rooms, 1 technology lab, 3 specialized education rooms, and 2 specialty classrooms.

The proportion of homeroom classrooms to ancillary classrooms in this example is roughly 3-to-1; 76.9% of total classrooms are allotted for homeroom use with remainder allotted to ancillary use.

The district will apply this proportion of homeroom-to-ancillary room use model to all elementary schools effective 2011-12 school year and plans to publish annually a list of all elementary schools with associated space use statistics referenced above by December 31 of each school year.

CPS finds this methodology to be consistent with approaches used by other K-12 school districts and resembles calculation strategies referenced by the Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI)².

¹ See Board of Education of the City of Chicago Policy on Class Size 10-0615-PO1

² Calculating School Capacity: Local, State & National Perspectives, CEFPI Workshop, October 6, 2007

			Maximum			
Total # of Classrooms Within Main Facility	# of Allotted Homeroom Classrooms ¹	# of Allotted Ancillary Classrooms ²	-20% of Ideal	Ideal Program Enrollment ³	Program of	
26	20	6	480	600	720	780
39	30	9	720	900	1,080	1,170
52	40	12	960	1,200	1,440	1,560

¹ equal to 76.9% of Total # of Classrooms Within Main Facility

C. High Schools - Definitions

A completely departmentalized high school operates a different type of instructional program from most elementary schools and thus the space utilization standards for high schools must be different than those of elementary schools. While all high school students are generally assigned to homeroom classrooms, the homeroom class size is sometimes larger than the number of students assigned for regular instructional programs.

For high school facilities, CPS will establish both a Maximum Capacity—equal to the total number of instructional classrooms X 30—and an Ideal Enrollment range where total enrollment is 80% of Maximum Capacity.

CPS will also establish the same standard elementary school definition of enrollment efficiency range, where a school's enrollment efficiency is determined to be within +/- 20% of its ideal enrollment.

CPS finds this methodology to be consistent with approaches used by other K-12 school districts and resembles calculation strategies referenced by the Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI)³.

D. High Schools - Calculations

² equal to Total # of Classrooms Within Main Facility less # of Allotted Homeroom Classrooms

³ equal to # of Allotted Homeroom Classrooms X 30

⁴ equal to Total # of Classrooms Within Main Facility X 30

³ Calculating School Capacity: Local, State & National Perspectives, CEFP! Workshop, October 6, 2007

Total # of Classrooms	Enro	Maximum Facility Capacity		
Within Main Facility	-20% of Ideal	20% of Ideal Program + Enrollment ² +		Aka Design Capacity ¹
30	576	720	864	900
50	960	1,200	1,440	1,500
70	1,344	1,680	2,016	2,100

¹ equal to Total # of Classrooms Within Main Facility X 30

E. Alternate Approaches

Alternate approaches were considered regarding model type. Some models make distinctions for different subject matter. The conclusion was that wide variability in program type does not make such a model dependable across the entire system

CPS finds the classroom-centric methodology on which the Guidelines are based to be significantly more sound and reliable than alternative models such as Building Gross Square Footage (GSF) models, where space utilization is measured on the basis of gross square footage per enrolled student. The conclusion was that wide variability among building types and ratios of non-instructional spaces to instructional spaces does not render an equitable or reliable measure of space utilization.

For example, School A and School B have identical gross square footages of 100,000 sq. ft. but School A has 43 classroom spaces and School B has 35 classroom spaces (School B may have wider hallways or a larger auditorium). Under the Building GSF model, these schools have equal capacity despite the significant difference in instructional spaces present in each building.

III. Other Circumstances

² equal to 80% of Maximum Facility Capacity

Main/Permanent Space vs. Temporary Space

CPS defines Main/Permanent Space as classrooms present within a CPS Board-owned structure built with a fixed foundation that has permanently attached walls, roof, and floor that cannot be moved or transported either as a unit or in sections. Approximately 85 schools supplement permanent capacity with temporary capacity, typically in the form of modular classroom units or leased facilities. While these temporary classrooms are necessary in most cases to prevent overcrowding, they are not incorporated into the school's total classroom count for the purpose of establishing Ideal Enrollment.

Sharing Space

A co-location is where two or more school units co-share a single facility. In co-location facilities, efficiency is achieved when each elementary school has access to the appropriate number of allotted homerooms and ancillary classrooms as determined by its enrollment. For high schools efficiency is achieved when each high school has access to the appropriate number of total classrooms as determined by its enrollment. Identification of schools' room uses in co-location facilities is required by the Shared Facility Policy (05-0126-PO1).

This is accomplished by assigning to each school the appropriate proportion of total classroom spaces available according to the proportion of students enrolled. For example, in a 50-classroom facility shared by two schools where School A's enrollment is 600 and School B's enrollment is 300, the total number of classrooms available to School A is 33 and the total number of classrooms available to School B is 17. Homeroom and ancillary classroom allotments are than established in accordance with the existing methodology.

In-Area Enrollment vis-a-vis Out-of-Area Enrollment

For elementary and high schools with traditional geographic attendance area boundaries (e.g., neighborhood schools), CPS is compelled to measure the school's actual enrollment efficiency, based on total enrollment relative to capacity, as well as the school's notional enrollment efficiency, based on the percentage of enrollment consisting of students residing within that school's attendance area boundary. As explained further in Appendix A, the notional enrollment efficiency rating assists the District in determining the extent to which a neighborhood school's efficiency or inefficiency relates to a high or low number of out-of-area students enrolled relative to the facility's capacity.

II. Space Utilization for Each School Building

A list of the space utilization assessments for each school will be provided once enrollment data for the 2011-2012 school year has been finalized.

III. Conclusion

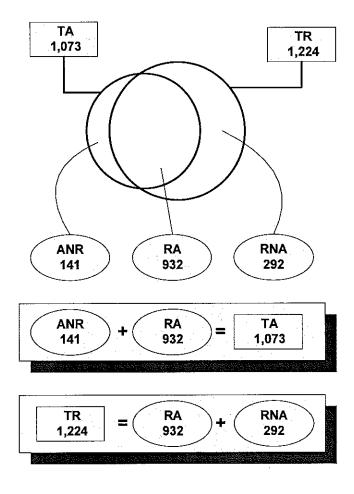
The Chicago Public Schools Space Utilization Standards and school-by-school reports will be published annually after 20th Day enrollment data is available and before December 31st of each year. These reports, which identify the ideal enrollment capacities of all Board-operated public school facilities compared to school enrollment, will better enable principals, community members, and district leadership to render solid decisions concerning the allocation of building space to meet all schools' instructional program needs.

Appendix A

Key School Demographics Statistics and Indicators

For the statistics and diagrams identified below, six examples are used to help explain the meaningful relationships between school demographics and enrollment efficiency.

Example - School A



Total Attending (TA) aka "Enrollment": The total number of students enrolled in School A is 1,073.

<u>Total Residing</u> (TR): The total number of public school elementary school students (grades PK-8) residing within School A's attendance boundary is 1,224.

Residing and Attending (RA): The total number of students that reside INSIDE School A's attendance area and are enrolled in School A is 932. These students are commonly referred to as "in-area" students and can be expressed either as a percentage of School A's enrollment (87%) or as a percentage of TR (76%).

Attending, Not Residing (ANR): The total number of students that reside OUTSIDE of School A's attendance area and are enrolled in School A is 141. These students are commonly referred to as "out-of-area" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School A's enrollment (13%).

<u>Residing, Not Attending</u> (RNA): The total number of students that reside inside of School A's attendance area and are NOT enrolled in School A is 292. These students are commonly referred to as "choice out" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School A's TR (24%).

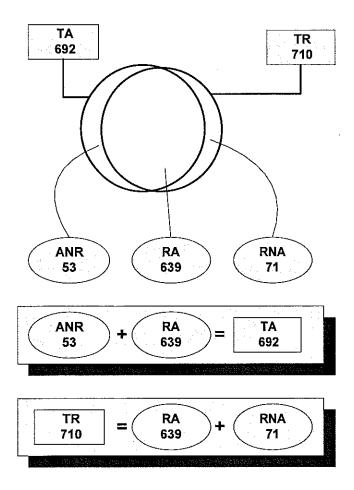
In this example, School A's design capacity is 1,440 and ideal enrollment is 1,034. Because School A's enrollment is 1,073, the actual enrollment efficiency rating for this school is +4% (efficiently enrolled-actual).

School A's notional enrollment efficiency rating is calculated by replacing the school's enrollment by RA, that is, the in-area students enrolled in School A. Because School A's RA is 932, the notional enrollment efficiency rating for this school is -10% (efficiently enrolled-notional).

Design	ldeal	Efficiency	Total	Actual	In-Area	Notional
<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Utilization</u>	Enrollment	<u>Utilization</u>
1,440	1,034	827 – 1,241	1,073	+04%	932	-10%
				Above Ideal		Below Ideal

Because both actual and notional efficiency ratings fall within the range of +/-20%, **School A is determined to be efficiently enrolled regardless** of whether the District gauges actual utilization or notional utilization. In such cases, the District finds that the presence of a relatively small number of out-of-area students enrolled relative to the facility's capacity has little to no bearing on the utilization of the school.

Example - School B



Total Attending (TA) aka "Enrollment": The total number of students enrolled in School B is 692.

<u>Total Residing</u> (TR): The total number of public school elementary school students (grades PK-8) residing within School B's attendance boundary is 710.

Residing and Attending (RA): The total number of students that reside INSIDE School B's attendance area and are enrolled in School B is 639. These students are commonly referred to as "in-area" students and can be expressed either as a percentage of School B's enrollment (92%) or as a percentage of TR (90%).

Attending, Not Residing (ANR): The total number of students that reside OUTSIDE of School B's attendance area and are enrolled in School B is 53. These students are commonly referred to as "out-of-area" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School B's enrollment (8%).

Residing, Not Attending (RNA): The total number of students that reside inside of School B's attendance area and are NOT enrolled in School B is 71. These students are commonly referred to as "choice out" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School B's TR (10%).

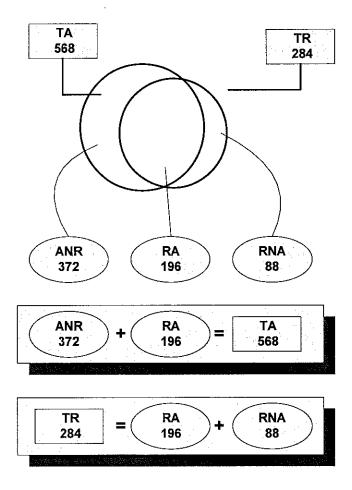
In this example, School B's design capacity is 660 and ideal enrollment is 474. Because School B's enrollment is 692, the actual enrollment efficiency rating for this school is +46% (overcrowded-actual).

School B's notional enrollment efficiency rating is calculated by replacing the school's enrollment by RA, that is, the in-area students enrolled in School B. Because School B's RA is 639, the notional enrollment efficiency rating for this school is +35% (overcrowded-notional).

Design	Ideal	Efficiency	Total	Actual	In-Area	Notional
<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Utilization</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Utilization</u>
660	474	379 – 569	692	+46%	639	+35%
				Above Ideal		Above Ideal

Because both actual and notional efficiency ratings fall well outside the range of +/-20%, School B is determined to be overcrowded regardless of whether the District gauges actual utilization or notional utilization. In such cases, the District finds that the presence of a relatively small number of out-of-area students enrolled relative to the facility's capacity is little to no bearing on the overcrowded status of the school.

Example - School C



Total Attending (TA) aka "Enrollment": The total number of students enrolled in School C is 568.

<u>Total Residing</u> (TR): The total number of public school elementary school students (grades PK-8) residing within School C's attendance boundary is 284.

Residing and Attending (RA): The total number of students that reside INSIDE School C's attendance area and are enrolled in School C is 196. These students are commonly referred to as "in-area" students and can be expressed either as a percentage of School C's enrollment (35%) or as a percentage of TR (69%).

<u>Attending</u>, <u>Not Residing</u> (ANR): The total number of students that reside OUTSIDE of School C's attendance area and are enrolled in School C is 372. These students are commonly referred to as "out-of-area" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School C's enrollment (65%).

Residing, Not Attending (RNA): The total number of students that reside inside of School C's attendance area and are NOT enrolled in School C is 88. These students are commonly referred to as "choice out" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School C's TR (31%).

In this example, School C's design capacity is 570 and ideal enrollment is 409. Because School C's enrollment is 568, the actual enrollment efficiency rating for this school is +39% (overcrowded-actual).

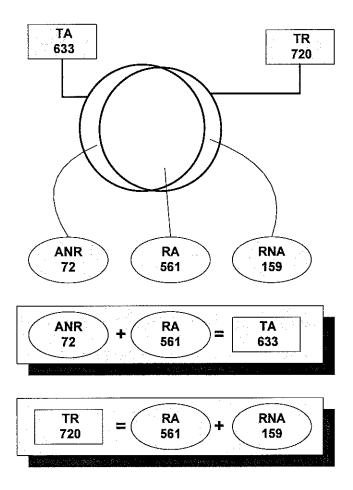
School C's notional enrollment efficiency rating is calculated by replacing the school's enrollment by RA, that is, the in-area students enrolled in School C. Because School C's RA is 196, the notional enrollment efficiency rating for this school is -52% (underutilized-notional).

Design	Ideal	Efficiency	Total	Actual	In-Area	Notional
Capacity	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Utilization</u>	Enrollment	<u>Utilization</u>
570	409	327 – 491	568	+39%	196	-52%
				Above Ideal		Below Ideal

Because actual and notional efficiency ratings yield two different statuses, both outside the range of +/-20%, School C is determined to be actually overcrowded yet notionally underutilized.

In such cases, the District finds that the presence of a relatively large number of out-of-area students enrolled relative to the facility's capacity has a meaningfully negative impact on the utilization of the school.

Example - School D



Total Attending (TA) aka "Enrollment": The total number of students enrolled in School D is 633.

<u>Total Residing</u> (TR): The total number of public school elementary school students (grades PK-8) residing within School D's attendance boundary is 720.

Residing and Attending (RA): The total number of students that reside INSIDE School D's attendance area and are enrolled in School D is 561. These students are commonly referred to as "in-area" students and can be expressed either as a percentage of School D's enrollment (89%) or as a percentage of TR (78%).

Attending, Not Residing (ANR): The total number of students that reside OUTSIDE of School D's attendance area and are enrolled in School D is 72. These students are commonly referred to as "out-of-area" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School D's enrollment (11%).

Residing, Not Attending (RNA): The total number of students that reside inside of School D's attendance area and are NOT enrolled in School D is 159. These students are commonly referred to as "choice out" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School D's TR (22%).

In this example, School D's design capacity is 690 ideal enrollment is 495. Because School D's enrollment is 633, the actual enrollment efficiency rating for this school is +28% (overcrowded-actual).

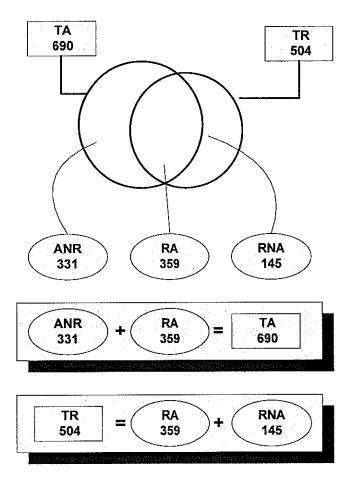
School D's notional enrollment efficiency rating is calculated by replacing the school's enrollment by RA, that is, the in-area students enrolled in School D. Because School D's RA is 561, the notional enrollment efficiency rating for this school is +13% (efficiently enrolled-notional).

Design	Ideal	Efficiency	Total	Actual	In-Area	Notional
<u>Capacity</u>	Enrollment	<u>Range</u>	Enrollment	<u>Utilization</u>	Enrollment	<u>Utilization</u>
690	495	396 – 594	633	+28%	196	+13%
•				Above Ideal		Above Ideal

Because actual and notional efficiency ratings yield two different statuses, the former outside the range of +/-20% and the latter within, School D is determined to be actually overcrowded yet notionally efficiently enrolled.

In such cases, the District finds that the presence of a relatively large number of out-of-area students enrolled relative to the facility's capacity has a meaningful negative impact on the utilization of the school.

Example - School E



Total Attending (TA) aka "Enrollment": The total number of students enrolled in School E is 690.

<u>Total Residing</u> (TR): The total number of public school elementary school students (grades PK-8) residing within School E's attendance boundary is 504.

Residing and Attending (RA): The total number of students that reside INSIDE School E's attendance area and are enrolled in School E is 359. These students are commonly referred to as "in-area" students and can be expressed either as a percentage of School E's enrollment (52%) or as a percentage of TR (71%).

Attending, Not Residing (ANR): The total number of students that reside OUTSIDE of School E's attendance area and are enrolled in School E is 331. These students are commonly referred to as "out-of-area" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School E's enrollment (48%).

<u>Residing</u>, <u>Not Attending</u> (RNA): The total number of students that reside inside of School E's attendance area and are NOT enrolled in School E is 145. These students are commonly referred to as "choice out" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School E's TR (29%).

In this example, School E's design capacity is 915 and ideal enrollment is 657. Because School E's enrollment is 690, the actual enrollment efficiency rating for this school is +5% (efficiently enrolled-actual).

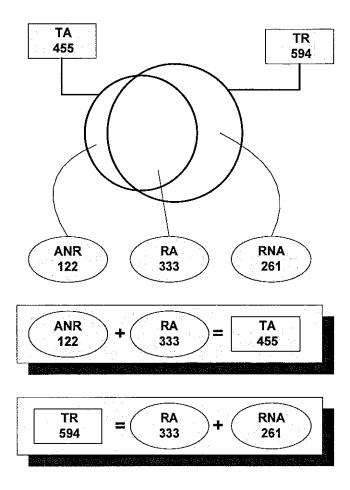
School E's notional enrollment efficiency rating is calculated by replacing the school's enrollment by RA, that is, the in-area students enrolled in School E. Because School E's RA is 326, the notional enrollment efficiency rating for this school is -35% (underutilized-notional).

Design	Ideal	Efficiency	Total	Actual	In-Area	Notional
<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	Range	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Utilization</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Utilization</u>
915	657	526 - 788	690	+5%	359	-45%
				Above Ideal		Below Ideal

Because actual and notional efficiency ratings yield two different statuses, the former within the range of +/-20% and the latter outside, School E is determined to be actually efficiently enrolled yet notionally underutilized.

In such cases, the District finds that the presence of a relatively large number of out-of-area students enrolled relative to the facility's capacity has a meaningfully positive impact on the utilization of the school as long as the school remains efficiently enrolled.

Example - School F



Total Attending (TA) aka "Enrollment": The total number of students enrolled in School F is 455.

<u>Total Residing</u> (TR): The total number of public school elementary school students (grades PK-8) residing within School F's attendance boundary is 594.

Residing and Attending (RA): The total number of students that reside INSIDE School F's attendance area and are enrolled in School F is 333. These students are commonly referred to as "in-area" students and can be expressed either as a percentage of School F's enrollment (73%) or as a percentage of TR (56%).

Attending, Not Residing (ANR): The total number of students that reside OUTSIDE of School F's attendance area and are enrolled in School F is 122. These students are commonly referred to as "out-of-area" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School F's enrollment (27%).

Residing, Not Attending (RNA): The total number of students that reside inside of School F's attendance area and are NOT enrolled in School F is 261. These students are commonly referred to as "choice out" students and can be expressed as a percentage of School F's TR (44%).

In this example, School F's design capacity is 1,200 and ideal enrollment is 861. Because School F's enrollment is 455, the actual enrollment efficiency rating for this school is -47% (underutilized-actual).

School F's notional enrollment efficiency rating is calculated by replacing the school's enrollment by RA, that is, the in-area students enrolled in School F. Because School F's RA is 333, the notional enrollment efficiency rating for this school is -62% (underutilized-notional).

Design	Ideal	Efficiency	Total	Actual	In-Area	Notional
<u>Capacity</u>	Enrollment	<u>Range</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u> Utilization</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Utilization</u>
1,200	861	689 – 1,033	455	-47%	333	-61%
				Below Ideal		Below Ideal

Because both actual and notional efficiency ratings fall outside the range of +/-20%, **School F is determined to be underutilized regardless** of whether the District gauges actual utilization or notional utilization. In such cases, the District finds that the presence of a relatively small or large number of out-of-area students enrolled relative to the facility's capacity has little to no bearing on the underutilization the school.

Summary

As the District proposes to establish standard (actual) efficiency ratings for all elementary schools, to help better portray the relationship between school demographics (in-area vs. out-of-area enrolled) and utilization, the District further proposes to establish notional efficiency ratings in addition to standard efficiency ratings for all elementary schools with established traditional geographic attendance boundaries (e.g., neighborhood elementary schools).

For all neighborhood elementary schools one of the following six status ratings is possible:

1.	Efficiently enrolled-actual / efficiently enrolled-notional	[Example –School A]
2.	Overcrowded-actual / overcrowded-notional	[Example –School B]
3.	Overcrowded-actual / underutilized-notional	[Example –School C]
4.	Overcrowded-actual / efficiently enrolled-notional	[Example—School D]
5.	Efficiently enrolled / underutilized-notional	[Example—School E]

6. Underutilized-actual / underutilized-notional

[Example—School F]

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL ACTIONS¹ 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

("Guidelines")

Chicago Public Schools' ("CPS") Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") publishes the following Guidelines to help the public and all interested stakeholders understand the criteria for school actions. CPS is committed to providing every child in every community with access to a high quality education that prepares them for college and career. To that end, CPS must take every step possible to focus our resources on investments that will improve schools for all students. School action proposals will be presented to the Chicago Board of Education ("Board") to help CPS meet this commitment to all its students so that they may access higher quality school options. All proposals presented to the Board for consideration will reflect a commitment to provide impacted students with the option to enroll in a higher performing school.

For the 2012-2013 school year, the CEO will consider the criteria specified below when recommending any of the following school actions:

- closure,
- consolidation,
- reassignment boundary change,
- phase-out, or
- co-location.

I. CRITERIA

A. Criteria for Closure, Consolidation, Reassignment Boundary Change, or Phase-Out

The CEO may propose a closure, consolidation, reassignment boundary change or phase-out using the criteria outlined below.

1. Space Utilization or Grade Alignment

Space Utilization

A school may be considered for a closure, consolidation, reassignment boundary change, or phase-out if it is underutilized or overcrowded based on CPS' Space Utilization Standards and student enrollment numbers recorded on the 20th attendance day for the 2012-2013 school year.

Grade Alignment

A school may be considered for a closure, consolidation, reassignment boundary change, or phase-out if two elementary schools, sharing some part of each other's attendance area, individually offer less than Kindergarten through eighth grades and can be reconfigured to a single Kindergarten through eighth grade school.

2. Constraining Factors

¹ Issuing these Guidelines is consistent with the Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/34-230) requiring that the CEO publish guidelines outlining the criteria for school actions.

The CEO may only propose a closure, consolidation, or reassignment boundary change if:

- (a) the students impacted by a closure, consolidation, or reassignment boundary change have the option to enroll in a higher performing school; and,
- (b) the resulting space utilization after closure, consolidation, or reassignment boundary change will not exceed the facility's enrollment efficiency range as defined by the CPS' Space Utilization Standards.

The CEO may only propose a phase-out if the resulting space utilization after considering a closure, consolidation, or reassignment boundary change would exceed the contemplated receiving facility's enrollment efficiency range as defined by the CPS' Space Utilization Standards.

3. Additional Information to Consider

In determining whether to propose a closure, consolidation, reassignment boundary change, or phase-out, the CEO may consider other information including, but not limited to: safety and security, school culture and climate, school leadership, quality of the school facility, school type and programming, family and community feedback received throughout the school year independent from the process described below, analysis of transition planning costs, neighborhood development plans, whether the school has recently been affected by any school actions, changes in academic focus or actions taken pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-8.3, or proximity, capacity and performance of other schools in the community.

B. Criteria for Co-location

The CEO may propose a co-location of two schools within the same facility if:

- (1) the combined projected enrollment is within the facility's enrollment efficiency range as defined by the CPS' Space Utilization Standards; and
- (2) the facility can support the academic programming of both schools.

Furthermore, in determining whether to propose a co-location, the CEO may consider other information, including, but not limited to: safety and security, school culture and climate, school leadership, quality of the facility, and an analysis of transition planning costs.

II. NOTICE AND SCHOOL TRANSITION PLANS

Notice of any proposed school action will be provided to the principal, staff, local school council, parents or guardians, Illinois State Senator, Illinois State Representative, and Alderman for the school or schools that are subject to the proposed school action. Notice will include the date, time, and place of public meetings being held to elicit public comment on the proposal.

Along with notice of the CEO's proposal, the CEO will issue a draft school transition plan dependent on the unique circumstances of the proposed school action. The draft school transition plan will include, but is not limited to, the following: (1) services to support the academic, social, and emotional needs of students; supports for students with disabilities, homeless students, and English language learners; and support to address security and safety

issues; (2) options to enroll in higher performing schools; (3) informational briefings regarding the choice of schools that include all pertinent information to enable the parent or guardian and child to make an informed choice, including the option to visit the schools of choice prior to making a decision; and (4) the provision of appropriate transportation where practicable.

III. DEFINITIONS

"Closing" or "closure" means closing a school and assigning all of the students enrolled at that school to one or more designated receiving schools.

"Co-location" means two separate, independent schools with their own school leader(s) coexisting within a Chicago Public School facility.

"Consolidation" means the consolidation of two or more schools by closing one or more schools and reassigning the students to another school.

"Higher performing school" means:

- (1) receiving a higher level on the Performance Policy for the 2011-2012 school year, or
- (2) if the 2011-2012 school year level on the Performance Policy is equal, higher performing means performing higher on the majority of the following metrics:
 - for elementary schools for the 2011-2012 school year, percentage of points on the Performance Policy, ISAT composite meets or exceeds score, Value Added reading, and Value Added math,
 - for high schools for the 2011-2012 school year, percentage of points on the Performance Policy, PSAE composite meets or exceeds score, EPAS gains percentile in reading, and EPAS gains percentile in math, or
- (3) for elementary schools, if the 2011-2012 school year level on the Performance Policy is equal and the school does not have Value Added metrics, higher performing means a higher percentage of points on the Performance Policy and a higher ISAT meets or exceeds score for the 2011-2012 school year, or
- (4) for high schools, if the 2011-2012 school year level on the Performance Policy is equal and the school does not have EPAS metrics, higher performing means a higher percentage of points on the Performance Policy and a higher PSAE composite meets or exceeds score.

"ISAT" stands for Illinois Standard Achievement Test.

"ISAT composite" means the score of the combined ISAT reading, math and science tests.

"EPAS" stands for Educational Planning and Assessment System and includes the EXPLORE test for freshmen, the PLAN test for sophomores, and the ACT test for juniors.

"Performance Policy" means the Board of Education of the City of Chicago's School Performance, Remediation and Probation Policy, 12-0725-PO2, establishing standards and criteria for placing a school on Remediation or Probation for the 2012-2013 school year based on assessments administered in Spring 2012 and other performance data from prior school years.

The score and status are determined by evaluating key indicators that assess a school's current performance, trend over time and student growth.

"Phase-out" means the gradual cessation of enrollment in certain grades each school year until a school closes or is consolidated with another school.

"PSAE" stands for Prairie State Achievement Examination.

"Reassignment boundary change" means an attendance area boundary change that involves the reassignment of currently enrolled students.

"School action" means any school closing; school consolidation; co-location; boundary change that requires reassignment of students, unless the reassignment is to a new school with an attendance area boundary and is made to relieve overcrowding; or phase-out.

"Space Utilization Standards" mean the Chicago Public Schools' Space Utilization Standards, found at:

http://www.cps.edu/About CPS/Policies and guidelines/Documents/SpaceUtilizationStandards. pdf, establishing standards for determining enrollment efficiency, overcrowding, and underutilization.

"Value Added" means the metric that assesses school effects on students' academic growth, controlling for student characteristics (including, but not limited to, student mobility rates, poverty rates, special education status and bilingual education status), grade level, and prior performance through a regression methodology. Academic growth is measured by the change in scale score points on the ISAT from one year to the next.

END OF DOCUMENT

THE CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON PROPOSED SCHOOL CLOSURE, CONSOLIDATION, CO-LOCATION, PHASE-OUT, OR REASSIGNMENT BOUNDARY CHANGE

- 1. Upon considering to recommend to the Chicago Board of Education ("Board") that a school be closed, consolidated, colocated, phased-out, or subject to reassignment boundary change, an independent hearing officer shall be appointed consistent with 105 ILCS 5/34-230(f) to conduct a public hearing.
 - a. The hearing will commence and conclude at the time designated in the notice of hearing;
 - b. The hearing will be transcribed; and
 - c. The hearing officer will be solely responsible for conducting the hearing and will conduct the hearing in an efficient and impartial manner.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Presentation

- a. An attorney will present the Chief Executive Officer's proposal by making an opening statement and submitting evidence in support of the proposal to be considered by the hearing officer.
- b. The attorney may also introduce witnesses, who will present statements regarding the proposal. The hearing officer may ask the witnesses questions to clarify any statements they make.

3. Public Participation

- a. The hearing officer will receive relevant statements, comments, documents or written proposals from members of the public. Written comments will be accepted at the hearing, hearing registration table, and on the next business day, before 5:00p.m., if delivered by hand to the CPS Law Department (125 S. Clark, Suite 700) or electronic mail (Qualityschools@cps.edu).
- All those wishing to comment on the matter being considered will be required to sign up to do so as provided in the notice of hearing.
 - i. Registration must be made in person by the individual who will be commenting on the proposal; and
 - ii. An individual may not sign in to speak on behalf of another person.
- c. The number of individuals in each hearing room will be limited based on room capacity.
- d. The hearing officer will determine the order of speakers.
- e. When called by the hearing officer to speak, the speaker shall proceed promptly to the microphone area where s/he will have two minutes to present his/her remarks and materials to the hearing officer.
- f. The total number of people speaking at the hearing will be subject to the sole discretion of the hearing officer.
- g. The hearing officer and the Board's Office of Safety and Security may impose any other reasonable procedures or limitations necessary to ensure that the proceedings are orderly and efficient.
- h. Courteous, respectful, and civil behavior is expected from all speakers and all people attending a hearing. Disruptive individuals may be removed from the hearing.

4. Hearing Officer's Written Report

- a. Following the hearing, the hearing officer will prepare and submit to the Chief Executive Officer a written report summarizing the public comments and the documents received at the hearing.
- b. The hearing officer's report will also determine whether the Chief Executive Officer complied with the requirements of 105 ILCS 5/34-230 and the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions.

ORGINAL

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

For the Proposed Closure of Stockton Elementary

(Sending) and Courtenay Elementary

(Welcoming at 4420 North Beacon Street)

Public Hearing

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had in the above-entitled matter held on April 8th, 2013, at Amundsen High School, Chicago, Illinois, commencing at 7:30 p.m., and concluding at 9:30 p.m.

CPS STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

MR. TIM CAWLEY - Presenter,

Chief Administrative Officer

MR. SEBASTIEN DE LONGEAUX - Facilitator,

Chief Procurement Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

MR. CRAIG BENES - Chief of Schools

- Ravenswood Ridge Network

MR. PHIL SALEMI - Deputy Chief of Schools

- Ravenswood Ridge Network

Reported By: Sandra Di Vito, CSR

License No.: 084-004642

1	SPEAKERS	
2	* Ms. Catherine Humphreys	15
3	* Ms. Wendy Auffant	17
4	Ms. Christine Clark	19
5	Mr. Joshua Keesecker	22
6	Ms. Theresa Fernandez	24
7	Ms. Debby Pope	24
8	Mr. Keti Tuthorn	26
9	* Ms. Vivian Assumpaco	29
10	Ms. Diane Horwitz	31
11	Ms. Claudia Pesenti	. 34
12	Ms. Christine Clancy	36
13	Ms. Brooke Gard	38
14	Mr. Steven Serikaku	40
15	Ms. Karen Zaccor	41
16	Mr. Marc Kaplan	43
17	Mr. Tim Furman	45
18	Ms. Miriam Socoloff	47
19	Mr. Michael Presser	49
20	Ms. Lois Jones	51
21	Ms. Diane Lyman	53
22	Mr. Jesus Gonzalez	54
23	Ms. Brenda Shiller	55
24	Ms. Risa Hynes	57 2
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1		SPEAKERS CONTINUED	
2	Mr.	Derek Bridges	58
3	Ms.	Maria Galicia	61
4			
5			
6		* - Submitted hard copy testimony	
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1	(Whereupon, the following		
2	proceedings commenced at		
3	7:30 p.m.:)		
4	MR. CAWLEY: Good evening, ladies and		
5	gentlemen. It's 7:30 p.m., so we'd like to get		
6	started.		
7	Before we do, we would like to see if		
8	there's anyone in the audience who requires		
9	signing or Spanish translation, so let me		
10	actually have that question asked in Spanish.		
11	Spanish.		
12	(Spanish language.)		
13	MR. CAWLEY: Okay. So, we do have a Spanish.		
14	Do we have anybody who would who		
15	needs sign language?		
16	Okay. If we could just be sure as new		
17	people register that that is checked because we		
18	would ask them to come up then, we don't want		
19	anybody to be left out, okay? Thank you, very		
20	much.		
21	Good evening. My name is Tim Cawley,		
22	and I'm the Chief Administrative Officer for		
23	Chicago Public Schools.		
24	Oh, what they're going to do is to come		

- 1 sit near you rather than take extended time
- 2 translating everything that I say for everybody.
- 3 I hope that's okay.
- 4 And, again, if there are any other --
- 5 any other guests who need Spanish language
- 6 translation, we should make sure that we know,
- 7 okay, thank you.
- 8 (Whereupon, a discussion was had
- 9 off the record.)
- 10 MR. CAWLEY: So, let me continue on with this
- 11 evening's presentation. So, I want to welcome
- 12 you all here. We are here to discuss the school
- 13 action of closing the Courtenay School --
- 14 closing the Stockton School into Courtenay and
- 15 then relocating Courtenay to the Stockton
- 16 building.
- 17 The -- the purpose of this evening's
- 18 meeting is to get input from the community and
- 19 we have a process for doing that. And my
- 20 colleague, Sebastien De Longeaux, will explain
- 21 that process momentarily. Sebastien is a Chief.
- 22 Procurement Officer for Chicago Public Schools.
- With us tonight, also, is our Network
- 24 Chief and the Deputy Chief for the Network of

- 1 Schools that encompasses both Stockton and
- 2 Courtenay, Craig Benes and Phil Salemi, who are
- 3 here in front.
- We're, also -- also, happy to say that
- 5 we have Commander Elias Voulgaris from the
- 6 Chicago Police Department who's here out of --
- 7 to show the partnership that we've got with CPD
- 8 since the safety of our students has been the
- 9 No. 1 criterion as we've gone through our
- 10 discussions on these and the police have been a
- 11 great partner, they always are for us at the
- 12 schools, and the Commander has worked with our
- 13 teams to help make sure that we've got the right
- 14 safety plans here.
- 15 I'm particularly happy to let you know
- 16 tonight that one of the -- the Board Members for
- 17 Chicago Public Schools, Carlos Azcoitia, is here
- 18 this evening as well to hear your comments and
- 19 to take your feedback back to the rest of the
- 20 Board. In fact, that is what tonight is all
- 21 about, to take your feedback back to
- 22 CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett and the Board.
- 23 This process has been going on for four
- 24 months. And during that time, we have heard

- 1 from 20,000 of your fellow citizens in Chicago,
- 2 and this is a continuation of that process.
- 3 And to help with that bringing the
- 4 message back, we have a court reporter and a
- 5 note taker from the Network Office who will
- 6 summarize the key points and to make sure that
- 7 we've got accurate transcripts and good
- 8 summaries that will go to Dr. Byrd-Bennett and
- 9 the Board Members as early as tomorrow, they're
- 10 summarizing every day and getting them at least
- 11 to Dr. Byrd-Bennett the following day.
- 12 Excuse me, as I said, this process is
- 13 designed to get your input, so we will be
- 14 welcoming your comments here. We will not be
- 15 answering questions this evening, because this
- 16 is meant to be your time to talk to us and to
- 17 communicate to the Members of the Board.
- 18 But we have wanted to inform you in the
- 19 best way that we could with the key facts about
- 20 what is being proposed to the Board for a vote
- 21 at the May 22nd Board Meeting. And between now
- 22 and then, there are two more opportunities for
- 23 this action to receive public input. On
- 24 Thursday evening, two days from now -- three

- 1 days from now, we will be back here, same time,
- 2 7:30 p.m., in this auditorium for additional
- 3 meeting, and then there's a public hearing down
- 4 at the -- at 125 South Clark, the Board of Ed,
- 5 at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16th. And that
- 6 hearing will be overseen by a public official.
- 7 So, there are two more opportunities after
- 8 tonight.
- 9 But to give you the information,
- 10 there's a lot on our website, as you know,
- 11 there's been a lot in the media releases, but
- 12 this handout has the key things for you and is
- 13 the main information source for this evening.
- 14 And let me just orient you to this very briefly.
- 15 On the first page, obviously, there's a
- 16 map showing the two schools, and I'm sure you're
- 17 very familiar with where they're located. To
- 18 the left of the map is a summary for why
- 19 Stockton is being closed reflecting the
- 20 underutilization of the building and the decline
- 21 in the enrollment.
- 22 And on the right side, an explanation
- 23 of what Courtenay offers as a welcoming school.
- 24 It's a higher level school with a number of

- 1 programs that are not currently at Stockton.
- 2 And, then, an indication that Courtenay would be
- 3 relocated to the Stockton building since it is a
- 4 far superior building with much better
- 5 resources.
- 6 At the bottom, there's a summary, also,
- 7 about how this process is worked and what we've
- 8 gone through over the last four months on this.
- 9 On the back of the first page is,
- 10 again, the description of what the action is,
- 11 that the current Stockton students will be
- 12 enrolled at Courtenay, and that Courtenay will
- 13 be relocated over to the building that's
- 14 currently occupied by Stockton. So, students
- 15 from both schools will be in that building under
- 16 the leadership of the Courtenay administration.
- 17 The tenant boundaries are shown on a
- 18 map on the last page, the very last page of the
- 19 handout, but there's other information on the
- 20 second page which is very helpful to you.
- 21 Parents have enrollment options. If
- 22 they would like to explore other CPS schools,
- there's a summary here for where you would go to
- 24 find information for those options.

1 We, also, have mentioned that we've 2 worked so closely with safety and security, our 3 own safety and security team, again, working with the Commander and the Chicago Police 4 Department throughout the city, and that we will 5 be providing safe passage support for the 6 students as they walk to the new Courtenay 7 8 School in the Stockton building. So, the Safe 9 Passage Program is something that we've provided 10 to high schools in the past and we will now be 11 expanding that to elementary schools that are 12 going through these transitions. There's a brief summary here of what 13 happens to teachers and there's a goal of having 14 15 the teachers follow their students, and that was 16 actually written into the CTU contract this past 17 year in anticipation of the actions that have 18 been proposed. 19 The LSC at Stockton would close at the 20 end of the school year as indicated here and then any partnerships with community 21 22 organizations from Stockton or Courtenay would 23 be nurtured and brought together in the new

24

Courtenay next year.

- 1 On the third page, you can see the
- 2 investments that we're making to make this
- 3 transition go as well as it possibly can.
- 4 Now, somebody brought up at the last
- 5 meeting that we had that CPS has a financial
- 6 challenge, so to say, and it certainly does, but
- 7 by consolidating schools, it allows us to bring
- 8 resources together in one school in a way that
- 9 we couldn't when we had many more schools
- 10 throughout the city. So, we are actually
- 11 funding the investments in the new schools with
- 12 the savings from not operating so many half full
- 13 buildings.
- 14 And on this third page, you can see
- 15 what some of those investments are. I mentioned
- 16 safe passage, there'll be, also, additional
- 17 security personnel inside the building. But,
- 18 also, a facility in capital improvements.
- 19 Now, the Stockton facility has already
- 20 received significant investment over the last
- 21 several years including air-conditioning and new
- 22 labs, but it will still receive investments in
- 23 areas that are warranted to give it a fresh
- 24 paint -- fresh look with fresh paint and other

- 1 investments to update it.
- We'll, also, provide iPads to all 3rd
- 3 through 8th graders to help them integrate
- 4 technology with the curriculum. It is a very
- 5 significant investment that will only -- we're
- 6 only making so far in the welcoming schools
- 7 across the city.
- 8 We'll make sure, also, that there are
- 9 supports with the social emotional needs of the
- 10 students. We understand that changes like this
- 11 are challenging, that any time somebody goes
- 12 through a change that it can be upsetting. And,
- 13 so, learning from what's happened in Chicago in
- 14 the past and from other Districts, we're
- 15 providing supports at Stockton beginning right
- 16 now and at Courtenay as these students go
- 17 through changes with principal transition
- 18 coordinators to provide support for our
- 19 principals as they manage through all of this
- 20 change.
- 21 And we're going to make sure that the
- 22 students who have special needs, as you can see
- 23 down at the bottom, students with disabilities,
- 24 English Language Learners, Students in Temporary

- 1 Living Situations, that all of those students
- 2 have the kind of care that they need to help
- 3 them through this transition, and we know that
- 4 that's very important in this specific action
- 5 and we're paying careful attention to that.
- 6 There's information down at the bottom of the
- 7 third page on who to contact to make sure that
- 8 your child has the support and the connection to
- 9 the new school that he or she needs.
- 10 So, we've put a lot of care into this
- 11 process and we're here now to get your reaction
- 12 that -- or your ideas on what else you think we
- 13 need to do to make this go as smoothly as it
- 14 can. And, again, what you tell us will be
- 15 communicated back to the Board and the CEO very,
- 16 very quickly here, verbatim and summarized form.
- 17 So, with that, I'd like to pass it over
- 18 to my colleague, Sebastien, to describe you the
- 19 process for this evening and what we will do to
- 20 make sure that people have a chance to be heard
- 21 and that we can hear from as many of you as who
- 22 would like to speak. So, let me turn it over to
- 23 Sebastien.
- 24 MR. DE LONGEAUX: So, welcome and thank

- 1 you for being here tonight. My name is
- 2 Sebastien De Longeaux, I'm the Chief Procurement
- 3 Officer for CPS.
- 4 So, the objective of this meeting is to
- 5 hear from you. There is a court reporter to
- 6 capture every remark as well as a CPS
- 7 note taker to report everything to our
- 8 CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett, and the Board Office.
- 9 Since we want to give everybody a
- 10 chance to speak, and probably won't be a
- 11 challenge tonight, each designated operator has
- 12 2 minutes maximum to share their thoughts. To
- 13 that purpose, we have a timekeeper who will be
- 14 holding up timecards to show how much time the
- 15 speaker has left.
- 16 If people have written speeches or
- 17 other testimony materials, they should have --
- 18 they should leave copies with the court reporter
- 19 to be part of the permanent record.
- The registration table for speaker
- 21 signup will remain open, which the one that is
- 22 outside right here, until 8:30 tonight and you
- 23 must signup if you want to speak tonight.
- The meeting will last until 9:30 and

- 1 not beyond due to the closing of the facilities.
- 2 So, there is another meeting on
- 3 April 11th at 7:30, same time, same location,
- 4 for those who couldn't speak tonight, and we,
- 5 also, as Tim Cawley mentioned, a public hearing
- 6 on the 16th from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.
- 7 Now, I'm calling, since we don't need
- 8 any translation, can we confirm that everybody's
- 9 okay about translation?
- 10 So, now I'm calling the three first
- 11 speakers who are Catherine Humphreys,
- 12 Wendy Auffant, and Christine Clark. Can you,
- 13 please, state your name and your affiliations
- 14 with the school at the mic.
- 15 MS. HUMPHREYS: Then do I start?
- 16 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Yes.
- 17 MS. HUMPHREYS: Hi, my name's
- 18 Catherine Humphreys, I'm a parent of a
- 19 kindergartner at Courtenay Elementary.
- 20 And I, like many other parents, love
- 21 the city. We love its diversity and culture.
- 22 But to stay here, parents also know that they
- 23 must learn to love the schools around them. We
- 24 must love them enough to invest our all to

- 1 improve them and to maintain their high
- 2 performance.
- 3 Courtenay Language Arts is an example
- 4 of a high performing school. It has been
- 5 awarded the Academic Excellence Improvement
- 6 Awards and has received notice as a spotlight
- 7 school.
- 8 The secret to Courtenay is its
- 9 100 percent lottery system that encourages the
- 10 support and involvement of parents. The
- 11 proposal to change Courtenay into a neighborhood
- 12 school and relocate it to Stockton's facilities
- 13 does a disservice to Courtenay and Stockton
- 14 communities.
- 15 Students deserve to be welcomed into a
- 16 school whose current 100 percent lottery model
- 17 has proven to excel at educating students from
- 18 all backgrounds. There is no precedent for
- 19 relocating a high performing school while
- 20 completely changing its fundamental model.
- 21 There is, however, precedent for
- 22 allowing a high performing school to expand its
- 23 model. Disney II is currently in the planning
- 24 stages of expanding its lottery-based model into

- 1 a shared building.
- 2 Not only do students deserve to attend
- 3 a school that can deliver on its promise of
- 4 academic excellence, parents like me deserve to
- 5 know that our efforts to improve the schools
- 6 around us are not wasted but rewarded. Parents
- 7 like me need to know our voices are heard, our
- 8 voices are listened to, and make a difference.
- 9 Listen to my voice and let me know I
- 10 can make a difference. Courtenay Elementary
- 11 must stay a 100 percent lottery school.
- 12 MS. AUFFANT: My name is Wendy Auffant, and
- 13 I'm from Courtenay Elementary.
- 14 The current proposal before the Board
- 15 regarding the relocation of Courtenay School is
- 16 insulting and disrespectful to parents in its
- 17 design and how its been communicated. Courtenay
- 18 was not on the final list of school closures
- 19 and, therefore, Courtenay School stakeholders
- 20 were not provided with a community forum as
- 21 promised by CPS (Applause).
- 22 Over the winter, CPS launched a
- 23 three-month community engagement process with
- 24 over 20,000 community members over 30 public

- 1 meetings. Courtenay School was not provided a
- 2 single meeting and you denied me the opportunity
- 3 to advocate for my child, my child's school, and
- 4 my child's community.
- 5 I find this proposal completely
- 6 disingenuous in its merit. While CPS
- 7 communicates that Courtenay is merely
- 8 relocating, it does not address the fact that
- 9 the proposal is fundamentally changing the
- 10 design altogether by making Courtenay a
- 11 neighborhood school. Courtenay has never been a
- 12 neighborhood school, it has always been a school
- 13 of neighbors. The small school, 100 percent
- 14 lottery design that has made Courtenay
- 15 successful, drawn families from all over the
- 16 city, and provided choice for parents and
- 17 children will cease to exist.
- 18 CPS continues to lose enrollment of
- 19 city schools to the suburbs and private schools
- 20 because of terrible proposals like this one.
- 21 CPS has a responsibility to the families of this
- 22 city to put forth proposals of excellence, not
- 23 mediocrity. If CPS is going to create upheaval
- 24 in the lives of young people by closing and

- 1 relocating their schools, then they should do so
- 2 with thoughtfulness, integrity, and a goal of
- 3 improved outcomes for children.
- 4 In other neighborhoods, CPS has rallied
- 5 communities around exciting programs like wall
- 6 to wall IB, STEM focus, and fine arts magnet
- 7 among others. Yet, in the case of Courtenay, it
- 8 seems as though the only idea was to strip away
- 9 our successful model and turn us into a
- 10 neighborhood school.
- 11 Perhaps if Courtenay and Stockton
- 12 stakeholders had been brought to the table
- 13 months ago, together we could have crafted the
- 14 type of proposal that children deserve
- 15 (Applause), one that we can all be proud of and
- one that we as parents demand (Applause).
- 17 MR. CAWLEY: Excuse me, the court reporter
- 18 has requested that while the speakers are
- 19 speaking that you don't applaud only because she
- 20 won't be able to capture the comments because
- 21 she can't hear them. So, if you could maybe
- 22 save it until the end, she'll be able to capture
- 23 every word that way. Thank you.
- 24 MS. CLARK: Hi, my name is Christine Clark,

- 1 I'm a parent of a Courtenay student, I have a
- 2 Courtenay kindergartner.
- 3 A year before my daughter was to start
- 4 kindergarten, I started looking at schools. I
- 5 was allowed to apply to 20 under the CPS options
- 6 for enrollment plan. I did apply to 20. I was
- 7 wait listed at all 20. Courtenay was on my list
- 8 because in the 2010 October issue of Chicago
- 9 Magazine, it was ranked the 25th school out of
- 10 488. I thought it was amazing, especially,
- 11 considering Courtenay's low income percentage,
- 12 they had 77 percent low income. So, of the top
- 13 34 schools, it was the highest percent low
- 14 income and still turning out results like that
- 15 and I thought this is kind of an amazing place.
- 16 I wasn't offered any spots at any
- 17 school. In late July, finally, Courtenay called
- 18 me off the waiting list and we went to tour the
- 19 school and we met with the assistant principal
- 20 because there was currently no principal at
- 21 Courtenay. She explained that there wouldn't be
- 22 a principal for the entire kindergarten year.
- I went with -- I -- I trusted her, I
- 24 thought the school has a great reputation, it

- 1 seemed like a nice place with a great small
- 2 community feel, so I thought, well, maybe we can
- 3 skip having a principal kindergarten year and
- 4 we're just going to go with it.
- 5 It has turned into an amazing place.
- 6 My daughter's happy there. We're happy there.
- 7 We've found an amazing community of parents that
- 8 work together, and volunteer, and help out, in
- 9 addition to the fact that my daughter is
- 10 excelling, and happy, and learning.
- 11 I guess I was most insulted when I
- 12 received my packet on March 21st, first of all,
- 13 that I got a packet at all not knowing that we
- 14 were on a list of effected schools. I know
- 15 we're not, technically, closing, but we're
- 16 effected and being fundamentally changed in
- 17 every way.
- 18 I was most offended when it said that
- 19 our administration would be taking over. We
- 20 currently have a very small school with no
- 21 principal, an assistant principal, and one man
- 22 in the office. So, our assistant principal and
- 23 our one man in the office are going to takeover
- 24 this new school, over 750 students. It's

- 1 insulting.
- 2 I'm here tonight because it's the first
- 3 chance I've had. I didn't know that there was a
- 4 four-month process going on. My daughter was
- 5 happy at a good school that, as far as I knew,
- 6 was 25th out of 488, why would they mess with
- 7 it? I'm here tonight because it's the first
- 8 chance and you've heard me (Applause).
- 9 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm now calling
- 10 Joshua Keesecker, Theresa Fernandez, and
- 11 Debby Pope.
- MR. KEESECKER: Bon soir, my name is
- 13 Joshua Keesecker, I'm a parent of a Courtenay
- 14 student.
- 15 Courtenay is a 2012 Honor Roll
- 16 School, one of 18 Spotlight Schools, one of
- 17 29 Academic Excellence Award recipients, one of
- 18 31 Improvement Award recipients. Courtenay
- 19 Elementary School is in the top 20 percent of
- 20 performance for Chicago Elementary Schools. In
- 21 2010, Chicago Magazine ranked Courtenay as the
- 22 No. 25 elementary school in the city, as you
- 23 heard, top 10 percent.
- 24 Courtenay has a 100 percent

- 1 lottery-based enrollment system. Courtenay's
- 2 successful model should not be expanded --
- 3 should be expanded, I apologize, not abandoned.
- 4 The North zone of Chicago is underserved by a
- 5 magnet and lottery schools. And maintaining a
- 6 100 percent lottery school in this area is
- 7 essential.
- 8 We are excited at the possibility of
- 9 expanding the Courtenay School model to reach a
- 10 wider population, but we will not allow it to be
- 11 expanded irresponsibly nor by fundamentally
- 12 changing the Courtenay School enrollment and
- 13 school model. A 100 percent model lottery
- 14 school is the only responsible decision on the
- 15 part of CPS.
- 16 There's only Stone north of Montrose
- 17 Avenue to serve some of the most densely
- 18 populated and underserved neighborhoods in
- 19 Chicago: Uptown, Edgewater, Rogers Park, and
- 20 Lincoln Square.
- 21 We have circulated a petition among our
- 22 families with over 50 percent of student
- 23 families signing on to 100 percent magnet
- 24 lottery system including LSC members. I'd like

- 1 to read you a portion of it and you won't have
- 2 to translate this part. (Spanish language.)
- 3 Thank you.
- 4 MS. FERNANDEZ: I'm not as prepared as some
- 5 of the other parents here. Okay. My name is
- 6 Theresa Fernandez, I have two children at
- 7 Courtenay Elementary, a 4th grader and a 6th
- 8 grader.
- 9 And I think that the merge is a great
- 10 idea. And my kids are the high-performing
- 11 students, they are the ones who exceed standards
- 12 and who get a perfect score on the ISAT. And
- 13 I'm telling you they -- you know, they're --
- 14 Courtenay can survive this. We've been there
- 15 for only three years, but Courtenay can survive
- 16 this merge and it makes sense. And if there's
- 17 any Stockton parents behind me, welcome to
- 18 Courtenay.
- 19 MS. POPE: Good evening, I'm Debby Pope, I'm
- 20 a retired teacher, a neighborhood resident in
- 21 Edgewater, and an employee of the Chicago
- 22 Teachers Union.
- 23 I am here to speak on behalf of the
- 24 Stockton School that serves the Uptown

- 1 Community, that serves poor children, that
- 2 serves rich children, that serves middle class
- 3 children, that serves black, brown, and white
- 4 children, that serves any child that comes to
- 5 the door (Applause) that does not require a
- 6 lottery application, that requires an open door
- 7 with caring and compassionate educators who are
- 8 there to meet the needs of each and every child.
- 9 Every community deserves and needs a
- 10 Stockton School. You note that the facilities
- 11 are much better at Stockton School, that they
- 12 have computer labs, air-conditioning, and
- 13 various things like that, well, it's about time
- 14 that more of our neighborhood schools (Applause)
- 15 have those facilities because too many of our
- 16 neighborhood schools have been resource-starved
- 17 for too long.
- 18 What's gone on in Uptown is a huge
- 19 amount of gentrification, that is what has
- 20 resulted in the diminishment of the population
- 21 at Stockton School, the fact that a whole lot of
- 22 people have moved into the area who don't have
- 23 school age children or who are paying for
- 24 various tuitions or sending their children to

- 1 magnet schools because somehow their children
- 2 manage to be the kids who get into the magnet
- 3 schools.
- 4 So, not too surprisingly, Stockton's
- 5 population has gone down somewhat, but Stockton
- 6 is a school with an open door and an open arm.
- 7 And we want open-minded children at open-minded
- 8 schools, and we want schools to meet the needs
- 9 of our community.
- 10 We are tired of this nonsense. This is
- 11 turning Stockton School around, this is not
- 12 closing Stockton School. Basically, what you're
- 13 doing is you're saying to the staff at Stockton,
- 14 you're worthless, we're turning you around,
- 15 we're bringing in the staff from this magnet
- 16 school and they're going to takeover because
- 17 they know what's better for your kids and CPS
- 18 knows what's better for your kids (applause) and
- 19 that's a bunch of crap.
- 20 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I am now calling
- 21 Keti Tuthorn, Vivian Assumpaco, and
- 22 Diane Horwitz. Can you, please, state your name
- 23 and affiliation to the school, please.
- 24 MS. TUTHORN: My name is Keti Tuthorn, and

- 1 I'm a parent of a child at Courtenay.
- 2 And listening to some of the people
- 3 that came by here, it seems like we do have two
- 4 very different cultures between the Stockton and
- 5 the Courtenay community and we both love and
- 6 tend to defend our schools.
- 7 I just wanted to say that as Wendy had
- 8 mentioned earlier, I think one of the most
- 9 insulting things is keep hearing about this has
- 10 been going on for four months, we've heard
- 11 20,000 community commentaries, and, yet, I was
- 12 informed on the 21st that this was happening to
- 13 my school.
- Not only that, but the list that came
- 15 out on February 13th, Courtenay was not on that
- 16 list. So, it came completely out of the blue.
- 17 And, then, when we did receive it a month later,
- 18 the first community meeting was after this
- 19 March 31st deadline.
- This deadline is deceitful in nature.
- 21 An extension was granted to CPS from December
- 22 1st to March 31st to publish this and it was
- 23 based on the premises that the community would
- 24 have some sort of feedback and that feedback was

- 1 needed to be obtained in order to do this list.
- Well, that's not the case for Courtenay. I
- 3 don't understand, this shouldn't validate any
- 4 proposals set forth since we did not have a
- 5 voice.
- 6 Courtenay is neither an underperforming
- 7 school nor an underutilized school. To the
- 8 contrary, we are full with a 200-plus waiting
- 9 list. We're recognized as a rising star, we're
- 10 a school of distinction. Again, how did we end
- 11 up on this list?
- 12 Semantics and rhetoric, we're saying
- 13 that Courtenay is not being closed out, we are
- 14 simply being moved. Well, if we're being moved,
- 15 then that means all of it has to move, that
- 16 means our model has to move. You do not just
- 17 send children, faculty, and staff, and hang up a
- 18 shingle that says, "Welcome to Courtenay," and
- 19 that makes Courtenay the school that it is. It
- 20 doesn't work that way.
- 21 The statistics used to calculate
- 22 utilization is inherently flawed, especially
- 23 when accounting for special ed population, both
- 24 which Stockton and Courtenay have a 30-plus

- 1 percent special ed population.
- Now, Courtenay is 41.7 percent low
- 3 income, 33.3 special ed, 32.3 limited English --
- 4 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Can you, please, conclude.
- 5 MS. TUTHORN: Yes.
- 6 At 2012, our 8th graders scored 100
- 7 percent in both reading and math. We are a
- 8 school of excellence. I would hope that we
- 9 would expand the Courtenay model and allow all
- 10 children of Chicago to be able to participate
- 11 and not be confined to any neighborhood.
- 12 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- MS. ASSUMPACO: Good evening. My name is
- 14 Vivian. I have a 5th grader and a kindergartner
- 15 at Courtenay School.
- 16 I arrived in the country in last year
- 17 in February and I missed application time, so I
- 18 spent about five months looking, contacting
- 19 schools, searching, talking with principals, and
- 20 but no one could help me because I had lost the
- 21 application time. I know we always have a spot
- in our neighborhood school, but my neighborhood
- 23 school was Brennemann and it was not an option
- 24 for me. So, finally, I got a spot on Courtenay

- 1 because I have a 5th grader and my
- 2 kindergartner, she was on the waiting list.
- 3 So, me and so many other parents here
- 4 tonight, we have kids that are great students.
- 5 My son is one of the best students of his class,
- 6 above the CPS -- CP -- CPS average for his
- 7 grade. For sure we want the best -- the best
- 8 school for our kids, the best environment, the
- 9 best security for our children, an excellent
- 10 school that helps our kids to learn more and
- 11 more, to challenge them every day, that help
- 12 them to grow in their abilities and knowledge.
- 13 For me, for us, that was what Courtenay is as a
- 14 100 percent lottery school.
- 15 CPS says providing a better -- a better
- 16 education for all these children, but how
- 17 merging these grades and high performance with
- 18 100 lottery school with the neighborhood would
- 19 be the better school for our kids?
- 20 I was so happy at Courtenay that I just
- 21 applied for -- for one more magnet school last
- 22 October that is beside my home, but I'm on the
- 23 waiting list. CPS now let us to reapply to new
- 24 school, but all good schools are full, have no

- 1 spot, and long waiting lists. So, what do I
- 2 supposed to do now?
- 3 At least we need to have some priority
- 4 in these schools we are reapplying for. In my
- 5 opinion, it's not fair that we go to the bottom
- 6 of the waiting list if we just apply now at the
- 7 same time as the other families.
- 8 To conclude, so what I want? I want a
- 9 grade school for my kids, I want to keep our
- 10 high performance school as 100 lottery for
- 11 Courtenay, I want to -- or I want a priority in
- 12 those school I need to reapply, and I hope CPS
- 13 give us -- give us the chance to choose a good
- 14 school and -- now and not only be a matter of
- 15 look and the waiting list situation.
- 16 Thank you.
- 17 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 18 MS. HORWITZ: Hi, my name is
- 19 Dr. Diane Horwitz, I have a Ph.D. in education
- 20 with a specialty in curriculum and instruction.
- 21 And I'm part of a network of over 100
- 22 education professors and researchers in the
- 23 Chicago area who have recently written a
- 24 research brief, which I'll give you a copy of,

- 1 which argues that all school closings need to
- 2 have a moratorium, the research evidence does
- 3 not backup the plan. I'm here, specifically, to
- 4 talk about class size tonight.
- 5 An analysis in Chicago Catalyst last
- 6 week documented the increased over-utilization
- 7 in all consolidated schools and the studies
- 8 pointed out that class sizes will likely be
- 9 increased.
- 10 When you look at both Stockton and
- 11 Courtenay, the story of these schools have
- 12 similar elements, both value small class sizes,
- 13 both have large, over 30 percent special
- 14 education students, many of whom who are served
- in small self-contained classrooms with a merger
- 16 of these schools, small class size is going to
- 17 be jeopardized.
- 18 One Stockton teacher, I read this, she
- 19 said, "To punish our school for doing right by
- 20 our students for choosing to fund smaller class
- 21 size is not only unwise but unconscionable."
- 22 If you look at any of the education
- 23 research, small class sizes particularly for low
- 24 income and minority students is one of the most

- 1 effective education strategies.
- 2 Stockton is not underutilized. I've
- 3 seen the room-by-room breakdown. Some of the
- 4 things that you tout for Courtenay parents:
- 5 Science labs, computer labs, a drama room, a
- 6 music room, a library, a special room for
- 7 autistic children, nine special education rooms.
- 8 There are three rooms that are not being used,
- 9 four for other purposes, that's seven potential
- 10 rooms for 275 students, three of those rooms are
- 11 for the special education students now at
- 12 Courtenay. These numbers do not add up.
- 13 This -- this schools -- or these
- 14 schools tell a sorry story about CPS's plans for
- 15 vulnerable students.
- MR. DE LONGEAUX: I am now calling
- 17 Claudia Pesenti, Brooke Gard, and
- 18 Christine Clancy.
- 19 MR. CAWLEY: If you would like what you've
- 20 written to be entered into our record, please
- 21 hand it to the court reporter, it will actually
- 22 be documented there and would -- it would help
- 23 her just confirm that she got it right. So,
- 24 feel free to get that to her. It's your

- 1 decision, of course.
- MS. PESENTI: Good evening, I'm
- 3 Claudia Pesenti, I'm the CP delegate at Stockton
- 4 School.
- 5 Unlike Mr. Cawley, I live in Chicago
- 6 and I've taught in Chicago Public School System
- 7 for 27 years. My students are not scores. I
- 8 understand when people say, "Courtenay can
- 9 survive this." My students have survived Sudan,
- 10 Somalia, and now the Chicago Board of Ed.
- 11 I'm a teacher, I was a teacher in the
- 12 library which was closed at Stockton. So, when
- 13 you see that we have science, computer labs,
- 14 library, and playground, I disagree. We have
- 15 computer labs, but they are not financed with
- 16 the best technology, although, I do hear we're
- 17 going to be getting iPads because we've decided
- 18 to spend our discretionary funds on smaller
- 19 class size.
- We have a number of students that are
- 21 ELL students, we have a number of special needs
- 22 students, and we, also, have a large and growing
- 23 population of homeless students, some who travel
- 24 from Englewood to attend our school because

- 1 there's family there, there's Stockton School
- 2 family. I'm teaching children of my students.
- 3 Enrollment has declined into a diminishing low
- 4 and mixed income housing in the Uptown area.
- 5 Our building has not had a Board Member
- 6 walk through, to my knowledge, nor has anyone
- 7 walked from the CPC where we had family members
- 8 shot in front of the CPC during broad daylight
- 9 last year, and two years ago we had a
- 10 13-year-old shot on Halloween Eve. I'd like to
- 11 know how they're going to up the security and
- 12 the transition for our students to our school
- 13 let alone the students that come from Courtenay.
- 14 Our students are not going to be sold
- 15 out for an iPad, for air-conditioning, or
- 16 anything else that they deserve (Applause). We
- 17 demand, we demand that our schools stay open.
- 18 We welcome our students so we don't need another
- 19 welcoming school. We invite Courtenay parents
- 20 to join us as it seems to be happening that they
- 21 realize that this is an ineffective, not well
- 22 thought out program, and this transition
- 23 planning team needs to plan more before they
- 24 transition.

- 1 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Your time is up.
- 2 MS. PESENTI: Thank you.
- 3 MS. CLANCY: Hello, my name the
- 4 Christine Clancy and I, too, have a
- 5 kindergartner at Courtenay, but I am reading
- 6 this letter on behalf of a parent who had a
- 7 death in the family today.
- 8 I'm here today because I laid down
- 9 roots at a wonderful little school this year.
- 10 It has a community feeling that I never thought
- 11 I would find in CPS. I feel like my daughter is
- 12 safe and truly cared about when I drop her off
- 13 each morning. Courtenay Elementary has a model
- 14 that keeps class sizes small and learning big.
- 15 I heard rumors that Courtenay might
- 16 relocate in the future, but I never thought this
- 17 high performing school would be fundamentally
- 18 changed. When I got the letter that Courtenay
- 19 will be merging with Stockton and made an Uptown
- 20 neighborhood school, I was heartsick.
- 21 This area in the city which is already
- 22 lacking the number of magnet schools found in
- 23 Lincoln Park and Lake View needs to keep this
- 24 gem of a school. Simply renaming Stockton

- 1 Courtenay and handing us their model has parents
- 2 up in arms. We did not meet any of the criteria
- 3 to be closed and, thus, we were not given an
- 4 opportunity to advocate for our children until
- 5 now.
- I came here today to insist you truly
- 7 relocate our gem of a school and retain its 100
- 8 percent lottery model. We pride ourselves on
- 9 being a school of neighborhoods where many
- 10 people who weren't happy with their neighborhood
- 11 option have come together to create a unique
- 12 learning environment.
- 13 Our model is successful and we have not
- 14 been told that Stockton is a small district and
- 15 surrounding schools are not overcrowded which
- 16 would allow the Stockton boundaries to be
- 17 withdrawn into them. Neighborhood schools can
- 18 be wonderful, but that is not the model we
- 19 choose and not the model that has led Courtenay
- 20 to impressive records.
- We have a mother who spends \$130 a week
- 22 in gas to get her two boys to Courtenay because
- 23 her son has to pass through metal detectors to
- 24 start kindergarten. We wanted something

- 1 different.
- We have several families who found and
- 3 put down roots at Courtenay after trying other
- 4 schools they were not satisfied with. Our
- 5 kindergarten class is filled with families
- 6 who've applied to many schools and received wait
- 7 listed numbers into the 900's.
- 8 We found our place with the CPS and we
- 9 do not want this successful model taken from us.
- 10 Thank you.
- 11 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm now calling
- 12 Steven Serikaku, Tricia Black, and Karen Zaccor.
- 13 Did I call you already?
- MR. CAWLEY: Oh, yeah, she's the last one,
- 15 she's Brooke Gard.
- 16 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm sorry.
- 17 MS. GARD: That's okay. My name is
- 18 Brooke Gard, I'm a parent at Courtenay.
- 19 I will go in line with the people
- 20 before me saying that I spent a couple years
- 21 researching the schools in Chicago, spent
- 22 several months applying, spent several months
- 23 waiting to hear, and then spent an additional
- 24 three or four months waiting for one of my wait

- 1 listed schools to give me a call. I was, also,
- 2 wait listed on all of the schools I applied to,
- 3 and when we finally got the call from Courtenay,
- 4 we, too, were thrilled and we've been very happy
- 5 there.
- I will say that this plan to me is
- 7 illogical and confusing mainly because we were
- 8 not given an opportunity to speak about it, or
- 9 process it, or come up with any other ideas, we
- 10 were simply handed the proposal and, pretty
- 11 much, told that it was what was going to happen.
- 12 Everyone is telling us that Courtenay's
- 13 being relocated. The problem is our
- 14 administration is not being relocated and our
- 15 model is not being relocated. So, I ask you,
- 16 which part of Courtenay is, in fact, being
- 17 relocated to the building of Stockton?
- 18 We have, also, been told about all
- 19 these fabulous things, these science labs,
- 20 whatever else, auditorium, gym, all these fancy
- 21 things, and to be honest with you, if any of you
- 22 have seen the Courtenay building, clearly none
- 23 of us chose Courtenay for the amenities that the
- 24 building offered (Applause). So, that's not

- 1 going to sell us.
- We need our model, we need a clear
- 3 picture of what's going to happen. We would be
- 4 thrilled to expand the model so that more
- 5 children can benefit from it, but this is not
- 6 the way to do it. And it doesn't seem possible
- 7 to take a school of 250 children and multiply it
- 8 by however many number of kids and expect that a
- 9 new principal is going to takeover and
- 10 successfully transfer everything.
- 11 MR. SERIKAKU: Hi, I'm Steven Serikaku, and
- 12 I'm retired from CPS, but I'm a Stockton
- 13 graduate.
- 14 And (Applause), you know, I have -- I
- 15 have fond memories of Stockton and, you know, I
- 16 think this school does well for the population
- 17 it has. But I have to say that I'm really
- 18 disappointed in CPS.
- 19 Whoever, you know, thought this -- this
- 20 up did not do a very good job. To say that
- 21 you're going to combine these two schools with
- 22 totally different cultures, have the Courtenay
- 23 administration takeover the school when, from
- 24 what I've heard, there is no Courtenay

- 1 administration except for an assistant
- 2 principal, and Stockton, a bigger school, has a
- 3 CPC, it has special education classes, it has
- 4 ELL students. Why would you think that
- 5 Courtenay's administration would do a better job
- 6 than Stockton's?
- 7 And if this is an example of the kind
- 8 of thinking that goes into school closures and
- 9 consolidations, why are you doing this? You
- 10 know, you clearly have to go back and rethink
- 11 this. This is not a good idea. And you are
- 12 hurting people. Real people.
- And, you know, from what I've seen,
- 14 more and more, both the city and -- and CPS, are
- 15 treating kids, teachers, and people in the
- 16 community like interchangeable parts, and that
- 17 is not the case.
- So, again, I ask you to rethink this.
- 19 MS. ZACCOR: My name is Karen Zaccor, I live
- 20 one block away from Stockton School, my daughter
- 21 graduated from Stockton School, yay (Applause),
- 22 and for my first few years of teaching, I taught
- 23 at Stockton School.
- 24 I'm here to say, and I think

- 1 everybody's here to say, don't close Stockton,
- 2 don't close Courtenay, don't close any school
- 3 (Applause).
- 4 And, really, I just want to kind of
- 5 call out the lies that we keep hearing from the
- 6 Board of Education. So, on your literature here
- 7 on the first page it says, "We have looked at
- 8 every individual school and our decision
- 9 incorporates the feedback we received from more
- 10 than 20,000 of you."
- 11 Well, no, it didn't, because 20,000 of
- 12 us said, "Don't close our schools."
- 13 On Page 3, it euphemistically talks
- 14 about welcoming schools. Well, several Stockton
- 15 parents have told me that they have been told
- 16 they have to reapply for their children to go to
- 17 Stockton School and they're right now not
- 18 feeling welcome at all to their own school where
- 19 their children have been going. They're
- 20 wondering what's wrong with them that perhaps
- 21 they're not going to be welcome back there.
- Third, on the same page, I just want to
- 23 express concern that it's taking closing schools
- 24 for you to all of a sudden be concerned about

- 1 providing customized safety plans at every
- 2 school when, as we all know, we have numerous
- 3 Chicago School children being shot every year.
- 4 So, to me, all of these things add up
- 5 to the Board of Education does not now and has
- 6 not for my entire 35 years in Chicago cared
- 7 about the children who go to Chicago Public
- 8 Schools.
- 9 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm now calling
- 10 Tricia Black, Marc Kaplan, and Tim Furman.
- 11 Tricia Black.
- 12 Marc Kaplan. Marc Kaplan.
- 13 MR. KAPLAN: So that means I can speak for
- 14 four minutes, right?
- 15 My name's Marc Kaplan, I'm with the
- 16 Local School Council of Uplift Community High
- 17 School, my son went to Stockton and now he's a
- 18 biology teacher at Von Steuben High School.
- 19 I'm here, if you look at this room,
- 20 it's way, way less people coming here to testify
- 21 than at the hearings at Truman College or around
- 22 the city. There were 20,000 people, as you
- 23 said, that came to the hearings around the city.
- 24 They were parents, they were students, they were

- 1 teachers, they were community members, they were
- 2 business people. And I was at both Truman
- 3 College hearings, I didn't hear one person at
- 4 those hearings say we support closing any
- 5 schools (Applause).
- 6 I, also, realize that not -- none of
- 7 these Courtenay parents were there or hardly
- 8 there, because they didn't think that their
- 9 school was effected (Applause).
- This is a complete flip-flop sham that
- 11 is going on here. Let's be real clear about
- 12 this. I think that Courtenay parents, Stockton
- 13 parents, Stewart parents, Brennemann parents,
- 14 Trumbull parents, McPherson parents, McCutcheon
- 15 parents, parents from Uplift, all have to work
- 16 together with community members, with business
- 17 people, and with teachers (Applause) to make
- 18 sure that none of these schools close
- 19 (Applause).
- 20 And I think there's probably not going
- 21 to be that many more speakers, so what I propose
- 22 is that when this is over, that all of us spend
- 23 a little bit of time talking together to figure
- 24 out what the next steps we have to do to work

- 1 together to make sure that not one school is
- 2 closed, not the lives of not one public school
- 3 child or one parent is disrupted, and that we
- 4 can really have the kind of quality education
- 5 and schools that our children need.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 MR. FURMAN: My name is Tim Furman and I live
- 8 in Rogers Park, and my affiliation to the
- 9 schools is that I'm a resident, I'm a taxpayer,
- 10 I'm a voter, and I'm an American, with no
- 11 disrespect personally.
- 12 I usually turn and I face the elected
- 13 people in the audience, but I don't know who's
- 14 on the LSC out there, so all I've got is you,
- 15 sir, a Board Member. And if this were a
- 16 suburb or -- thank you, I only knew about this
- 17 Board Member here. And God bless you for public
- 18 service, it, certainly, can't be easy. But in
- 19 any other community, in any other city in this
- 20 State, we would vote for you and you would be
- 21 accountable to us. And you're the only guy in
- 22 the room that has a voice in any of this. This
- 23 is the staff and we all know that they really
- 24 don't have a voice in any of this.

- 1 I know that this isn't a form for you
- 2 to answer questions, which is bizarre to me, but
- 3 that's what it is, so I have two ideas for you:
- 4 One is, would you take this message back to the
- 5 CT -- the -- Barbara Byrd-Bennett, because she
- 6 was in the press a few weeks ago with something
- 7 like a quote about how everybody got it at these
- 8 hearings. And not everybody got it. And I
- 9 think if you know -- you surely know there's an
- 10 express called, "the fog of war," and I think
- 11 she's living in the fog of war, because I think
- 12 she's waging war on these communities
- 13 (Applause).
- So, will you, please, take back a very
- 15 crystal clear message that she was wrong to say
- 16 that, and maybe she just got it wrong, but you
- 17 can only be so tone deaf before people start
- 18 thinking you're crazy or arrogant.
- MR. DE LONGEAUX: Please complete.
- 20 MR. FURMAN: We are meeting after here after
- 21 this is over, we're planning something on the
- 22 27th, okay? Come join us. We'll be in the
- 23 streets in Uptown. We're going the save all of
- 24 these schools, all of these communities.

- 1 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Your time is up.
- 3 Michael Presser, and Lois Jones.
- 4 MS. SOCOLOFF: My name is Miriam Socoloff,
- 5 I'm a -- I know something about teaching and
- 6 learning in this city.
- 7 I have been a CPS teacher for 34 years,
- 8 and I continue to be an art educator, I'm a
- 9 Golden Apple Winner, and a Presidential
- 10 Recognition Winner, that's President Barack
- 11 Obama (Applause), so -- and I sent my child to
- 12 Chicago Public Schools and he thrived and got
- 13 into one of the most selective colleges in the
- 14 country going to his regular old low scorings
- 15 neighborhood high school, okay (Applause)? And
- 16 he said who's he going to be friends with, and ${f I}$
- 17 said he's going to be friends with the wonderful
- 18 children at that school. Maybe they don't
- 19 always test well, but they're as smart as can
- 20 be.
- So, CPS has now heard from 20,000
- 22 distraught parents, teachers, and most
- 23 importantly, children crying for their
- 24 schools to be kept open. You have heard from

- 1 Governor Quinn, Aldermen Toni Preckwinkle,
- 2 church leaders, you have seen the research that
- 3 this isn't going to save any money. What you
- 4 are doing is wrong.
- 5 The double speed is appalling welcoming
- 6 schools, et cetera, world class cities like
- 7 these spectacles make us to look as. They drive
- 8 people to the suburbs is what they do. It
- 9 completely undermines confidence in our schools,
- 10 it disrupts our community, and disrupts the
- 11 lives of children. It's -- it's child abuse.
- 12 The payoff of an iPad, come on. So,
- 13 they're going to carry the iPad in the backpack
- 14 through the unsafe neighborhood to the home that
- 15 they don't have WiFi. Oh, I guess they can go
- 16 to the public library, but the Mayor already cut
- 17 the hours of the public library (Applause).
- And what, you know -- I mean, people --
- 19 you heard people speak. You haven't heard
- 20 anybody for this, but you have your talking
- 21 points, you're unswayed by public opinion
- 22 because you have an agenda, and the agenda is
- 23 the privatization and corporate reform of these
- 24 schools and these meetings are the equivalent of

- 1 a show trial. Now --
- 2 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Your time is up.
- 3 MS. SOCOLOFF: -- I believe everybody's a
- 4 human being, so I'm going to say to you, rise to
- 5 the occasion, don't fall along, and don't be a
- 6 decent and vote.
- 7 MR. PRESSER: My name is Michael Presser, I
- 8 have two children who are at public schools in
- 9 Chicago.
- 10 Sad thing for me is sort of what Miriam
- 11 was just saying is that it's already done. I
- 12 mean, as far as the people here who came to hear
- 13 to listen to all of us, they already know what
- 14 the answer is in their minds. They are going to
- 15 listen to a lot of impassioned people, they're
- 16 going to cluck their tongues and say, oh, yeah,
- 17 they were all impassioned, but they don't
- 18 understand how much better this is for
- 19 everybody. We will put up with listening to
- them, and we will be kind, we will be responsive
- 21 on the surface, but uno will still get a share
- of the schools that it deserves in the charters.
- 23 And the craziness of so many people,
- 24 Rahm Emanuel included, who find the schools that

- 1 are underutilized. What are some of the
- 2 underutilized classes, it would be the Lab
- 3 Schools (Applause), that's half the size of the
- 4 classrooms. It's going to be all of that.
- 5 I worked in a therapeutic day school at
- 6 Rush -- at Rush University Medical Center, five
- 7 kids in a classroom, special needs. They
- 8 weren't underutilized, they were finally getting
- 9 something that meant something to them. It
- 10 actually worked.
- 11 We always are giving too little, too
- 12 late, and then we will all sit here and say, I
- 13 know they're impassioned these parents, but as
- 14 they war with each other, the Stockton parents
- 15 with the Courtenay parents and all that, and
- 16 they get angry at each other, fine, we will
- 17 still get what we want and what we want is for
- 18 the decisions to be made by anybody but the
- 19 people closest.
- The decisions will never be made by the
- 21 parents, the decisions will never be made by the
- 22 teachers, and the decisions will never be made
- 23 by the students --
- 24 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Your time is up.

- 1 MR. PRESSER: -- the whole process indicates
- 2 that. Thanks.
- 3 MS. JONES: Good evening, my name is
- 4 Lois Jones, I am from Chicago Teachers Union,
- 5 I'm a field rep for Stewart -- not Stewart,
- 6 Stockton (Applause).
- 7 I'm very familiar -- well, I thought I
- 8 knew Courtenay, I'm sorry, because I knew them
- 9 during the strike. And I, also, talked to the
- 10 Network Chief on the day that these school
- 11 closings came out the next day, and I was
- 12 assured that not one student was going to be
- 13 affected negatively by any of these actions.
- 14 That's what the Network Chief told me.
- 15 Well, I learned definitely today
- 16 talking to the parents from Courtenay and I,
- 17 also -- well, I knew differently, anyway, from
- 18 Stockton parents because I had talked to
- 19 Stockton teachers.
- 20 So, anyway, that aside, I am
- 21 representing Courtenay here, also, from Chicago
- 22 Teachers Union. I have no referrals from
- 23 Stockton, no referrals from Courtenay, because
- 24 they know what good class sizes are. They are

- 1 less, not 28 maximum, and you have to wait until
- 2 you get to 56 to have another classroom, they
- 3 are 28, less than 28, there's 20.
- 4 Now, we've got two 1st graders -- two
- 5 1st grade classes at -- I'll talk to you, I
- 6 guess you have the power here, two 1st grade
- 7 classes at Stockton about 22, 23. We've got
- 8 another class over at Courtenay of 22, 23.
- 9 Both -- both schools are doing fine, I don't
- 10 care what your numbers say, I don't care what
- 11 the test scores say, both students -- all those
- 12 students are learning, all those students are
- 13 achieving, and they're all doing great.
- Now, there are not eight extra classes
- 15 at Stockton to accommodate Courtenay. There's
- 16 not there. There's three that are not being
- 17 used -- well, one is for recess, right, indoor
- 18 recess, the library was closed because, I don't
- 19 know --
- MR. DE LONGEAUX: Can you, please, conclude.
- MS. JONES: So, anyway, there's not room at
- 22 Stockton for Courtenay and Stockton together.
- 23 You're closing Courtenay, you're closing
- 24 Stockton, you're opening up another completely

- 1 different school, and you are effecting every
- 2 single student in that population.
- 3 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 4 MS. JONES: Don't do it.
- 5 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Now calling Diane Lyman,
- 6 Jesus Gonzalez, and Brenda Shiller.
- 7 MS. LYMAN: Good evening, my name is
- 8 Diane Lyman, I'm a parent of a kindergartner at
- 9 Courtenay. I don't have anything prepared, but
- 10 I just wanted to share my thoughts.
- We, too, applied to 20 schools and were
- 12 wait listed. Our neighborhood school's not bad,
- 13 it's becoming overcrowded because of it's
- 14 reputation, so all is not last. We went to
- 15 school there for the first month.
- 16 Somewhere near after the strike, we got
- 17 a call from Courtenay. We were really excited.
- 18 We went to tour the school. We weren't thrilled
- 19 by the building, I mean, it's a small building
- 20 and it needs a lot of work, but you can divide,
- 21 the energy is tangible, and we were completely
- 22 sold.
- 23 Sydney started through many tears
- 24 because she was nervous, but she started. And

- 1 on Day 2, she looked at us as a 5-year-old and
- 2 said, "This is much better." Those words to my
- 3 ears were just, I can't even tell you as a
- 4 parent.
- 5 Anyhow, in the bottom of the 9th inning
- 6 to hear when we weren't expecting for all the
- 7 things and all the reasons that we went to
- 8 Courtenay in the first place are being taken
- 9 from us it was beyond disappointing.
- 10 I'm angry, upset, and now we're at
- 11 Ground Zero once more, trying to figure out what
- 12 our next step will be. Thank you.
- 13 MR. GONZALEZ: My name is Jesus Gonzalez, we
- 14 have a 4-year-old boy who's going to Stockton
- 15 CPC (Applause).
- 16 And I can tell you -- I wasn't prepared
- 17 either, I can tell you that Stockton is a great
- 18 school. This is the first year my son is there,
- 19 he's actually started to read, doing math,
- 20 draw -- drawings that's amazing for a 4-year-old
- 21 boy. And what they tell me, Stockton is not
- 22 doing a good job, I cannot believe it. I have a
- 23 stepson who is doing great, also, at Stockton.
- 24 And, also, I wanted to -- I was

- 1 thinking this as I read the paper, do you
- 2 thought about the future of the neighborhood?
- 3 They said it was in the past 10 years it dropped
- 4 17 percent. I been in the neighborhood for the
- 5 past 20 years, and it keeps changing. What will
- 6 happen in the next five years, what if we have
- 7 more kids, is it going to be overpopulated
- 8 school Stockton? Is that being thought about
- 9 that, is anyone have thought? I don't think so.
- 10 I will -- I'm supporting Courtenay, they want to
- 11 keep their school (Applause), Stockton we want
- 12 to keep they're -- we're school, so we have to
- 13 unite all the parents in order for us to be
- 14 heard, we will must -- we will do. And we are
- 15 going for Courtenay and Stockton, not together,
- 16 they keep going their own way and we are -- the
- 17 future's our kids so we wanted the best future,
- 18 they're competing them globally today, not
- 19 between Stockton or Courtenay.
- 20 So, want kid -- my kid to have a great
- 21 school and I think that he has it right now, I
- 22 don't want any changes. Thank you.
- 23 MS. SHILLER: Hello, my name is
- 24 Brenda Shiller, I am a teacher in Chicago Public

- 1 Schools, I'm also a product of Chicago Public
- 2 Schools, and my children went to Chicago Public
- 3 Schools.
- 4 My oldest daughter when she graduated
- 5 elementary school went onto Lincoln Park IB, my
- 6 youngest daughter who is 14 -- I'm sorry, my
- 7 oldest went to Von Steuben IB, my youngest is
- 8 now at Lincoln Park IB. And she didn't go to
- 9 Courtenay, neither one of them, they went to
- 10 Stockton (Applause). So, they got their great
- 11 education at Stockton.
- 12 And I am all for the Courtenay model of
- 13 100 percent lottery if that works for them, but
- 14 that's not what works for us. And we don't
- 15 think that Courtenay School is a bad school, we
- 16 don't think it's better than Stockton or worse
- 17 than Stockton, but Courtenay works for
- 18 Courtenay's parents and Courtenay's students and
- 19 Stockton works for us in Uptown.
- 20 We like our school the way it is, our
- 21 kids like our schools the way it is, our parents
- 22 like our schools the way it is, both schools.
- 23 Please, don't ruin either of them.
- 24 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm calling Risa Hynes and

- 1 Derek Bridges -- Risa, sorry, Hynes.
- 2 MS. HYNES: I'm Risa Hynes and my child goes
- 3 to Courtenay.
- 4 I am, actually, for the last 12 years
- 5 Courtenay participant. I have a senior that now
- 6 is at a Military Academy, I have a sophomore who
- 7 came from Courtenay and is now at a charter
- 8 school. So, we've been to every school. It was
- 9 my choice to signup for a lottery school, not my
- 10 neighborhood. For a small school for my child
- 11 to go to. Now we've got a fourth one coming in
- 12 and I don't know where he's going to go.
- 13 At the same aspect, I was born and
- 14 raised in Uptown. That was my choice. I can
- 15 tell you everything about the neighborhood, I
- 16 sat in Stockton and I volunteered when I was
- 17 younger, at CLC also, and they're not either one
- 18 of them bad schools.
- 19 The neighborhoods are completely
- 20 different that be it because where the Mayor
- 21 lives or where the Mayor doesn't live
- 22 (Applause). But you're telling me now after no
- one knew about it, Courtenay's on the chopping
- 24 block and you guys used this big deal at

- 1 Courtenay telling me that we're going to get a
- 2 different facility, and we're going to move over
- 3 here, and Stockton's going to be dis-banished,
- 4 or whatever the case is, then you turn around
- 5 and tell Stockton that we're just moving in,
- 6 whatever it is to see all the children in
- 7 Stockton. Nobody knew this.
- 8 And as a parent, who is a product of
- 9 CPS, I don't have a great -- tell you that I --
- 10 no, I got kicked out of Senn High School, I'm
- 11 sorry, but it's not only the fact that you have
- 12 great teachers, you have great students, you
- 13 have great staff, I'm taking about the people in
- 14 the office to the maintenance crew, you got
- 15 great parents, the ones that are out here
- 16 actually giving a care. The rest of them, I
- 17 mean, that's the whole things.
- 18 So, if I want to stay at one school
- 19 because it was a lottery and Stockton's a
- 20 neighborhood school, then why would you force
- 21 the two together? That would be my main
- 22 concern. Thank you.
- 23 MR. BRIDGES: My name's Derek Bridges, I'm a
- 24 teacher at Stockton School.

- 1 I wasn't planning on speaking today,
- 2 I've been reprimanded for it in the past, so I
- 3 kind of know my place. But I was up here and I
- 4 was listening to all the Courtenay parents and
- 5 hearing what they had to say.
- 6 And, first of all, I feel like someone,
- 7 not us, owes you an apology. I thought you got
- 8 dragged into this because there was some obscure
- 9 promise to send students to a higher performing
- 10 school and they wanted to close Stockton is what
- 11 it came down to. So, they said, well, who can
- 12 we get that is higher performing? Well you've
- 13 heard here today all these parents that have
- 14 been on wait lists, involved in their school,
- 15 working hard to get into their school. I love
- 16 Stockton and I wish we had that sort of support
- 17 from every one of our parents.
- We have students that walk-in that --
- 19 my -- I have students in my 5th grade class,
- 20 they're responsible for making sure that their
- 21 kindergartner, 1st grade, 3rd grade siblings are
- 22 all up, ready for school every day, because
- 23 guess what, their mom, single mom, maybe at
- 24 work, may have been working until 2:00 o'clock

- 1 in the morning before, or, honestly, maybe
- 2 passed out somewhere that they don't know where
- 3 she is, but that creates a very different
- 4 environment.
- 5 Now they're saying that our staff is
- 6 failing these students. I understand that, you
- 7 know, that's all within our control, but they're
- 8 using that as an excuse to push out this staff,
- 9 bring in the Courtenay staff because they're
- 10 higher performing because of their parent
- 11 involvement.
- 12 And, you know, I do, I feel bad for you
- 13 guys because I really thought you were just kind
- 14 of as an afterthought who can we get to do this,
- 15 who can we get to move in that is higher
- 16 performing so that we can make this look like
- 17 it's okay on paper. And that's, basically, what
- 18 this whole thing has been is trying to make a
- 19 way to make it look okay on paper. The
- 20 populations are different. They're both great
- 21 schools with great people.
- But, really, one thing I wanted to say
- 23 is, I wasn't expecting the decisionmaker to be
- 24 here today, the bottom line is these schools

- 1 don't belong to you, I'm sorry. I know you've
- 2 been put (Applause) in this position by someone
- 3 that think's that they have great ideas, but
- 4 these don't belong to you. You're playing with
- 5 someone else's toys, don't break them.
- 6 MR. DE LONGEAUX: We have no more speaker on
- 7 the list. If anyone wants to sign.
- 8 (Whereupon, a discussion was had
- 9 off the record.)
- 10 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Excuse me, we have another
- 11 speaker here.
- 12 MS. GALICIA: Good evening, everyone. I
- 13 think that this meeting was made so that we can
- 14 support each other, so that the two schools can
- 15 stay open, and I think that we're just going
- 16 back and forth here, that one school is better
- 17 than the other school. If we want them both to
- 18 stay -- both schools to stay open, we have to
- 19 work together instead of going back and forth.
- That's the only thing that I wanted to
- 21 say, that we need to support one another, that
- 22 Courtenay needs to stay open, that Stockton
- 23 needs to stay open, that we need to support each
- 24 other together instead of going back and forth.

1	It makes sense that each of us are
2	going to say that our students are better. We
3	need to raise our voices so that we're
4	supporting each other. We need to support each
5	other. Thank you.
6	MR. DE LONGEAUX: Anybody else who wants to
7	signup?
8	(Off the record at 8:43 p.m.)
9	(Back on record at 8:54 p.m.)
10	MR. CAWLEY: I'm sorry, ladies and gentlemen,
11	just one more reminder, if you have any written
12	materials that you would like to go into the
13	record or into our note taker, please drop them
14	at this table over here, okay, thank you.
15	(Off the record at 8:55 p.m.)
16	(Back on record at 9:30 p.m.)
17	MR. CAWLEY: Thank you all for coming, it's
18	now 9:30, and we will conclude the meeting.
19	Have a nice evening and drive safely.
20	(Which were all the proceedings
21	had in the above cause this
22	date and time.)
23	
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1	STATE OF ILLINOIS)	
2) SS:	
3	COUNTY OF C O O K)	
4		
5	Sandra Di Vito, as an Officer of the	
6	Court, says that she is a shorthand reporter	
7	doing business in the State of Illinois; that	
8 .	she reported in shorthand the proceedings of	
9	said hearing, and that the foregoing is a true	
10	and correct transcript of her shorthand notes so	
11	taken as aforesaid, and contains the proceedings	
12	given at said hearing.	
13	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF: I have hereunto	
14	set my verified digital signature this 8th day	
15	of April, 2013.	
16	ecalled,	
17	Dandra DEVitor	
18	Illinois Certified Shorthand Reponsed	
19		
20		
21		
22		
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24		63
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Providing A Better Education For All Students Stockton Elementary and Courtenay Elementary

Pending Board approval of proposed closure

student at another school Current Stockton students will be enrolled at Courtenay Elementary for the 2013-14 school year, unless families choose to enroll their

existing Stockton school Courtenay Elementary (administration, teachers, staff, students) will be relocated to 4420 N. Beacon St., the building that houses the

Education cluster programs administered at Stockton will remain in the building, led by the Courtenay administration. Center located on the Stockton campus will continue to provide services for students but will be affiliated with Courtenay. The Special In other words, students from both schools will be in the Stockton building, led by the Courtenay administration. The Early Childhood

- Attendance area boundaries: Stockton's attendance area boundary will be assigned to Courtenay
- Enrollment options: Stockton and Courtenay families interested in enrolling their student at another school can apply via the re-opened Options for Knowledge process. Applications were provided in the transition packets sent home and can be obtained by emailing oae@cps.edu or calling (773) 553-2060. Applications need to be submitted by April 19th.
- Safety & Security: CPS Office of Safety & Security (OSS) is working on school-specific plans to address safety for all students. OSS continues to work in close collaboration with the Chicago Police Department (CPD) to plan Safe Passage. Close collaboration with CPD and families will continue through the start of the new school year to adjust plans as needed.
- Teachers: Many teachers will follow their students per a joint CPS-CTU agreement. If additional teachers are needed at Courtenay given an increase in enrollment, tenured teachers from Stockton can be assigned to these positions if they are rated in the top two performance Board votes to approve this action and after organizational and budgetary planning activities have concluded rating categories and a position is available in the area they teach. Eligible tenured teachers will be notified of these assignments if the
- LSC: If a school closes, the Local School Council is dissolved at the end of the school year. Per school code, Local School Council elections at all schools will be held in Spring 2014
- Partnerships: CPS will engage the Stockton and Courtenay communities and school leaders to enable the transfer of Stockton's external partnerships and programs

SCHOOPS
PUBLICAGE
CPS

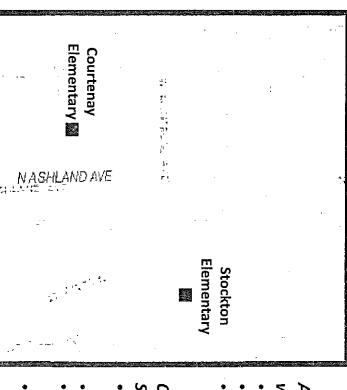
Providing A Better Education For All Students Stockton Elementary and Courtenay Elementary

empty buildings that are costly to maintain and repair, the District will redirect those funds for investments that parents, CTU and CPS agree children need to thrive, such as, air conditioning, a library, counseling and social work supports and technology and science upgrades. being cheated of the quality education they deserve because they are trapped in underresourced and underutilized schools. Rather than fund halfreceives a high-quality education that prepares them to succeed in college, career, and life. Right now, the reality is that too many of our children are As Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), Barbara Byrd-Bennett is committed to ensuring that every child in every neighborhood

Elementary. Courtenay Elementary will relocate to the current Stockton Elementary building. CPS proposes closing Stockton Elementary and welcoming those students at Courtenay

Stockton Elementary Why CPS recommends to close this school:

- Enrollment has declined by 17% in last 10 years (574 to 475)
- Building is less than half full



Courtenay Elementary As a welcoming school, Courtenay will offer:

- A Level 2 school
- A PreK program
- A school safety plan to provide a smooth and safe transition for all students

Courtenay will be relocated to the Stockton building, which will offer:

- Science and computer labs, library and playground
- Air conditioning in every classroom
- CPC at Stockton will continue to serve children and parents in the community
- \$14.6 million recent facility investment

series of supports will be provided so that our students have a safe and seamless transition to a higher performing academic environment at their welcoming school in fall 2013. Please call 311, City Services, with questions or visit cps.edu/qualityschools incorporates the feedback we received from more than 20,000 of you – parents across the city and community members in every neighborhood. A CPS has heard your concerns and after a thoughtful, rigorous engagement process, we have looked at every individual school and our decision



Providing A Better Education For All Students Stockton Elementary and Courtenay Elementary

Pending Board approval of proposed closure

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at all schools will be held in Spring 2014

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Providing A Better Education For All Students

Investments in All Welcoming Schools will Provide Children with a Quality, 21 $^{ m st}$ Century Education

Customized safety plan at every school, including:

- Safe Passage supports to provide safe routes for students traveling to and from school
- Additional security personnel inside each school
- Additional safety technology, such as, entry screening equipment

Facility and capital improvements

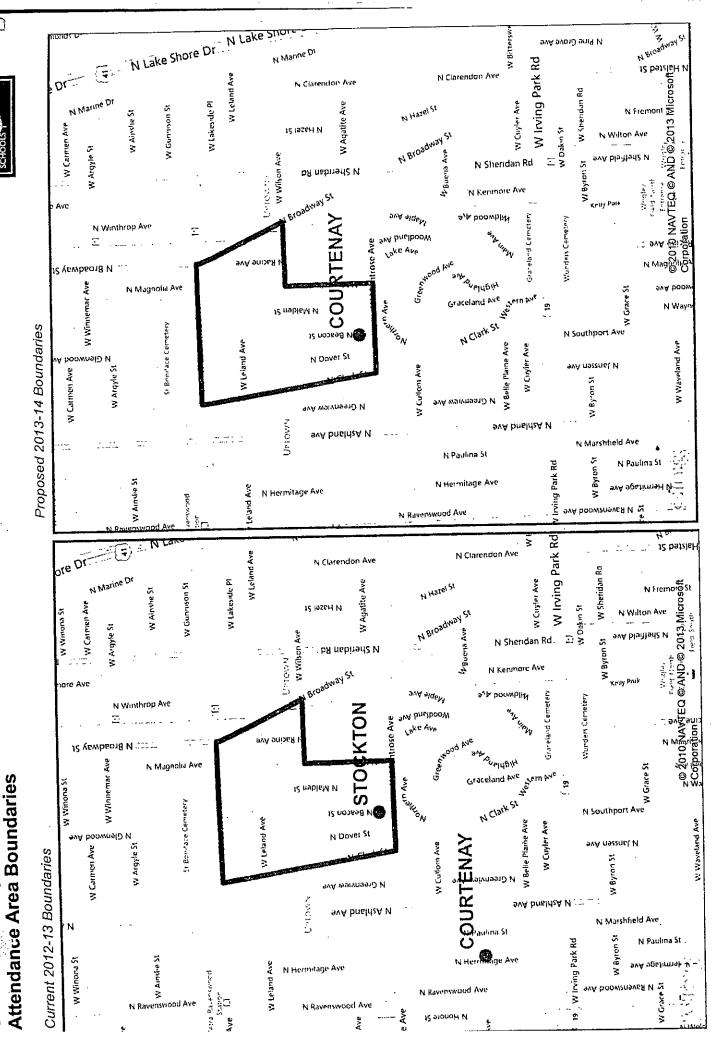
- Air conditioning in every classroom
- A library in every school
- New or upgraded technology supports, such as expanded Internet bandwidth
- iPads for all students in grades 3-8
- Improved ADA accessibility
- Upgraded school interiors and improvements such as fresh paint, new ceilings and floors

Academic and social emotional needs of students

- "Welcoming School Fund" for principals to choose programs and services to address academic, social emotional, and language needs of students, such as:
- Academic intervention programs
- Activities to bring together parents, staff and students of both schools to build a new school community
- o Lessons and small group interventions for students to build coping and conflict resolution skills
- Principal Transition Coordinators (former CPS principals) to support school leaders, faculty and students of closing and welcoming schools to create safe, seamless transition and build a new school culture

Specific transition supports will be provided for special student populations. For details, please contact the relevant department.

- For questions regarding students with disabilities, contact the Office of Diverse Learner Supports and Services, (773) 553-1800. odlss@cps.edu
- For questions regarding English Language Learners, contact the Department of Language and Cultural Education, (773) 553-1930
- For questions regarding students in temporary living situations, contact the STLS Department, (773) 553-2242





Current : 7 Proposed

I, like many other parents, love the city. We love its diversity and culture, not to mention its beaches. But to stay here parents also know that they must learn to love the schools around us. We must love them enough to invest our all to improve them and to maintain their high performance. Courtenay Language Arts is an example of a high performing school. It has been awarded the Academic Excellence and Academic Improvement Awards and has received notice as a spotlight school.

The secret to Courtenay is its 100% lottery system that encourages the support and involvement of parents. The proposal to change Courtenay into a neighborhood school and relocate it to Stockton's facilities does a disservice to Courtenay and Stockton communities.

Students deserve to be welcomed into a school whose current 100% lottery model has proven to excel at educating students from all backgrounds. There is NO precedent for relocating a high performing school while completely changing its fundamental model. There is, however, precedent for allowing a high performing school to expand its model. Disney II is currently in the planni stages of expanding its lottery-based model into a shared building.

Not only do students deserve to attend a school that can deliver on its promise of academic excellence, parents like me deserve to know that our efforts to improve the schools around us are not wasted but rewarded. Parents like me need to know our voices are heard, our voices are listened to, and our voices make a difference.

Listen to my voice and let me know I can make a difference: Courtenay Elementary must stay a 100% lottery school.

The current proposal before the board regarding the relocation of Courtenay school is insulting and disrespectful to parents in its design and how it has been communicated. Courtenay was not on the final list of school closures, and therefore Courtenay school stakeholders were not provided with a community forum as promised by the CPS CEO, CPS board and mayor Emmanuel. Over the Winter, CPS launched a 3 month community engagement process with over 20,000 community members over 30 public meetings. Courtenay school was not provided a single meeting and you denied me the opportunity to advocate for my child, my child's school and community.

I find this proposal completely disingenuous in its merit. While CPS communicates that Courtenay is merely relocating, it does not address the fact that the proposal is fundamentally changing the design all together by making Courtenay a neighborhood school. Courtenay had never been a neighborhood school, it has always been a school of neighborhoods. The small school, 100% lottery design that has made Courtenay successful, drawn families from all over the city and provided choice for parents and children will cease to exist.

CPS continues to lose enrollment of city schools to the suburbs and private schools because of terrible proposals like this. CPS has a responsibility to the families of this city to put forth proposals of excellence not mediocrity. If CPS is going to create upheaval in the lives of young people by closing or relocating their schools then they should do so with thoughtfulness, integrity and a goal of improved outcomes for children. In other neighborhoods, CPS has rallied communities around exciting programs like wall to wall IB, STEM focus and fine arts Magnet among others. Yet in the case of Courtenay, it seems as though the only idea was to strip away our successful model

and turn us into a neighborhood school. Perhaps if Courtenay and Stockton stakeholders had been brought to the table months ago, together, we could have crafted the type of proposal that our children deserve, one that we could all be proud of and one that we as parents demand. The Courtenay school community requests that you respond to the following questions:

 Why was no forum scheduled for the Courtenay school community to discuss impending school action and why are you proposing to remove the 100% lottery based enrollment policy, which decreases school choice for parents and fundamentally changes the nature of the Courtenay school design? My name is Vivian and I have that attend Courtenay School. I arrived in the country last year in February and I had lest the application taking with some principals personally or by email, but all of them keep saying me the same "you need to apply online" but I was not even in the country to do it!

No one could be able to help me, no one gave me any chance. I know we always have a spot in our neighborhood school but what happens with our "neighborhood school" does not meet the expectations we have for our children?

We always want the best for them My neighborhood school is Brennemann and it is not included in this "the best" option!

Finally, I got a spot on Courtenay because I have a 5th grade son. The way on had just my Kindergarten child, probably she would stay out of schoolwaking last year because I lost the application time once I was not in the list country.

Me, as so many other parents, have kids that are great students. My son is the best student of his class, has score are above the CPS average for his grade, for sure I want the best school, best environment and security for my children; an excellent school that helps my kids to learn more and more, to challenge them every day, that helps them to grow in their abilities and knowledge! For me, for us that what Courtenay is, as a 100% lottery school!

CPS says this changes will be better for all CPS families but how merging this great, high performance, 100% lottery school with a neighborhood school will result in a better school for our kids?

:

I was so happy at Courtenay that I just applied for one more magnet school last October, that is beside my home but the waiting list is long!

CPS now let us to reapply to new schools but all goods school are full, have no spot and long waiting lits. So, what do we supposed to do now?

At lease we need to have some priority in these schools we are reapplying for the solution of the waiting list of we didn't apply at the same time the other families applied because we were forced too! because we didn't know about this situation before!

So, what I want?

- I want a great school for my kids above all

- If am forced to attend the new Courtenay, at least we need to

ले रू keep our high performance school water as 100% lottery! or

- Or, I want priority in the schools we reapply now! for!

- And I wish CPS give us the chance of choose a good school now and not be only a "matter of luck" in the waiting list situation.

Thank you!



Community Meeting for the Proposal to Close Joseph Stockton Elementary and relocate Courtenay Elementary to 4220 N. Beacon St.

April 8, 2013; 7:30-9:30p.m. Location: Amundsen High School: 5100 N. Damen Avenue

CPS Facilitators:

Tim Cawley, Chief Administrative Officer Sebastian De Longeaux, Chief Procurement Officer

Also in Attendance:

Dr. Carlos Azcoitia, Member, Chicago Board of Education Craig Benes, Chief of Elementary Schools, Ravenswood Ridge Network Phil Salemi, Deputy Chief of Elementary Schools, Ravenswood Ridge Network Luis Garcia-Juarez, LocalSchool Council Relations

Brief Summary

The purpose of the meeting was to receive public comments on the proposal to close Stockton Elementary School and relocate Courtenay Elementary School to 4220 N. Beacon St., in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-230. CPS officials reviewed the proposed action. There were about 57 community members in attendance and 25 speakers. The speaker comments focused on a variety of topics including: maintaining Courtenay's 100% lottery status and concern over space at Stockton.

CPS Presentation

Tim Cawley, Chief Administrative Officer, welcomed those in attendance and introduced the meeting. He introduced the sign language interpreters and Spanish translators. He asked if anyone required Spanish translation. One attendee raised a hand, the translators moved to sit next to the person who had requested translation. Cawley then presented an overview of the proposal and reviewed the materials available to meeting attendees. Sebastian De Longeaux, Chief Procurement Officer then explained the meeting rules and procedures. The meeting was opened for public comment at about 7:45pm.

Public Comment

Catherine Humphreys, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Humphreys said that she loves the city and the culture and to stay she must also love the schools. She stated the proposal to change Courtenay to a neighborhood school is a disservice to Courtenay and Stockton students. She said all students should be welcomed into a 100% lottery model that serves them. She also stated that there is no precedent for relocating a high performing school while completely changing its model. She said parents need to know their voices are heard and listened to.

Wendy Auffant



Ms. Auffant said that the proposal is insulting and disrespectful to parents. She stated that Courtenay was not on the list of proposed closures and was not provided a community forum as promised by CPS. She said the proposal is not to merely relocate the school, but to fundamentally change the model by making Courtenay a neighborhood school. She said Courtenay was a school of neighborhoods. She said CPS loses enrollment to the suburbs because of proposals like this. She stated that CPS has the responsibility to put forward proposals with thoughtfulness, integrity and with the goal of improved outcomes for children.

Christine Clark, Parent of a Kindergarten Student at Courtenay

Ms. Clark spoke about the application and lottery process to enroll at Courtenay. She said she thought Courtenay was amazing because it was ranked 25th in all Chicago elementary schools and had 77% low income students. She said she was offered a space at Courtenay in July and took it. She said the Assistant Principal explained that there was no Principal. She said she was most offended when she received a packet that said Courtenay's administration was taking over. She said there is no Principal, just an Assistant Principal and one man in the office. She then said this is the first chance she has had to speak and that she did not know it was a four month process.

Joshua Keesecker, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Mr. Keesecker stated awards received by Courtenay including 2012 honor roll school, spotlight school, top 20% of performance in CPS and in 2010 Courtenay was ranked as the 25th elementary school in CPS. Mr. Keesecker said that Courtenay has a 100% lottery based system and that the model should not be abandoned. He said the north zone of Chicago is underserved by lottery schools. He said maintaining 100% lottery school is essential. He said he is excited to expand but the Courtenay model should not be changed. He said that Stone is the only lottery school north of Montrose to serve the densely populated Uptown, Edgewater, Rogers Park and Lincoln Square areas. Mr. Keesecker concluded his remarks in Spanish, loosely translated to: Maintain a 100% lottery school in Uptown for more students.

Theresa Fernandez, Parent of Two Students at Courtenay

Ms. Fernandez thinks that the merger of these two schools is a great idea. She said that Courtenay can survive. She said that if there are any Stockton parents in the audience, "welcome to Courtenay."

Debby Pope, Retired Teacher

Ms. Pope is a resident of Edgewater and employee of the Chicago Teachers Union. She said she was here to speak on behalf of Stockton. She said Uptown deserves a school that serves black, brown, white — any child who comes to the door. She said Stockton does not require a lottery application to find caring and compassionate educators to meet the needs of every child. She said that it was noted that the facilities at Stockton are much better, that there are computers and AC. She said that it was time all neighborhood schools have those facilities. She said Uptown gentrification is what diminished Stockton. She said there are a lot of people who do not have school aged children or who send their children to magnets because their children get into



magnet schools. She said this proposal is turning Stockton around, it is not closing Stockton. She said that CPS is saying to a bunch of staff that "you are worthless." She concluded by stating that CPS is bringing in staff because they know what is better for your children. She said "It's a bunch of crap."

Keti Tuthorn, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Tuthorn is a Courtenay parent. She said after listening to people speaking that there appears to be two very different cultures. She said they both love and want to defend their schools. She said we keep hearing that this has been going on for four months that 20,000 people participated, yet she was informed about this proposal the 21st of March. She said Courtenay was not on the list that came out on February 13th. She said it came out of the blue and that Courtenay's first meeting was after the March 31st deadline. She said it was deceitful for CPS to say this was predicated on community feedback. She said the proposal should be invalidated because the community did not have a voice. She said Courtenay is not underperforming or underutilized. She said they are full with 200+ on the waiting list. She said that if Courtenay is being moved all of it has to move, that the model has to move. She said to expand the model and allow all children to participate.

Vivian Assumpaco, Parent of Two Students at Courtenay

Ms. Assumpaco arrived in the country in February of last year and that her 5th grader and then Kindergartner were admitted to Courtenay through waitlists. She said Brennemann is her neighborhood school and it is not an option for her. She said that Courtenay is the best environment for her children. She said Courtenay challenges them every day. She asked how merging a 100% lottery school will create a better education for all students. She said all good schools are full and that there are waiting lists. She said she wants priority in schools she is applying to now. She said that she wants to keep a high performing, 100% lottery school or she wants a chance to reapply.

Diane Horwitz, PhD

Ms. Horowitz has a PhD in education, with a focus on curriculum and instruction. She said she is from a network of over 100 education professors and researchers in the City that has written a research brief that argues there should be a moratorium on school closings. She said that both Courtenay and Stockton value small class size and that both have 30% special education populations, with many children in self-contained classrooms. She said small class size is in jeopardy and that Stockton should not be punished for doing right by students. She said it is not only unwise but unconscionable. She said there are three rooms at Stockton not being used for other purposes and asked how all of Courtenay would fit. She said it doesn't add up.

Claudia Pesenti, Stockton Chicago Teachers Union Delegate

Ms. Pesenti is the CTU delegate at Stockton and has taught at CPS for 27 years. She said her students are not test scores that they have "survived Sudan and Somalia and the CPS Board of Education." She said that Stockton has a computer lab, library and playground but they are not financed with the latest and greatest technology because Stockton spent money on smaller class



sizes. She said there are students who are English Language Learners, Special Education students, homeless students and students who travel from Englewood to Stockton. She said that to her knowledge, a Board member has not walked through or in front of the CPC (child parent center) where someone had previously been shot. She also said that a 13-year old was shot on Halloween eve. She said that students will not be sold out for air conditioning or an iPad or anything else they deserve. She demanded Stockton to stay open. She said we welcome our students so we don't need a welcoming school.

Christine Clancy, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms Clancy spoke on behalf of another parent who could not attend due to a death in the family. She said this family laid down roots at this little school and wonderful community and that their daughter is safe and cared about. She said they never thought the school would be fundamentally changed and that they are heartsick. She said that parents are up in arms because the school did not meet the criteria to be closed that they were not given an opportunity to advocate. She said she came to insist that this gem of a school be relocated and maintained as 100% lottery. She said neighborhood schools are wonderful but that is not the model we chose. She said they had found their place in CPS and don't want the successful model to be taken away.

Brooke Gard, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Gard explained that the process of researching, applying and being accepted to schools in Chicago took months. She said her family was thrilled to be accepted at Courtenay and they have been very happy. She said the plan is illogical and confusing. She said that the community was not given time to process and speak about the proposal and to come up with other ideas. She asked what part of Courtenay was being relocated. She said that no one chose Courtenay for the amenities that are being offered at Stockton. She said this proposal is not the way to expand the model.

Steven Serikaku, Stockton Graduate and CPS Retiree

Mr. Serikaku has fine memories of Stockton. He said that he is disappointed in CPS and that whoever thought up the plan did not do a good job. He said that the action did not make sense because Courtenay does not have a Principal, the schools have two different cultures and Stockton has English Language Leaners and Special Education cluster programs. He asked why CPS was proposing this action. He said that CPS is hurting real people. He said that the City and CPS are treating students, teachers and communities like they are interchangeable parts. He urged the Board of Education to reconsider the proposal.

Karen Zaccor, Community Member

Ms. Zaccor lives a block from Stockton, her daughter graduated from Stockton and she taught at Stockton. She said don't close Stockton; don't close Courtenay; don't close any school. She said that the Board of Education lied when it stated in materials that its proposals incorporated feedback from 20,000 people. She said it did not because 20,000 people said "don't close our schools." She said that the materials discuss welcoming schools and that some Stockton parents



were told they would have to reapply and do not feel very welcome. She said that she is concerned that it is taking school closings to provide customized safety plans.

Marc Kaplan, Local School Council at Uplift High School

Mr. Kaplan's son went to Stockton and is now a biology teacher at Von Steuben High School. He said that of the 20,000 people who spoke at community meetings he did not hear one person say we support closing schools. He said none of the Courtenay parents were there because they didn't think their school was affected. He thinks parents from all impacted schools need to work together to make sure schools do not close. He said he proposes that attendees figure out next steps after this community meeting. He said we can have the quality schools we need.

Tim Furman, Community Member

Mr. Furman lives in Rogers Park. He is a resident, tax payer, voter and American. He said he wants to address elected officials and in the case of the CPS Board of Education, in any other community, Board members would be voted for and be held accountable to voters. He said to please tell Barbara Byrd Bennett that not everyone "got it" at the community meetings and that he thinks she is living in a fog. He said he thinks she is waging war on these communities. He said that people will be on the streets on the 27th to save the schools of Uptown, to save the schools in all of the communities.

Miriam Socoloff, CPS Teacher

Ms. Socoloff was a CPS teacher for 34 years. She said that she is an arts educator, a Golden Apple winner and a Presidential Recognition winner (President Barack Obama). She said she sent her children to CPS schools and they were admitted to some of the most selective colleges in the country. She said that CPS has heard from 20,000 distraught teachers, parents, and children to keep their schools open. She said people are communicating that these proposals are wrong. She said the proposals drive people to the suburbs and undermines confidence in the schools. She said it is child abuse. She said the pay-off would be an iPad, an iPad to carry through unsafe neighborhoods to homes without wi-fi and that perhaps they could go to libraries, except that library hours were cut. She said that CPS has not heard anyone. She said CPS has an agenda of privatization and corporate reform. She asked Board Member Azcoitia to be a dissenting vote.

Michael Presser, Community Member

Mr. Presser has two children that attended CPS. He said that CPS already has the answer in their minds. He said that CPS will listen and be kind on the surface but then give UNO a share of schools. He said that the Lab School is one of the great underutilized schools in the City. He said he taught at a therapeutic school with 5 students per classroom and that those students received something that was meaningful for them. He said that he wants the decisions to be made by people who are the closest to the situation. He said decisions are never made by parents, teachers or students.

Lois Jones, Chicago Teachers Union Field Representative for Stewart and Stockton



Ms. Jones said that she spoke with the Network Chief after announcements were made and was assured that not one student would be negatively affected by the actions. She said she is the class size coordinator for the CTU and has never received a referral from Courtenay or from Stockton. She said that she does not care about what numbers or test scores say. She said there are 3 rooms not being used at Stockton and does not know how 8 classrooms from Courtenay will fit. She said there is not room at Stockton and that the proposal is closing Courtenay, closing Stockton and opening a completely different school.

Diane Lyman, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Lyman said that like others, she applied to 20 schools and was waitlisted. She said her neighborhood school is not bad, but is becoming overcrowded because of its reputation. She said the energy at Courtenay is tangible and that after her second day at school her daughter said that it was much better for her. She said she is beyond disappointed, beyond angry and upset trying to figure out what her next step will be.

Jesus Gonzalez, Parent of a Student at the Stockton Child Parent Center (CPC)

Mr. Gonzalez said that Stockton is a great school. His son can read, do math and completes drawings that are amazing for a 4 year old. He said he has lived in the neighborhood for 20 years and that it keeps changing. He asked what will happen over the next 5 years. He asked if the school will become overpopulated. He said he is supporting Courtenay – they want to keep their school and he said Stockton wants to keep their school. He said the students should not be competing Courtenay vs. Stockton but competing globally. He said he wants his child to have a great school and he thinks he has it.

Brenda Shiller, CPS Teacher

Ms. Shiller works for CPS, her children attend CPS schools and she is a product of CPS. She said her children went to Stockton and one is at Von Steuben and the other at Lincoln Park IB. She said they received a great education at Stockton. She said she does not think Courtenay is bad, or better or worse than Stockton. She said Courtenay works for Courtenay parents and students and that Stockton works for Uptown.

Risa Hynes, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Hynes lives in Uptown and believes that the neighborhoods around Courtenay and Stockton are very different and that the Mayor lives in one and not the other. She stated that if Courtenay gets a better facility then Stockton is diminished. She said she wants to stay at a school that is lottery and asked why CPS would force them together.

Derek Bridges, Teacher at Stockton

Mr. Bridges feels that someone owes Courtenay parents an apology because they were pulled into the action because Stockton students needed a higher performing school to attend. He said that all of the Courtenay parents mentioned waitlists and said that he wished he had that support from all parents at Stockton. He said he has 5th grade students who care for their siblings for a number of different reasons. He said Courtenay performs higher because of parent involvement.



He said they are both great schools with great people. He concluded by stating, "you're playing with someone else's toys, don't break them."

Maria Galicia

Ms. Galicia thinks this meeting shows that parents should support one another. She said people are going back and forth that one school is better than the other. She said if parents want them both to stay open, parents have to work together. She said that parents needed to raise their voices and support one another.

There was no public comment from 8:43pm to 9:30pm.

At 9:30p.m. the meeting was adjourned and Tim Cawley thanked all attendees for coming.

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

For the Proposed Closure of Stockton Elementary

(Sending) and Courtenay Elementary

(Welcoming at 4420 North Beacon Street)

Public Hearing

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had in the above-entitled matter held on April 11th, 2013, at Amundsen High School, Chicago, Illinois, commencing at 7:30 p.m., and concluding at 9:30 p.m.

CPS STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

MR. TIM CAWLEY - Presenter,

Chief Administrative Officer

MR. SEBASTIEN DE LONGEAUX - Facilitator,

Chief Procurement Officer

ALSO PRESENT:

MR. CRAIG BENES - Chief of Schools

- Ravenswood Ridge Network

MR. PHIL SALEMI - Deputy Chief of Schools

- Ravenswood Ridge Network

Reported By: Sandra Di Vito, CSR

License No.: 084-004642

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1	SPEAKERS	
2		
3	* Ms. Natasia Lopez	17
4	Ms. Cassandra Vickas	20
5	Mr. Gene DeRamos	22
6	* Mr. John Humpherys	24
7	* Ms. Melanie Bienemann	26
8	Ms. Cynthia Heywood	29
9	* Ms. Mila Cohen	31
10	Ms. Megan Cusick	35
11	Ms. Kandalyn Hahn	36
12	Ms. Stacy Walker	39
13	* Mr. Alonzo Rivas	40
14	* Ms. Lindsay Annunzio	42
15	Ms. Corinna Chou	44
16	Mr. Brad Reed	46
17	Mr. John Tuggle	49
18	Ms. Lavera Lee	53
19	* Mr. Malisa Rakanovic	54
20	Ms. Keti Tuthorn	56
21	Ms. Kerry Martin	59
22	Ms. Christine Clark	61
23	* Student SP	65
24	* Ms. Romana Puente	66 2

1	SPEAKERS CONTINUED		
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3	Ms. Tamiye Meehan	67	
4	Mr. Patrick Lyman	69	
5	Ms. Brooke Gard	71	
6	Ms. Taryn Kurth	74	
7	Mr. Jesus Gonzalez	76	
8	Mr. Derek Bridges	77	
9	Ms. Maria Galicia	80	
10	Mr. Pete Winninger	82	
11	* Ms. Melanie Bienemann	84	
12	Ms. Symantha Lancaster	85	
13	Ms. Keti Tuthorn	88	
14	* Ms. Malisa Rakanovic	90	
15	* Ms. Claudia Pesenti	92	
16	* Ms. Melanie Bienemann	95	
17	Alderman Marc Kaplan	96	
18	* Ms. Melanie Bienemann	97	
19			
20			
21			
22	* - Submitted hard copy testimony		
23			
24			3

1	(Whereupon, the following
2	proceedings commenced at
3	7:30 p.m.:)
4	MR. CAWLEY: Let us begin the meeting
5	tonight. First of all, thank you, very much,
6	for coming out this evening to be with us and to
7	tell us what you think about the action that
8	we're proposing.
9	My name is Tim Cawley, I'm the
10	Chief Administrative Officer for Chicago
11	Public Schools, and with me up here is
12	Sebastien De Longeaux, our Chief Procurement
13	Officer. I'd, also, like to introduce you this
14	evening to our Network School Chief,
15	Craig Benes, and his Deputy, Phil Salemi. And
16	with us, also, is the principal at Courtenay
17	School, Dr. Joanne Percel.
18	And, importantly, we have with
19	us from the Chicago Police Department
20	Commander Voulgaris from the 19th District.
21	Since the safety of our children is so
22	important, we've worked very closely with the
23	police on developing safety plans and the
24	Commander's presence here tonight think is

- 1 evidence of that great partnership.
- 2 Tonight is the second community meeting
- 3 to hear your input regarding the -- the closure
- 4 of the Stockton Elementary School and the
- 5 receiving school being Courtenay and the
- 6 relocation of Courtenay into the Stockton
- 7 building. The -- we met on Monday night, some
- 8 of you were here that evening as well. And
- 9 following tonight, there will be one more
- 10 opportunity for community input and that is at a
- 11 public hearing on April 16th, down at our
- 12 offices at 125 South Clark, and that will be at
- 13 8:00 p.m.
- 14 And these three meetings are the
- 15 culmination of a four-month process whereby
- 16 Dr. Byrd-Bennett and the Board have sought input
- 17 from communities throughout Chicago about our
- 18 proposal to consolidate schools, because we feel
- 19 that the input from the community is so
- 20 important in guiding our decisions. And, so,
- 21 the process has now, actually, led to us hearing
- from over 20,000 of Chicagoans about the changes
- 23 that are being proposed.
- 24 The -- the forum of tonight is very

- 1 similar to the first meeting, and that is we'll
- 2 have a handout that has some information for
- 3 you, and then our goal is to hear from you.
- 4 This is not a question-and-answer period, and I
- 5 know that can be frustrating to some people, but
- 6 it's very difficult for us to have all the right
- 7 people to answer all of your questions at every
- 8 one of these meetings. So, instead, we have
- 9 information on the handout on where you can ask
- 10 questions. Any questions that you ask tonight
- 11 will be posted on the website with responses,
- 12 and other questions can be asked on those
- 13 websites or in the phone numbers that are listed
- 14 there and we will be sure that everybody gets an
- 15 answer to their question.
- 16 So, we -- in fact, the questions that
- 17 were asked at the first meeting and other
- 18 meetings around the city are -- will be posted
- 19 on the website in the next couple of days.
- 20 It'll take us a few days to get them all posted,
- 21 but you'll be able to find them at the website
- 22 that's at the bottom of your handout.
- 23 Meeting summaries will, also, be
- 24 captured there. As you can see, we have a court

- 1 reporter who's capturing every single word
- 2 that's said tonight, as well as a note taker
- 3 who's summarizing the meeting, the questions,
- 4 the key comments, and all of that will be
- 5 shared, the transcripts and the summaries will
- 6 be shared with Dr. Byrd-Bennett and the Board,
- 7 and the summaries will all be posted online so
- 8 that everybody can see what is happening at this
- 9 and every other meeting that's going on around
- 10 the city.
- 11 Now, one of the things that we've heard
- 12 in the meetings that have taken place already,
- 13 we started this process in this round on Monday,
- 14 but what we're hearing, there continues to be a
- 15 lot of concern about safety. And, so, I want to
- 16 reiterate some of the things that are in your
- 17 handout, but make a very clear point to reassure
- 18 people on safety.
- 19 First of all, each and every one of our
- 20 welcoming schools will receive support in a
- 21 program we call Safe Passage where community
- 22 workers line a route that many of the children
- 23 will travel to the school to make sure that they
- 24 have a safe route to school, a safe passage to

- 1 and from school. These routes are -- routes are
- 2 planned with the Chicago Police Department. And
- 3 once we get their input, we'll be coming to the
- 4 communities and with the LSC and parent groups,
- 5 sitting down to make sure we've got this right.
- 6 So, there will be time for parent input into the
- 7 safe passage routes to be sure that we're doing
- 8 this the right way.
- 9 Secondly, every welcoming school, in
- 10 this case, Courtenay in the Stockton building,
- 11 will be receiving extra security. So, the
- 12 original Stockton security will stay in the
- 13 building because they know the kids and we want
- 14 to have additional security there in addition to
- 15 the Courtenay security staff. So, there will be
- 16 additional personnel in the school.
- 17 Third, every school will receive
- 18 upgraded technical supports like alarms, and
- 19 making sure that the entry cameras work, and the
- 20 entry doors all are functional. So, we're going
- 21 to make sure that the infrastructure is sound
- 22 from a security standpoint.
- Fourth, beyond the safe passage route
- 24 input, we're going to have other community

- 1 hearings on any safety issues that you think are
- 2 relevant. So, we're going to have an
- 3 opportunity for parents and community members to
- 4 weigh in on that.
- 5 And, then, finally, in addition to the
- 6 Police Department, we're, actually, working with
- 7 Streets and San, CTA, and the Department of
- 8 Buildings to identify other things that might be
- 9 on the path for -- of our students on their way
- 10 to school on the way now to the Stockton
- 11 building, Courtenay and the Stockton building,
- 12 that might be on the way that are uninviting or
- 13 suggest a lack of safety. So, we're working to
- 14 make sure that the -- the -- the routes are
- 15 safe, are clean, and are something that are
- 16 comforting to families and students as opposed
- 17 to make them feel threatened.
- 18 Now, the -- the various safety actions
- 19 are described in this handout, but there's a lot
- 20 more in it, so I'd like to take a few minutes to
- 21 take you through this. And this is the exact
- 22 same handout that was provided at the first
- 23 meeting. So, you should have it, it looks like
- 24 there, it's two pages stapled together with

- 1 printing on both sides.
- 2 On the first page, you'll see a map in
- 3 the middle that shows Stockton and Courtenay,
- 4 and on the left you see the -- why we believe
- 5 that Stockton needs to close, it's
- 6 underutilized, the building is less than half
- 7 full.
- 8 As a welcoming school, Courtenay will
- 9 offer a better school, a better opportunity for
- 10 the students of Stockton, and, also, a Pre-K
- 11 program, and we'll make sure that there's a
- 12 safety plan, as I'd mentioned.
- 13 When Courtenay's located in there, the
- 14 combined building, obviously, we're going to
- 15 make sure that it's got updated science and
- 16 computer labs, library, and a playground,
- 17 air-conditioning in every classroom, and the
- 18 Child-Parent Center at Stockton will continue to
- 19 serve parents and the community. And that's
- 20 something that not every school has, as you all
- 21 know.
- The Stockton building is quite a
- 23 facility. We've invested almost \$15,000,000 in
- 24 recent years in Stockton and it will receive

- 1 additional investment this summer in preparation
- 2 for the combination of Courtenay and Stockton.
- 3 If you go to the back of the first
- 4 page, the second page in the handout, it has the
- 5 details of what's being proposed with the
- 6 current Stockton students being enrolled at
- 7 Courtenay unless the families choose to enroll
- 8 their students elsewhere, and there's some
- 9 options down below on what they could do for
- 10 that, Courtenay students, obviously, will still
- 11 stay in the school of Courtenay but they'll be
- 12 relocated to the building that currently houses
- 13 Stockton. So, both schools will be together
- 14 under the Courtenay administration in the
- 15 Stockton building. And, then, the Stockton
- 16 attendance boundaries will be assigned to
- 17 Courtenay.
- For enrollment options for parents who
- 19 would like something other than this, we've got
- 20 details in the second bullet underneath the box
- 21 that show what to do, we're reopening the
- 22 process for the Options For Knowledge Program,
- 23 and it has the details for that and the deadline
- 24 of April 19th. Other schools are, also,

- 1 available and parents can choose to apply at
- 2 other schools outside of the Options For
- 3 Knowledge Program.
- 4 I've talked a lot about safety and
- 5 security already. From a teachers' standpoint,
- 6 there's an agreement that, whenever possible, we
- 7 will have the teachers follow the students to
- 8 the new school. So, Stockton teachers who are
- 9 displaced will have an opportunity as extra
- 10 positions are needed for the combined enrollment
- 11 to stay as part of the faculty at the combined
- 12 Courtenay-Stockton School. The LSC for Stockton
- 13 will be dissolved and the Courtenay LSC will be
- 14 the LSC for the combined school. And, then,
- 15 finally, any partnerships that Stockton and
- 16 Courtenay have will be the community will work
- 17 together to try to retain those with
- 18 community-based organizations and others.
- 19 On the third page of the handout, it's
- 20 a summary of the things that we're doing to make
- 21 our welcoming schools a positive, nurturing
- 22 place for students, and whenever possible, to
- 23 create the kind of spark when students return on
- 24 August 26th that makes them excited about being

- 1 in the new school.
- 2 So, we're investing in facility and
- 3 program improvements, we are upgrading the
- 4 technology and providing iPads that will be
- 5 incorporated into the curriculum for all 3rd
- 6 through 8th graders to help those kids move into
- 7 a real 21st Century learning environment. We'll
- 8 look at the walls and the ceilings throughout
- 9 the Stockton building to try and identify what
- 10 they need to have that fresh look when the
- 11 students return.
- 12 And between now and then, we'll be
- 13 investing in social emotional supports for
- 14 students at both schools. Going through a
- 15 change like this can be challenging, and we
- 16 recognize that. And, so, the two principals are
- 17 working together with additional supports to
- 18 help students understand this change, understand
- 19 what's been proposed, understand the process
- 20 that we're going through to recommend this to
- 21 the Board for the May 22nd vote, and then,
- 22 ultimately, depending on the outcome of that, to
- 23 help them through that process.
- 24 And we have retired CPS principals who

- 1 are serving as principal transition coordinators
- 2 to support both principals, so that they as the
- 3 principals can get that extra help they need to
- 4 manage the change on top of their current
- 5 responsibilities of managing everything else
- 6 that's going on in the school.
- 7 Now, some students have special needs,
- 8 and we recognize that, and in this case, we know
- 9 there's a number of students who will need extra
- 10 care during the transition. And, so, at the
- 11 bottom of that third page in the box, you can
- 12 see that there are phone numbers and e-mail
- 13 addresses for resources that will help with
- 14 those transitions for students with disabilities
- 15 or special learning needs, for English Language
- 16 Learners, for students in temporary living
- 17 situations. And each one of those students will
- 18 receive a customized plan to help them through
- 19 this transition which we acknowledge can be
- 20 challenging for them.
- 21 Finally, on the back of the handout are
- 22 the maps showing in a little bit more detail
- 23 Stockton and Courtenay. And in this situation,
- 24 because the attendance boundaries for what's

- 1 currently Stockton will just go to the combined
- 2 school, the map doesn't change very much except
- 3 that the new school will be called Courtenay in
- 4 the -- in the Stockton building.
- And by the way, on what the school will
- 6 be called, that's another question we often get.
- 7 It really is up to the LSC to decide what the
- 8 new school will be called.
- 9 So, with that, this is an important
- 10 resource for all of you. We've tried to pack as
- 11 much into a short handout as we can. There are
- 12 plenty of people standing by to answer your
- 13 questions as in -- within the district to make
- 14 sure this transition goes smoothly.
- So, with that, I'd like to hand it over
- 16 to Sebastien De Longeaux who will walk you
- 17 through the process for your input tonight and
- 18 explain how we will go through this. And I know.
- 19 we already have a number of speakers lined up,
- 20 so we'll get to that very quickly.
- 21 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Good evening. So, my name
- 22 is Sebastien De Longeaux, and I'm the Chief
- 23 Procurement Officer for CPS, and I will be your
- 24 facilitator for tonight.

- 1 As Tim mentioned, the purpose of this
- 2 meeting is really to listen from you regarding
- 3 the proposed school actions. So, please, note
- 4 that there is both a court reporter who is here,
- 5 Sandra, and a note keeper -- a note taker,
- 6 sorry, Katie, to record all of your comments
- 7 that will be reviewed by the CEO and the School
- 8 Board.
- 9 Because we want to provide everyone who
- 10 has signed up an opportunity to speak, each
- 11 speaker will be given 2 minutes to share his or
- 12 her thoughts. We have a timekeeper, Derrick,
- 13 sitting here who will be holding up timecards
- 14 that will show each speaker how much time they
- 15 have remaining.
- 16 If anyone has a written speech or other
- 17 testimony materials you would like the CEO or
- 18 the School Board to review, please, leave copies
- 19 of these documents with the court reporter so
- 20 that they can be part of the permanent record.
- 21 The speaker signups will remain open
- 22 throughout the meeting and -- but -- and you
- 23 must signup if you want to speak, you cannot
- 24 just showup. Please, go outside, signup if you

- 1 want to speak, and somebody can signup multiple
- 2 times if we have time.
- 3 Please note that the comment period
- 4 will last until the scheduled end time of the
- 5 meeting which is 9:30 p.m., and will not go
- 6 beyond due to the closing of this facility.
- As a reminder, this is a second of
- 8 three meetings before Board vote, the first one
- 9 took place on Monday, April 8th. In addition to
- 10 this one, we have a public hearing at CPS
- 11 Central Office on Tuesday, April 16th, from 8:00
- 12 to 10:00 p.m.
- Now, at this time, I would like to ask
- 14 that the first three speakers to, please,
- 15 line-up at the microphone. So, I'm calling
- 16 Speaker No. 1, Natasia Lopez, Speaker No. 2,
- 17 Cassandra Vickas, and Speaker No. 3,
- 18 Gene DeRamos, to, please, come up. Can you,
- 19 please, state your affiliation to the school and
- 20 your name.
- 21 MS. LOPEZ: My name is Natasia Lopez, and I
- 22 have two children currently enrolled at
- 23 Courtenay Elementary School.
- Okay. I chose to send my children to

- 1 Courtenay because of the negative experience we
- 2 had with our neighborhood school. Although the
- 3 neighborhood school has some of the amenities
- 4 Courtenay is lacking and is under the guide of
- 5 Principal Sandra Carlson, a former teacher from
- 6 Hawthorne, it's still a failing school and it's
- 7 failing its students.
- 8 With overpacked classrooms, some
- 9 holding as many as 37 students, my son struggled
- 10 to hear his teacher. When see-through mesh
- 11 backpacks we issued to all grades, I worried for
- 12 my son's safety.
- 13 Time and time again, we read and hear
- 14 that reduced class sizes in early grades are one
- 15 of the few educational strategies proven to
- 16 increase learning and narrow the achievement gap
- 17 between ethnic and racial groups. My son is a
- 18 testimony to this. He went from being an
- 19 underperforming student during his kindergarten
- 20 year to a 2nd grader that is outperforming his
- 21 peers. This happened because of Courtenay
- 22 School.
- 23 As a single Hispanic mother raising
- 24 three boys, I have little options when it comes

- 1 to their education. And I know all too well
- 2 what the odds -- that the odds are against us.
- 3 Magnet schools gives families like mine
- 4 who are unable to move to better school
- 5 districts a chance at an equal opportunity for
- 6 our children.
- 7 I am speaking today because I am
- 8 against the CPS proposal and I will not tolerate
- 9 CPS turning Courtenay into a neighborhood
- 10 school. I have made sacrifices, spending \$150 a
- 11 week taking my children to and from school
- 12 ensuring they receive the best education
- 13 possible. The efforts I have been making may
- 14 end up being fruitless. We are now at the mercy
- 15 of a failing budget plan.
- 16 Studies done by the U.S. Department of
- 17 Education have proven that students from poor
- 18 and minority backgrounds experience two times
- 19 the performance improvement than the average
- 20 student in a small class setting. This merge
- 21 will have negative effects on both Stockton and
- 22 Courtenay students considering their
- 23 demographics. It is unfair to overburden
- 24 Stockton with more students. It's unfair and

- 1 unbelievable the way CPS has classified --
- 2 that's it?
- 3 MR. DE LONGEAUX: No, you still have --
- 4 MS. LOPEZ: Okay. Normal class sizes as
- 5 underutilized. A good education for our
- 6 children is a right that parents should not have
- 7 to stand here and fight for today. Families
- 8 should not have to live in fear that their
- 9 school could be the next to shutdown. In an
- 10 increasingly scary world that our children are
- 11 growing up in, they need stability in knowing
- 12 that the grownups and their schools are here to
- 13 protect them.
- 14 How does the City of Chicago plan to
- 15 keep gang violence and crime rates down? How do
- 16 they expect to break the cycle?
- 17 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Finish your sentence.
- 18 MS. LOPEZ: How can we have a succeeding
- 19 school system when they are closing the doors on
- 20 opportunities that all our children and families
- 21 are counting on.
- 22 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 23 MS. VICKAS: Hello, my name's
- 24 Cassandra Vickas, I have two children at

- 1 Courtenay.
- 2 And I have, actually, come to say that
- 3 I do not think that is a bad plan. This is a
- 4 good plan only because CPS is in a budget crisis
- 5 and they are planning on closing schools,
- 6 anyway. I have known for a long time that
- 7 Courtenay was on a list and could possibly be
- 8 closed.
- 9 The two schools are very close
- 10 together, they have similar populations even
- 11 though the demographics are different, but
- 12 Courtenay's never had the facilities and I think
- 13 our children getting this opportunity to have
- 14 the facilities and to take our good school model
- and absorb and help the Stockton children and to
- 16 make their school even better relies solely on
- 17 us as parents, teachers, administrators, and
- 18 students. The building doesn't make the school,
- 19 the people make the school. And this is the
- 20 kind of a challenge that we can expect.
- 21 My only reservation is that I would
- 22 like to hold CPS accountable and make sure that
- 23 they support us. Because if you're asking us to
- 24 make this sacrifice and asking us to take this

- 1 challenge, we cannot be left hanging. Both
- 2 schools, their students, the administration, the
- 3 LSC, we need to be able to provide for all these
- 4 children. We don't want to hear that there's a
- 5 transition fund, we want to see it. We don't
- 6 want to hear that the textbooks will be there,
- 7 we want them there the day school starts.
- 8 What we need if we're going to do this
- 9 is your support. Thank you.
- 10 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 11 MR. DERAMOS: Hi, my name is Gene DeRamos,
- 12 I'm a parent at Courtenay, we have one child
- 13 there.
- 14 I rise in favor of the proposal as it
- 15 stands as well, though, I must tell you my wife
- 16 and I came to this conclusion with some level of
- 17 anxiety. The reason being, of course, is that
- 18 we're tremendously satisfied with our current
- 19 circumstance. We feel we're in a first-class
- 20 academic institution, we, also, feel we're in
- 21 one where our child feels safe and doesn't have
- 22 to concern himself with aggressive or bullying
- 23 behavior from his peers. We want to see that
- 24 preserved and we're concerned about it.

- 1 And my words to Mr. Benes is that
- 2 whatever -- whatever coming out of this
- 3 resulting entity has to have the same thing. It
- 4 has to have the ability to be a one class school
- 5 in the near term, our kids need to feel safe,
- 6 and I don't mean so much walking to school
- 7 because, quite frankly, I'm an Uptown resident,
- 8 and the area of Uptown where this school is
- 9 located is about as safe as the area where
- 10 Courtenay's located (Applause). If you look at
- 11 the stats, they're very, very similar.
- 12 Courtenay's not all about talent, but the area
- 13 where the school is is extraordinarily safe.
- 14 So, I don't see that as a particular concern.
- 15 One thing I do want to -- to say,
- 16 though, is, I think there's great potential
- 17 here, great potential, but there's, also, great
- 18 risk. And having seen the "synergies" that come
- 19 out of mergers, it can be very lucid and those
- 20 synergies don't materialize unless they're made
- 21 to happen. I think that's going to take a
- 22 strong effort on the Courtenay community as well
- 23 as the Stockton community. But I think a
- 24 third-party has to be involved, and as I've said

- 1 to Craig Benes, I think there has to be a formal
- 2 level of accountability at the Network level so
- 3 that we have an equal partner in this and the
- 4 Network is just as invested in the success of
- 5 enterprise as we are. I think if those
- 6 conditions are there, we could have a stellar,
- 7 stellar situation.
- Thank you, so much.
- 9 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you. I'm now calling
- 10 Speaker No. 4, John Humpherys, Speaker No. 5,
- 11 Melanie Bienemann, and No. 6, Cynthia Heywood.
- 12 Can you, please, state your affiliation with the
- 13 school.
- MR. HUMPHERYS: My name's John Humpherys, I'm
- 15 an attorney and a parent of a Courtenay student.
- 16 The Courtenay parents I know are,
- 17 generally, supportive of the -- the proposal's
- 18 goals to create more efficient schools and
- 19 educational opportunities for strong families.
- 20 We want success as much as you do and but we see
- 21 two significant impediments to your success:
- The first is practical. Making
- 23 Stockton and Courtenay a neighborhood school
- 24 means that after the Courtenay students graduate

- 1 and leave, the students that come -- all the
- 2 students will come from the Stockton boundaries,
- 3 boundaries that currently don't send enough kids
- 4 to Stockton to fully utilize the school. Ir
- 5 eight years, Stockton will be right back to
- 6 where it is today underutilized but with a new
- 7 name, although, we learned tonight, that might
- 8 not even be the case, the name might change.
- 9 This means that the Board will -- CPS will not
- 10 accomplish its goal for utilization and
- 11 efficiency. My question is to, please, tell me
- 12 how Stockton's building will not be
- 13 underutilized in eight years.
- 14 The second is legal. The CPS's
- 15 proposal calls Courtenay a, "Welcoming School,"
- 16 but in reality, closing Courtenay -- it closes
- 17 Courtenay without granting us our procedural
- 18 rights. If the Courtenay-Stockton transition
- 19 goes through, Courtenay ceases to be Courtenay,
- 20 it loses the building it's been in for decades,
- 21 it becomes a neighborhood school and loses it's
- 22 lottery-based model and its students move to a
- 23 lower performing school, and maybe its name, so
- 24 it's gone. All the while depriving us of the

- 1 process and benefits granted to schools proposed
- 2 for closure, because we were not a due to close
- 3 school and notified that we were going to be
- 4 closed.
- 5 Any legal scrutiny will see through the
- 6 CPS's semantic jujitsu to not come right out and
- 7 say that they are closing Courtenay. But the
- 8 Board can't say that because Courtenay in no way
- 9 fits with the -- the CPS model for closure, it's
- 10 academically high-performing and it's not
- 11 underutilized, it's the opposite of that.
- 12 We have viable solutions to these
- 13 impediments: That is keep Courtenay a
- 14 lottery-based school wherever it is located.
- 15 Thank you.
- 16 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 17 MS. BIENEMANN: Hi, I'm Melanie Bienemann,
- 18 and I'm a proud parent of JB of CPS Courtenay
- 19 Elementary Language Arts Center.
- 20 Courtenay is a Level 2 school by CPS
- 21 standards. It only went to a 2 ranking from a 1
- 22 ranking during the reconfiguration of the school
- 23 levels. By my standards, it's the best CPS
- 24 school my daughter has ever attended.

- 1 As a Level 2 school, Courtenay is not
- 2 on the list of closing schools, however, what
- 3 you're proposing, essentially, does close
- 4 Courtenay. The only thing left will be its name
- 5 and teachers, and maybe not the name now.
- 6 Courtenay has great teachers, but the
- 7 teachers need a good leadership and support to
- 8 remain great. Courtenay is currently a small
- 9 school with 100 percent lottery -- open
- 10 enrollment lottery and no neighborhood
- 11 boundaries. The parents embrace the diversity
- 12 and choose -- chose Courtenay for their
- 13 children.
- 14 It's essential that Courtenay remain
- 15 100 percent lottery -- lottery to be successful.
- 16 And there's just too many transitions occurring
- in a short period of time for Courtenay to
- 18 remain successful when you're combining two
- 19 schools, doubling or tripling the size, hiring a
- 20 new principal on a rushed fashion. There's no
- 21 way to maintain its integrity and its scores
- 22 with all these transitions at one time.
- I work at Lurie Children's Hospital.
- 24 We planned for, like, five years for the move.

- 1 They made procedural changes for, like,
- 2 three years in advance. Six months before and
- 3 after the move, no administrators were allowed
- 4 to make any procedural changes.
- 5 My daughter's in kindergarten, that
- 6 doesn't mean I don't know my way around CPS. I
- 7 studied CPS schools for two years to prepare for
- 8 J's enrollment because J deserves the best. She
- 9 was a self-taught reader at 3-and-a-half and she
- 10 has an amazing memory. She's had no -- she had
- 11 no problems at daycare up until that point. She
- 12 had a few transition problems with us at home,
- 13 but she had a very rough preschool start at age
- 14 4. She was expelled from her first preschool
- 15 class in CPS in the first semester. And the
- 16 second semester, the neighborhood school said
- 17 they couldn't deal with J in a classroom with
- 18 one teacher with 28 children.
- 19 But Courtenay loves J, the
- 20 administrators love her, she's doing wonderful,
- 21 everybody loves her, she knows her 1st grade
- 22 teacher, she knows her 2nd grade teacher, she
- 23 already knows those people, she's prepared to
- 24 move forward with those teachers.

- 1 With this transition, I don't know
- 2 what's going to happen to her. There's going to
- 3 be so many transitions in a short period of
- 4 time. We deserve to keep the Courtenay model
- 5 intact as much as possible so that teachers and
- 6 students are allowed to do their best work.
- 7 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 8 MR. CAWLEY: I want to clarify my comment
- 9 since it's been brought up several times. The
- 10 only way the Courtenay name will change is if
- 11 the Courtenay LSC chooses to change it. That is
- 12 the only body that will choose to change the
- 13 name. So, nobody else can come in and do that,
- 14 don't feel like it's on the Board. That is the
- only body that has the power to change the name.
- 16 I just want to be very clear about that, okay?
- 17 MS. HEYWOOD: My name is Cynthia Heywood, and
- 18 I'm a teacher at Courtenay, and, also, an LSC
- 19 member.
- 20 I am here to read a statement that was
- 21 written by Courtenay teachers, actually, to the
- 22 Stockton community, the Stockton teachers, and
- 23 then I have a few personal comments.
- 24 "Dear Stockton teachers, in light of

- 1 the proposed situation and after feedback from
- 2 April 8th's community meeting, we, the Courtenay
- 3 teachers, feel it is important for you to know
- 4 our thoughts and feelings.
- 5 In the event that our schools merge, we
- 6 want you to know that we hold your staff in high
- 7 regard. We know that there are great teachers
- 8 at Stockton. This proposed merger will be very
- 9 difficult without you. And we will look forward
- 10 to working together for the good of our new
- 11 school. Our goal is to make the new school the
- 12 best school it can be, and that is that it is
- 13 structured to meet the needs of all our future
- 14 students.
- We, like you, value high-quality
- 16 teaching and small class sizes. We plan to find
- 17 an administration that values that as well. We
- 18 look forward to meeting and working with you in
- 19 the near future.
- 20 Sincerely, the Courtenay teachers."
- 21 On a personal note, Courtenay's only
- 22 been a lottery school for two years, and that
- 23 was a strategy to keep us open because our
- 24 enrollment has been small as long as I've been

- 1 at Courtenay. Previously, we took everyone who
- 2 walked through the door. We had high
- 3 expectations for every student. The students
- 4 worked hard, we worked hard, and our scores went
- 5 up. That had nothing to do with the building or
- 6 the lottery.
- 7 A school is not the building, a school
- 8 is the community, and we believe that we can be
- 9 a community with the people who are currently at
- 10 Stockton. Thank you.
- 11 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm now calling speaker
- 12 No. 7, Mila Cohen, Speaker No. 8, Megan Cusick,
- 13 and Speaker No. 9, Kandalyn Hahn.
- MS. COHEN: Hi, I'm Mila Cohen, I'm the
- 15 mother of a special needs student at Courtenay.
- 16 I have a daughter in second grade in special
- 17 education at Courtenay.
- 18 I strongly oppose this proposal and how
- 19 it was presented. The Mayor says the time for
- 20 negotiation is over, yet this is ironic since
- 21 there was no negotiation as far as I could see.
- 22 There's no dialogue and, certainly, no
- 23 transparency.
- 24 Courtenay was never on any closing list

- 1 and why should it be. An Illinois Spotlight
- 2 School, it's in the top 25 schools and Chicago
- 3 Magazine selected it as the second most
- 4 promising school in Chicago. And it
- 5 accomplished this with a high percentage of low
- 6 income students. The only reason it's not
- 7 concerned Level 1 is because there wasn't
- 8 significant movement above already high scores.
- 9 By this logic, CPS would downgrade Harvard for
- 10 not improving every year, too (Applause).
- 11 CPS calls this a relocation and
- 12 Courtenay a welcoming school, but these are just
- 13 euphemisms. By changing its size and its
- 14 enrollment policy, CPS is destroying everything
- 15 that makes Courtenay Courtenay. Courtenay
- 16 should be a model of how to run other schools in
- 17 the system, not punished for its success. In a
- 18 system with few choices, and a Mayor and CEO who
- 19 tout school choice, CPS is reducing choice by
- 20 eliminating a proven school, with involved
- 21 parents dedicated to their children's education.
- 22 As far as I can see it, the only
- 23 rational explanation for this proposal is that
- 24 Courtenay has the misfortune to sit on a piece

- 1 of real estate attractive to developers.
- 2 Rational, but not ethical (Applause). Taking
- 3 two well-utilized, functioning schools and
- 4 cramming them together until they're busting at
- 5 the seams, selling public land, and then
- 6 inviting charter schools into the area, even
- 7 Margaret Thatcher would be impressed by the
- 8 audacity of CPS (Applause).
- 9 Charter schools take my property tax
- 10 dollars but won't serve my daughter because
- 11 children with special needs are not profitable.
- 12 Both Stockton, where my daughter attended
- 13 preschool, and Courtenay serve these populations
- 14 and serve them well.
- With these schools, the myth of
- 16 underutilization is based on the apparent
- 17 inability of CPS to perform basic arithmetic,
- 18 ignoring the small class sizes mandated by the
- 19 State for special needs students.
- 20 My daughter is safe and happy at
- 21 Courtenay. It's a small school, the staff know
- 22 her name, and the students are kind to those
- 23 with differences. A larger school, a more
- 24 crowded school, and a change in environment

- 1 would be harmful to her and all children with
- 2 special needs.
- I imagine you're not hearing from as
- 4 many special needs parents as are furious
- 5 because, frankly, parenting children with
- 6 developmental differences takes a lot of time
- 7 and energy. We already have to fight with CPS
- 8 to fulfill the requirements of our children's
- 9 IEPs. To us, this is further evidence of CPS
- 10 not caring about our children. Society is
- 11 judged on how it treats its most vulnerable
- 12 populations. With this action, CPS is in
- 13 flagrant violation of the social contract.
- 14 Finally, my son is entering
- 15 kindergarten next year. Transforming Courtenay
- 16 into a neighborhood school slams the door shut
- 17 on sibling preference. Having my children
- 18 attend two or, eventually, three different
- 19 schools is ludicrous and a hardship, like this
- 20 entire proposal.
- Thank you.
- 22 MR. CAWLEY: Excuse me, could you put the
- 23 written comment over there.
- 24 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Calling Megan Cusick.

- 1 MS. CUSICK: Good evening, I'm a CPS parent,
- 2 but, I'm, also, a member of a neighborhood
- 3 school organization in Rogers Park, and we are,
- 4 also, a member organization of North Side Save
- 5 Our Schools.
- 6 I wanted to speak, specifically, to
- 7 some procedural concerns and I had no intention
- 8 to speak until, Mr. Cawley, you spoke at the
- 9 earlier meeting and I wanted to address some
- 10 specific concerns that I think the community
- 11 has.
- 12 There is a large turnout here for this
- 13 meeting, there was not for the earlier meeting,
- 14 and you commented on that. And I think it's
- 15 important to acknowledge the fact that our Mayor
- 16 has said in the press that the time for
- 17 negotiating is over and he has shut the door on
- 18 parents, and community members, and children
- 19 (Applause), and that makes this process a sham.
- 20 My other concern is that we're talking
- 21 about stability and doing this in the best way
- 22 for children. You have a few months to do this.
- 23 And we know that kids need more stability than
- 24 that.

- 1 And, Mr. Cawley, you got a two-year
- 2 reprieve for moving to Chicago because your
- 3 daughter (Applause) needed stability in her
- 4 schooling. So, I know you appreciate what these
- 5 children need as well. And what's good enough
- 6 for your child should be good enough for the
- 7 children of this -- these communities as well.
- 8 And my last comment is, you had
- 9 mentioned that you are in partnership with the
- 10 Chicago Police, and I absolutely commend the
- 11 Chicago Police for stepping up, they've got a
- 12 very difficult job to do because this is going
- 13 to wreak havoc on communities, however, your
- 14 partnership should be with the parents, the
- 15 teachers, and the students (Applause). The
- 16 partnership needs to be with parents, teachers,
- 17 and students. Thank you.
- 18 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Can you, please, hold your
- 19 applause during the speech so the Courtenay
- 20 reporter can really hear what is being said and
- 21 report it accordingly.
- 22 MS. HAHN: I'm a Courtenay parent. I spent
- 23 over four years looking at schools for my son.
- 24 I toured over three dozen CPS schools, maybe

- 1 more, I lost count.
- 2 When I saw Courtenay, I knew I was
- 3 seeing something special. It was a small
- 4 school, there were small classrooms, and there
- 5 were low numbers. This was more than just a
- 6 nicety for my son. My child has special needs.
- 7 And in a room with too much noise, movement, and
- 8 activity, he can't think much less learn.
- 9 The numbers in classrooms at Courtenay
- 10 can only continue to be this way because of a
- 11 lottery admissions process. Even before the
- 12 lottery status, the parents I've met were making
- 13 an active choice to enroll their children at the
- 14 school. These parents cared enough to drive out
- 15 of their -- out of their neighborhood to a
- 16 school they felt was better for their kids.
- 17 Administrators and concerned parents
- 18 reflected in the scores seen at Courtenay with
- 19 the challenges that can sometimes come with the
- 20 school that has 72 percent low income students.
- 21 These parents consciously chose to go to a
- 22 school without the bells and whistles of a big
- 23 facility. No auditorium, separate gym,
- 24 full-time arts, music, or other specials

- 1 teachers. They went in spite of this because
- 2 the teachers, the teachers who have chosen
- 3 Courtenay, many of them for much of their
- 4 career, because of the culture that they've
- 5 created, these parents chose Courtenay.
- 6 Courtenay teachers are committed to a
- 7 positive behavior model like no other school
- 8 I've seen. Teachers weave a positive behavior
- 9 model into their everyday teaching, really truly
- 10 school-wide and not just lip service. Just ask
- 11 my son about the rewards he works for. The
- 12 teachers can do this because they weren't
- 13 overwhelmed by classrooms that were too big.
- 14 We turned down a spot for my son at a
- 15 gifted kindergarten program. We turned down a
- 16 spot for my son at Agassiz, a school with a
- 17 four-language program, a theatric drama program,
- 18 and a fully loaded building. We did this
- 19 because we knew what was important, that my kid,
- 20 and I believe for these other parents, their
- 21 kids were the focus at Courtenay and would be
- 22 supported to learn.
- 23 To turn Courtenay into a neighborhood
- 24 school without lottery admissions to control

- 1 size would be to lose what made it special, what
- 2 brought me and other parents who saw what made
- 3 it special there. If you don't want
- 4 twice-gifted kids like mine, committed active
- 5 parents like myself and the others I have met,
- 6 takeaway Courtenay's lottery status.
- 7 We'll do what we have to for our kids,
- 8 for our own kids, and CPS may lose us for good.
- 9 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 10 I'm now calling Speaker No. 10,
- 11 Stacy Walker, No. 11, Alonzo Rivas, and No. 12,
- 12 Lindsay Annunzio.
- MS. WALKER: Hi, I'm Stacy Walker, my kids
- 14 attend Courtenay School.
- 15 I propose that they go to -- I mean,
- 16 that we go to Stockton because our kids deserve
- 17 a better facility and -- oh, I'm sorry, that our
- 18 kids go there for the better facility and our
- 19 teachers go there to help the students and we're
- 20 going there to embrace Stockton, not to turn
- 21 them away, not to turn away what they don't
- 22 have. Two hands are better than one, so it's
- 23 better that we go to that school to help those
- 24 children perform at a higher level -- higher

- 1 level because they said no child left behind.
- 2 And why should we not go there because of things
- 3 that are not going right to leave children
- 4 behind. Every child deserves a better
- 5 education. And if we can do that to them, then
- 6 we're just throwing away our future and our
- 7 children are supposed to be our futures.
- 8 That's it.
- 9 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 10 MR. RIVAS: Good evening, my name is
- 11 Alonzo Rivas, I am a parent of a student at
- 12 Courtenay Elementary.
- 13 My wife and I chose Courtenay
- 14 Elementary for our daughter over other schools
- 15 that were arguably better, because we
- 16 immediately recognized the value of this
- 17 educational model, it's diversity, and how the
- 18 administration and the staff were welcoming and
- 19 fostered parental involvement in their
- 20 children's education.
- 21 For the past month, I have been
- 22 following the debate over the relocation of our
- 23 stool to the building currently occupied by
- 24 Stockton Elementary and the merger of both

- 1 student populations. It is my opinion that this
- 2 plan does not benefit either Courtenay or the
- 3 Stockton students.
- 4 First, I do not believe that the
- 5 District is going to be able to keep lower class
- 6 sizes, a hallmark to both schools, by merging
- 7 Stockton and Courtenay student populations as it
- 8 has been representing. It is especially true
- 9 given the fact that both schools have sizable
- 10 special education populations, both about
- 11 30 percent, which necessarily and by law require
- 12 lower class sizes.
- 13 Secondly, while the District has
- 14 started -- has stated that only Stockton
- 15 Elementary is closing and Courtenay will become
- 16 the welcoming school, your plan, in effect, is
- 17 closing both schools. Courtenay, as we know it,
- 18 will cease to exist because it will become a
- 19 neighborhood school and a neighborhood where
- 20 most, if not all, of our current students and
- 21 families do not have any ties.
- 22 The Stockton children and their
- 23 families, on the other hand, will suffer because
- 24 the administration, many of the staff at their

- 1 current school that they have known over the
- 2 years will be replaced with a new administration
- 3 and staff that is unfamiliar with their
- 4 community.
- 5 For these reasons, I am opposed to the
- 6 merger of Courtenay and Stockton and support the
- 7 movement for keeping the current Courtenay model
- 8 which has proven to be highly successful over
- 9 the years and to keep it as a 100 percent
- 10 lottery school. Thank you.
- 11 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- MS. ANNUNZIO: Hi, my name is
- 13 Lindsay Annunzio, I'm a middle school science
- 14 teacher at Courtenay School, I'm, also, one of
- 15 the LSC Teacher Chairs.
- 16 I wasn't here on Monday, but I feel
- 17 after hearing what happened that Courtenay's
- 18 culture was misrepresented and I hope the few
- 19 points I make tonight will show you what I mean.
- 20 Courtenay School has a long history of
- 21 educating all children. In fact, Courtenay
- 22 School was one of the first in the district to
- 23 include the model. To this day, educating those
- 24 with special needs is one of our highest

- 1 priorities.
- 2 Back in the '90s, Courtenay was the
- 3 first school in CPS to educate HIV positive
- 4 children. When those children succeeded at
- 5 Courtenay, HIV positive children were then able
- 6 to attend other schools within CPS.
- 7 The lottery is something that is new to
- 8 Courtenay. Up until two -- up until two years
- 9 ago there was one requirement, you walked
- 10 through the door. And we, the teachers, loved,
- 11 nurtured, and every child -- and educated every
- 12 child that did. And even though we weren't a
- 13 lottery school, at the time, we still achieved
- 14 high scores.
- To the Stockton community, please know
- 16 that if this merger does take place, your
- 17 children, parents, and teachers will be welcome.
- 18 As a teacher, I plan on doing what I've been
- 19 doing for the past seven years, and that's to do
- 20 my part to provide a high-quality education to
- 21 all my students no matter the building. I'm
- 22 good at what I do and I'm going to continue
- 23 being good at what I do whether I teach
- 24 Courtenay students, Stockton students, anyone.

- 1 Thank you.
- 2 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 3 MR. CAWLEY: I would like to mention that
- 4 Alderman Kaplan has joined us.
- 5 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I would like to now call
- 6 Speaker No. 13, Corinna Chou, No. 14, Brad Reed,
- 7 and No. 15, Larren Tuggle.
- 8 MS. CHOU: Hi, I'm a Courtenay parent as
- 9 well, I have two students in the upper grades.
- 10 And a lot of us upper grade parents
- 11 heard quite a bit of commotion after the meeting
- 12 on Monday. I think many of us, pretty much,
- 13 thought it was done and were really invested in
- 14 getting a solid transition plan in place,
- 15 because we all know how important that is.
- 16 I have two high-performing students,
- 17 we've been with Courtenay since we walked in, it
- 18 wasn't a lottery school, I don't even know if it
- 19 is, at this point, in the upper grades.
- 20 One of the things that I find
- 21 disturbing and one of the other things I'd like
- 22 to point out, I, also, live in Uptown, I know
- 23 the Uptown community, inside and out, I know the
- 24 Stockton area, and I don't really like the

- 1 attacks that I've heard on the neighborhood at
- 2 all. Because it, also, makes me a bad parent.
- 3 Why am I choosing to live in Uptown? I choose
- 4 to live in Uptown for the diversity and I
- 5 definitely know that the neighborhood has
- 6 phenomenal potential with our new Alderman and,
- 7 quite frankly, with the community. It's an
- 8 extremely diverse and very integrated community.
- 9 One of the things that I think a lot of us upper
- 10 grade parents believe, and I don't speak for all
- 11 of Courtenay, I don't think anybody can speak
- 12 for all of Courtenay, and I'm vehemently against
- 13 people that do.
- 14 One other thing that I would like to
- 15 say and we've talked to Benes about, we adore
- 16 our teachers, we have phenomenal leadership, we
- 17 have phenomenal teachers, we have great parents,
- 18 and I'm sure Stockton has the same. When my
- 19 teachers and that I have faith in and my
- 20 leadership tells me that this is going to be
- 21 challenging but that we're -- the glass is half
- 22 full and we're going to make the best of it and
- 23 we're all going to work together to make this
- 24 new school a phenomenal school, then I have

- 1 faith in my -- in my teachers and my
- 2 administration, and in the parents that I've
- 3 worked with for so many years.
- 4 And I think a lot of us as parents have
- 5 said before, we would like to see the investment
- 6 from CPS, you know, we're willing to come in
- 7 during the summer, we want to build community,
- 8 we want to have training, we want to get this
- 9 moving forward, and all of these meetings are
- 10 just holding us up, at this point, to get our
- 11 transition class -- plan in place. I have kids
- 12 that will need to, potentially, go to a new
- 13 building and I don't want them to walk into a
- 14 hostile environment, I want them to walk into
- 15 the best possible place.
- 16 So, thank you, very much.
- 17 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 18 MR. REED: Good evening, my name is
- 19 Brad Reed, I have a child at Courtenay.
- 20 And I appreciate the opportunity to
- 21 speak tonight, and I'm especially thankful for
- 22 all the Courtenay parents who wanted to be here
- 23 but couldn't and have entrusted their confidence
- 24 in myself as well as the other speakers tonight

- 1 to deliver a community message.
- 2 It's important to know and understand
- 3 that majority of us Courtenay parents are very
- 4 concerned over the new merger as well as whether
- 5 or not Courtenay will be able to maintain their
- 6 enrollment policy of 100 percent boundary
- 7 without neighborhood boundaries.
- 8 These concerns are not limited only to
- 9 a select few parents in a certain grade, rather,
- 10 they're representative of numerous parents of
- 11 Courtenay spread over all grades. We have
- 12 collected over 130 petition signatures which
- 13 represents greater than 50 percent of
- 14 currently -- of Courtenay enrollment.
- As a parent -- as parents of Courtenay.
- 16 many of us are concerned over the following:
- 17 The actions of an -- of an initial scheduled
- 18 forum for the Courtenay School community to
- 19 discuss the impending school actions. There was
- 20 never an opportunity to do this. You presented
- 21 the entire plan tonight, three pages that
- 22 summarizes the plan with very little parent
- 23 input. In addition, this could have, also,
- 24 served as a venue to make other suggestions or

- 1 discuss options towards improving such as STEM
- 2 magnet or IB program.
- 3 Secondly, why Courtenay is the only
- 4 school involved in the citywide action proposals
- 5 that incorporates a change to enrollment policy.
- 6 The merge proposal suggests moving Courtenay --
- 7 moving the Courtenay model but changing this 100
- 8 percent lottery -- changing the 100 percent
- 9 enrollment to both lottery and neighborhood.
- 10 In summary, as parents of Courtenay,
- 11 many of us want the following: Remove Courtenay
- 12 from the proposed action due to the Courtenay
- 13 School not meeting the criteria to be closed
- 14 combined with the actions of a federal forum to
- 15 discuss this action.
- 16 For those that say Courtenay is not
- 17 closing, it's relocating, I would comment that
- 18 the changes in the proposal fundamentally change
- 19 the nature of the Courtenay School resulting in
- 20 school closure, not relocation.
- 21 It's unethical to call Courtenay School
- 22 the welcoming school when Courtenay will absorb
- 23 the Stockton building, the Stockton community,
- 24 and the neighborhood school enrollment model.

- Secondly, if the merger must happen,
- 2 and it, you know, looks like it will, then
- 3 expand 100 percent of the Courtenay model to
- 4 include -- to include both current school
- 5 enrollments and maintain Courtenay's lottery
- 6 enrollment policy without neighborhood
- 7 boundaries.
- 8 This model is proven and effective.
- 9 Courtenay is most successful as a school of
- 10 neighborhoods, not a neighborhood school.
- 11 MR. CAWLEY: If somebody does have their
- 12 written comments, it would be great if you could
- 13 give them over to the court reporter to make
- 14 sure that we capture your comments in full.
- MR. TUGGLE: Good evening, my name is
- 16 John Tuggle, proud father of Q, he is a
- 17 Courtenay student. Thank you for that,
- 18 appreciate it.
- 19 You know, I stayed up all night trying
- 20 to write semantic jujitsu and I didn't think of
- 21 it in time, so now I've lost that opportunity to
- 22 say, but I wanted to say that out loud because
- 23 it was great.
- I am a teacher, 13 year teacher with

- 1 CPS, so I was going to write a speech, but like
- 2 many of my colleagues, I've been working on
- 3 grades for the last three days and trying to get
- 4 caught up and get everything in, so you're just
- 5 going to have to hear a little bit of rambling,
- 6 I apologize.
- 7 I want to talk, specifically, to this
- 8 idea of what I think is a timeline. So, my son,
- 9 Q, was accepted into Peirce, and then later we
- 10 heard from Courtenay, and -- and -- and we had
- 11 friends at Peirce, we looked at Peirce, but
- 12 Courtenay just really sounded like a special
- 13 place. So, like many of the parents, we chose
- 14 to go there.
- So, we passed on the Peirce
- 16 opportunity, which, you know, we haven't
- 17 regretted a moment of, it's been a really
- 18 special kindergarten year for them. So, that
- 19 was in March, when they had lottery in December,
- 20 and as I understand, in March we made the
- 21 announcement then about this -- the -- the
- 22 schools being consolidated, and then we were
- 23 told that if we wanted to, we could fill out the
- 24 secondary lottery thing, which, great, we did

- 1 that, and what I noticed when I filled out the
- 2 second lottery chance, there's a lot of schools
- 3 missing from that now.
- 4 So, what I'm wondering is where's the
- 5 due process? I heard that used earlier tonight,
- 6 you know, criminals get due process, I'm
- 7 wondering if teachers, and students, and parents
- 8 get that same (Applause). There's no clapping,
- 9 you heard that now.
- 10 So, that's my big concern, I mean, you
- 11 know, is we love parent involvement and if a
- 12 teacher and school can have very well parent
- 13 involvement, I'm really excited that no matter
- 14 which side people are on, people are here and
- 15 fired up about this and I -- and I think it says
- 16 a lot about the students and the school.
- 17 You know, we've been promised, you
- 18 know, this opportunity to be sort of what
- 19 they're calling higher-functioning schools, but,
- 20 again, that -- I've heard that promise before,
- 21 it was under that, "No Child Left Behind," where
- 22 they said everybody could go and that didn't
- 23 really happen, so unless there's really a way
- 24 for that to happen, it's sort of like saying I'm

- 1 going to pass a law that says everybody has to
- 2 be happy, it's a little hard to enforce I think.
- I just want to say very quickly in my
- 4 last 15 seconds, the notion of stability came
- 5 up, and like my colleague who's, also, a
- 6 teacher, I'm pretty good at what I do, I mean,
- 7 I -- you know, I'm a Golden Apple finalist, I'm
- 8 a Schwabb finalist, but, also, the school, and
- 9 I've been there 13 years, that has had five
- 10 different administrations in the last two years,
- 11 okay, five administrations in two years, we're,
- 12 also, (c) Grant recipients, and we're on the
- 13 third figuration of people running that. Let me
- 14 tell you, I can work 90 hours a week, and
- 15 sometimes I do, but given those sorts of moments
- 16 of chaos, it's pretty hard to do your job that
- 17 well.
- 18 So, I really -- if I'm saying anything,
- 19 it's a vote for stability. I know my times up,
- 20 but I thank you all for listening to us and I
- 21 appreciate it.
- 22 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 23 Speaker No. 16, Lavera Lee, 17,
- 24 Anne Cuddy, and 18, Malisa Rakanovic.

- 1 MS. LEE: Hi, my name is Lavera Lee, and I'm
- 2 the current LSC Chair of Stockton School.
- 3 My biggest concern and it really hasn't
- 4 been answered about special needs children, you
- 5 know, we have student enrollment at Stockton
- 6 those -- and I know some of the parents here who
- 7 have special needs children that are really
- 8 concerned about that.
- 9 And I wanted to say, too, that, first
- 10 of all, I am against any school closings in
- 11 Chicago (Applause), I just want to make that
- 12 clear, but since we have to come together, I've
- 13 listened to people say neighborhood school like
- 14 they were spitting. Stockton is a wonderful
- 15 school. I've sent all my children to Stockton
- 16 School. And, as a matter of fact, one of my --
- 17 my oldest son went to Stockton School and, at
- 18 this time, he's an engineer. So, y'all say
- 19 Stockton like we don't create greatness.
- 20 You know, it's not the -- the area,
- 21 it's the parents, it's what you do with your
- 22 children, you know, and all we want is to -- if
- 23 this is going to happen, we want this to be a
- 24 smooth as possible for the kids. We have to

- 1 think about the kids. All of this politics, the
- 2 kids are getting lost in it. So, we have to
- 3 think about their feelings, too, and make this
- 4 transition just as smooth as possible. Thank
- 5 you.
- 6 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 7 Speaker 17, Anne Cuddy's not here, so
- 8 Speaker No. 18, Malisa Rakanovic.
- 9 MS. RAKANOVIC: My name is Malisa Rakanovic,
- 10 and I'm D's mom.
- 11 D is a highly functioning kid diagnosed
- 12 with autism when he was 2-and-a-half. So, he
- 13 missed the boat with Early Intervention, and I
- 14 walked into our neighborhood school, but the
- 15 case manager told me he was only 2-and-a-half,
- 16 he wasn't coming in with Early Intervention or
- 17 through Early Intervention, so we had to
- 18 initiate an IEP.
- 19 The IEP was finalized December 2012,
- 20 and still he didn't get accepted because they
- 21 were full. February 2013, just a few months
- 22 ago, D was placed at Courtenay. When his IEP
- 23 was drawn, he was uttering maybe two to
- 24 three words in phrases, but now he's talking,

- 1 he's telling me about his day.
- 2 And to echo the last speaker, I'm
- 3 against school closing, period (Applause). I
- 4 grew up in Singapore, I say invest in education,
- 5 I really do not agree with your proposal because
- 6 of how it was worded. Stockton is not being
- 7 closed, Courtenay is. Regardless of anything,
- 8 you should be proposing to expand the resources
- 9 and funding that's available to higher
- 10 performing schools to Stockton instead of all
- 11 these merges, deficit, figure it out. It's not
- 12 for the kids' benefits that you're doing this
- 13 and it's really unfair.
- 14 I have a younger daughter who's
- 15 2-and-a-half and she's receiving services
- 16 through Early Intervention. If the merger goes
- 17 through, so be it, but my younger daughter would
- 18 probably be placed somewhere else because you're
- 19 converting Courtenay to a neighborhood school.
- 20 And with the bad taste that my last neighborhood
- 21 left with me, I don't agree on converting
- 22 Courtenay to a neighborhood school.
- 23 If you say that Courtenay's a welcoming
- 24 school, then move Courtenay along with all of

- 1 its policies, procedures, benefits, whatever,
- 2 into Stockton and make sure you have the
- 3 resources to serve the children, because even if
- 4 Stockton is underutilized, you're bringing all
- 5 of Courtenay students into the building.
- 6 So, that's all I have to say.
- 7 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 8 Now calling Speaker No. 19,
- 9 Keti Tuthorn, 20, Kerry Martin, and 21,
- 10 Christine Clark.
- 11 MS. TUTHORN: I don't think that I'm really
- 12 going to read off of it. Hello, again, I just
- 13 want to clear up some misconceptions.
- 14 When the parents come here and they
- 15 talk about Courtenay's lottery status, I think
- 16 what we're most concerned about is being
- 17 confined to a neighborhood. Our children may go
- 18 over there, but if you turn it into a
- 19 neighborhood school and then allow people and
- 20 other children in afterwards, you're denying
- 21 children all around Chicago an opportunity for a
- 22 great school.
- 23 And I have a son and I was planning on
- 24 my son on going to Courtenay. Now if Courtenay

- 1 moves to Stockton and you have neighborhood
- 2 preference, he's probably not going to come in.
- 3 I don't want to separate my daughter and my son
- 4 and send them to two different schools, I just
- 5 think that's not fair.
- 6 So, when we talk about lottery status,
- 7 that is, indeed, what we're talking about, we're
- 8 talking about equal opportunity for all the
- 9 children to be able to attend a great school.
- 10 Everyone's concerned about classroom
- 11 sizes. We're talking about two schools who
- 12 pride themselves by using discretionary funds so
- 13 that they can keep their classroom sizes down.
- 14 Both Stockton and Courtenay have a commitment to
- 15 small classroom sizes. We have special ed
- 16 populations which, you know, can Stockton with a
- 17 33 percent special ed and a 30 percent special
- 18 ed population, can we accommodate all these
- 19 people or are we going to end up marginalizing
- 20 them. You're already marginalizing these two,
- 21 we don't really need to traumatize them all over
- 22 again.
- Also, I wanted to talk about what about
- 24 alternatives. Courtenay wasn't on that initial

- 1 list of school impacts for a reason. We weren't
- 2 on there, we were thrown on there last minute.
- 3 I understand we're a small school, I, also,
- 4 understand that, you know, fundings probably not
- 5 going to go to small schools any longer, we have
- 6 to consolidate because we have this deficit, I
- 7 understand money, I'm not stupid. But what you
- 8 can, also, look at is doing this slowly and over
- 9 time, not going -- throwing a big Hail Mary pass
- 10 and, hopefully, everything's going to fall into
- 11 place (Applause) because, quite frankly, I don't
- 12 think that's going to happen.
- 13 So, what about an alternative, what
- 14 about expanding Courtenay. You know, if you're
- 15 going to be closing down schools, guess what,
- 16 there's going to be a lot of empty buildings
- 17 around. How about we let Courtenay into one of
- 18 those empty buildings and we let our 200
- 19 students on our wait list come in and utilize
- 20 the rest of the space. How about Disney II is
- 21 now getting funding to be expanded from Pre-K to
- 22 6 to 6 to 12, how come Disney's getting this
- 23 money, how about you send that money to
- 24 Courtenay, we can use that money (Applause). I

- 1 bet you if Courtenay opened a Pre-K to 12,
- 2 there'd be a list out the door.
- 3 And the last thing is, you're not
- 4 talking about an attrition rate, when you
- 5 takeaway a school that is this powerful,
- 6 students are going to go to private schools,
- 7 they're going to go to the suburbs, your ward
- 8 loses money, your district loses money, the City
- 9 of Chicago loses money. Thank you.
- 10 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 11 Can you, please, state your name and
- 12 your affiliation to the school.
- 13 MS. MARTIN: Sure. I'm really here to talk
- 14 to the people here. My name is Kerry Martin, I
- 15 am a teacher at Courtenay Language Arts Center,
- 16 I am a special ed teacher at Courtenay Language
- 17 Arts Center, and have been for 20 years.
- 18 I've been teaching at Courtenay since
- 19 1993, and, at that time, we were beginning to
- 20 build a -- bring in the general ed community
- 21 into Courtenay because we had previously been
- 22 100 percent special ed. We have always been a
- 23 diverse community, both academically and
- 24 culturally. We welcomed anyone who walked in

- 1 the doors. After all, we're named after a woman
- 2 who was at the forefront for free and
- 3 appropriate education for all (Applause).
- 4 I personally welcome the opportunity to
- 5 work with the Stockton community. I see this as
- 6 a chance to grow professionally. I develop -- I
- 7 can develop a stronger professional community to
- 8 increase my collaboration skills and to stretch
- 9 my wings a little bit.
- 10 I see this as a great opportunity for
- 11 our kids and our families as well. They'll have
- 12 more space to grow, access to a better facility,
- 13 and a larger community of friends.
- 14 Thank you. That's why I turned that
- 15 way.
- 16 I look at it -- I look at it like this,
- 17 Stockton needs kids and Courtenay has some.
- 18 Courtenay needs a building and Stockton has a
- 19 beautiful one. Let's make this work. Let's
- 20 make it work. I was on the picket line with
- 21 you. I don't want to see any schools close. I
- 22 don't want parents and children to be stressed
- 23 out. Both Stockton and Courtenay communities
- 24 will survive. Let's make this the best darn

- 1 school in the city (Applause).
- 2 Like you, I still have questions.
- 3 After 20 years, a superior rating, National
- 4 Board Certification, and a master's degree-plus,
- 5 I still don't have the job security I'm looking
- 6 for. But I find comfort in knowing that if I
- 7 keep my personal high professional expectations
- 8 for myself, I'll be okay. And so will you.
- 9 Thanks.
- 10 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 11 MS. CLARK: Hi, my name is Christine Clark, I
- 12 have a daughter at Courtenay.
- 13 And when this does become the best
- 14 school in the city, which it possibly can be, my
- 15 3-year-old son may not get in because we do not
- 16 live in this -- in the neighborhood boundaries.
- 17 Our neighborhood's school's not an option. Last
- 18 year the principal was removed twice for two
- 19 separate offenses. I don't know what I'm going
- 20 to do with him. But I'm here to read on behalf
- 21 of another parent who can't be here today,
- 22 Amelia Jacoby.
- 23 "This letter is my effort as a parent
- 24 to voice my opinion regarding the proposal to

- 1 move Courtenay students to Stockton Elementary.
- 2 I, as a parent of two sons currently attending
- 3 Courtenay, am deeply saddened and disappointed.
- 4 There have been many sacrifices that as parents
- 5 both my husband and I have chosen to make for
- 6 the betterment of our sons' education.
- 7 About a year ago, we had a change of
- 8 residency due to our home foreclosure and the
- 9 distance has forced our children to have to
- 10 depend on public transportation to get to school
- 11 in the mornings. We have agreed to do this
- 12 because we love Courtenay. Our children have
- 13 been performing very well academically which
- 14 says quite a bit about the learning environment
- 15 they are in.
- 16 The small school and class sizes do
- 17 indeed make a difference in the attention and
- 18 comfort they feel from the faculty and staff. A
- 19 change of this capacity can have a negative
- 20 impact on a child's learning. I have not heard
- 21 this topic brought up by the Board of Ed. There
- 22 is a correlation between a child's performance
- 23 and their emotional comfort to an environment.
- 24 Stockton is an underperforming and

- 1 underutilized school which is an issue unrelated
- 2 to Courtenay. This should be solved in a manner
- 3 that both benefit Stockton's current performance
- 4 and the socioeconomic issues of the students
- 5 that attend Stockton. What a disservice to
- 6 those parents and kids. Bypassing the issue and
- 7 trying to close a school not meeting standards
- 8 set by the Chicago Board of Ed is not a
- 9 resolution but rather a denial of the problem.
- 10 My children's safety is a large
- 11 question and will force me to reevaluate their
- 12 continued attendance and I'm sure many other
- 13 families of Courtenay. When CPS Chief
- 14 Barbara Byrd-Bennett said about no child will be
- 15 transferred to a school with a lower scholastic
- 16 ranking than the one he or she is currently
- 17 attending is clearly not accurate. Millions of
- 18 taxpayers dollars were spend in the renovation
- 19 of Stockton, did no one care at the time that
- 20 the school was only 41 percent occupied?
- 21 Children have to stop being punished for the
- 22 irresponsible lack of future planning displayed
- 23 by the Board of education. It's a disgrace and
- 24 I'm sure none of the children of the Chicago

- 1 Board of Ed staff are being affected.
- The city has failed us many times
- 3 throughout the years and I'm less proud of being
- 4 a Chicagoan now, more than ever. We have
- 5 seriously considered relocating to the suburbs
- 6 where all children attend a great school and
- 7 where taxpayer's dollars are benefitting the
- 8 school system.
- 9 The city is broken and no one cares to
- 10 fix it, as parents we ask that you reconsider
- 11 closely the affects this decision will play in
- 12 the lives of the children of Chicago.
- 13 Thank you for hearing my voice."
- Now back to me, Christine Clark, now
- 15 that I got that finished. We don't have other
- 16 options, we can't just walk into a school. We
- 17 applied to neighborhood schools, we have no
- 18 problem with neighborhood schools, just not our
- 19 neighborhood school. Our waiting list numbers
- 20 were in the 200s to 800s. This was the only
- 21 school we received a spot. We had no other
- 22 choice. There are no other choices for us. If
- 23 our neighborhood schools are terrible, failing,
- 24 and, essentially, dangerous places, we have

- 1 nowhere else to go and my son may not have a
- 2 place to go when Courtenay becomes this
- 3 wonderful model school.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 6 Now calling SP, Romana Puente, and
- 7 Tamiye Meehan.
- 8 STUDENT SP: Hello, my name is SP, I'm a
- 9 student from Courtenay Language Arts Center.
- 10 At first, I was afraid of moving to
- 11 Stockton because I didn't know anyone and didn't
- 12 know if they were going to be nice to me.
- I went to visit Stockton, I felt okay,
- 14 I thought the school was really big, I saw the
- 15 gym, the music room, the auditorium, and all the
- 16 students' lockers.
- 17 I met some of the kids when they were
- 18 playing basketball. They were really nice, they
- 19 let me shoot some hoops with them. The music
- 20 teacher let me play on her xylophone. She was
- 21 really friendly and nice. She even let me go on
- 22 the stage in the -- in the auditorium.
- I met -- I'm excited to move to
- 24 Stockton because Courtenay doesn't have all of

- 1 these things -- things and I'm so excited to
- 2 make new friends and meet new teachers.
- 3 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 4 MS. PUENTE: I know people are upset, this
- 5 school -- these schools are closing, those
- 6 schools are moving. In a perfect world, there'd
- 7 be money enough to keep all schools open.
- 8 Unfortunately, it's not a perfect world.
- 9 I think we are kind of losing sight of
- 10 what matters most and those are our students.
- 11 We as parents need to work together with our
- 12 teachers to make this transition as -- as easy
- 13 as possible for our kids.
- 14 I've been in Stockton, it's an amazing
- 15 school. Not just the building, but, also, the
- 16 teachers, staff, and the parents that I've had
- 17 the pleasure to meet. If we have 100 percent
- 18 faith in our teachers and our students, which ${f I}$
- 19 do, all our students, all our teachers, I'm
- 20 sorry, we have nothing to worry about.
- 21 The schools separately are amazing,
- 22 imagine what we can do if we work together. As
- 23 my friend Cassie Vickas said, it's not the
- 24 building that makes the school, it's us that

- 1 makes the school.
- Thank you.
- 3 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 4 MS. MEEHAN: Hello, my name is Tamiye Meehan,
- 5 I have lived on Dover Street for the last almost
- 6 50 years now, 50 years come July.
- 7 I've watched Stockton go from a small
- 8 school to a school that was loaded with, what do
- 9 you call those extracurricular-type buildings,
- 10 so the students can be locked in the -- I'm
- 11 sorry, what's the word for that?
- 12 MR. CAWLEY: Mobile.
- 13 MS. MEEHAN: Mobile units, okay. Well, the
- 14 whole yard was covered with mobile units.
- 15 Mobile units are gone, the school's been
- 16 renovated.
- 17 Dover Street neighbors, which I've been
- 18 a part of for the last 50 years, is welcoming
- 19 the changes that are coming. I've been
- 20 listening to the Courtenay teachers here
- 21 tonight. I'm impressed. Stockton -- Stockton
- 22 will benefit from the -- from the combination,
- 23 and I'm sure Courtenay will, too.
- 24 For the last several months, the Dover

- 1 Street neighbors have been working with the
- 2 library at Stockton. As a former class
- 3 president of the Illinois Library Association, I
- 4 can tell you I'm impressed with the quality of
- 5 materials in that library. I had not expected
- 6 it. My only concern now is that this library be
- 7 used in the way it needs to be used. There are
- 8 not sufficient staff, at this point in time, to
- 9 keep the library open and to make a -- make a
- 10 center for reading for the children of Stockton
- 11 or of Courtenay. So, I'm hoping you're going to
- 12 bring in a full fledged all-accredited librarian
- 13 as well as a couple aids. But I can tell you
- 14 that the Dover Street neighbors will be there to
- 15 help in any way we can.
- 16 One other thing I'd like to address,
- 17 there seems to be some concern about the
- 18 neighborhood. This is a neighborhood where the
- 19 condos are going for \$300,000 to \$400,000, this
- 20 is not a neighborhood where you need to worry
- 21 about who's walking down the street. What I --
- 22 what you might have to worry about is the
- 23 coyotes, we do have those, and they're not
- 24 people, they are strictly animals, and they're

- 1 there between 9:30 and 11:30 at night.
- 2 Other than that, the neighborhood has
- 3 come -- come a long way in the 50 years I've
- 4 been here. I'm looking forward to retire when I
- 5 retire and staying in my community, and we
- 6 welcome the Courtenay group and I'm looking
- 7 forward to what they can do for the community
- 8 because I've watched too many neighbors move
- 9 out, move out to the suburbs when it came time
- 10 to put their children in school.
- 11 I really want a school that we can
- 12 promote, a school that we can market, that we
- 13 can say is good for our neighborhood, and I
- 14 think that Courtenay grouped with the Stockton
- 15 group can do that. Thank you.
- 16 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 17 Now calling Speaker No. 25,
- 18 Patrick Lyman, and Speaker No. 26, Brooke Gard.
- 19 MR. LYMAN: Hello, my name's Patrick Lyman, I
- 20 have a daughter at Courtenay.
- 21 And she had started out in a
- 22 neighborhood school and it was fine. However,
- 23 we got the opportunity, we got the call from
- 24 Courtenay to visit the school and immediately

- 1 upon touring the school we saw that it was a
- 2 special place.
- 4 daughter that we were moving her. Had to take
- 5 her out for frozen yogurt, there were tears in
- 6 the frozen yogurt store, she did not want to
- 7 move, but within two days being at Courtenay,
- 8 there was such a transformation, she was
- 9 engaged, she was happy, she didn't want to admit
- 10 that we were right but she said, you know, "I'm
- 11 much happier here."
- 12 So, my main point, and I think it's
- 13 been great to hear everybody else's stories, is
- 14 that right now, at this moment in time,
- 15 Courtenay is a very special place, and we would
- 16 all like to be hopeful about the change, but
- 17 it's hard not to be cynical the way things have
- 18 happened, the way the announcement was made at
- 19 the last minute, the way that Courtenay doesn't
- 20 meet the criteria to be closed. You can say
- 21 it's not closing, but it's like putting the
- 22 Cardinals name on the scoreboard at Wrigley
- 23 Field, it's really not fooling anybody. So, my
- 24 request is to maintain the lottery program, to

- 1 try to maintain what is special about Courtenay.
- And, also, I have young twins who will
- 3 be effected, they won't be able to attend
- 4 Courtenay with their sister should we choose to
- 5 continue.
- 6 So, I, you know -- people here tonight
- 7 have been so articulate and so impassioned, my
- 8 hope is that we're at a crossroads, we're not at
- 9 a one-way street, and, please, just listen to
- 10 everybody and do take your time to consider this
- 11 and try to maintain what does make Courtenay
- 12 special. Thank you.
- 13 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 14 MS. GARD: Hello, I am Brooke Gard, I have a
- 15 student at Courtenay, but I'm here to read a
- 16 letter on behalf of a parent that could not be
- 17 here.
- 18 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Speak up.
- 19 MS. GARD: Better?
- 20 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Yeah.
- 21 MS. GARD: "I am seriously concerned about
- 22 the special education children, 30 percent
- 23 Stockton, 30 percent Courtenay, how will this
- 24 affect them? Special ed kids need structure and

- 1 consistency.
- One special ed teacher explained to me,
- 3 that when administration said they were going to
- 4 move special ed children from one room to
- 5 another, the special ed teachers had to prepare
- 6 the students all summer long for this
- 7 transition. And that was within the same
- 8 building and with the same teachers and
- 9 students. Can you imagine moving these same
- 10 children to a different building, different
- 11 classroom, potentially changing their teacher,
- 12 and adding new pupils to the mix? Then consider
- 13 these children in the hallway with 800-plus
- 14 children and the additional hallway chaos due to
- 15 additional students.
- 16 Someone told me, these kids are not
- 17 your problem. Sorry, but I cannot do that. I
- 18 can't turn the blind eye. I am a humanitarian.
- 19 We all live in the interconnected web
- 20 of life. Someone said these kids are being
- 21 bused in, and when Courtenay becomes a
- 22 neighborhood school, they will have to go back
- 23 to their neighborhood schools. Obviously, their
- 24 parents did not think the neighborhood school

- 1 had the resources of special ed qualified
- 2 teachers for their children in their
- 3 neighborhood school.
- 4 Maybe they were forced out of their
- 5 neighborhood school, or the neighborhood school
- 6 simply said they could not help the special ed
- 7 child because they did not have resources. What
- 8 better place for special ed kids then an
- 9 administration and teachers who are specially
- 10 trained and understand their needs, like
- 11 Courtenay. And a place where the teachers care
- 12 so much that the teacher got a grant to cover a
- 13 \$65,000 autism sensory room, Stockton.
- 14 The special ed children should not be
- 15 forced back into their neighborhood schools
- 16 because, clearly, the neighborhood school does
- 17 not know how to care for them or how to teach
- 18 them, otherwise, the parents would have been
- 19 busing their children to Courtenay and
- 20 Stockton."
- 21 Just for myself, I want to just be
- 22 clear that I think that Stockton has a lot to
- 23 offer. I, also, think Courtenay has a lot to
- 24 offer. My beef is not with putting these two

- 1 schools together, it's more about how the
- 2 process happened and how the parents were
- 3 informed and the feeling that we made a choice
- 4 to attend this school and for a lot of people it
- 5 seems like that choice is being taken away.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm now calling Speaker
- 8 No. 27, Taryn Kurth, and 29, Jesus Gonzalez.
- 9 MS. KURTH: Hi, my name is Taryn Kurth, and
- 10 I'm a parent of a 1st grader and Courtenay.
- 11 I support the relocation proposal. We
- 12 chose Courtenay because of the intimate
- 13 atmosphere and the exceptional academics and
- 14 we've not been disappointed. We have a special
- 15 faculty and administration who are dedicated to
- 16 our students and academic rigger and I'm excited
- 17 to be able to bring that to more students at a
- 18 larger facility with amenities that weren't
- 19 possible at our current building. I'm excited
- 20 to see my daughter and her classmates perform in
- 21 an auditorium on a real stage, to gain hands-on
- 22 experience in a proper science lab, and
- 23 participate in sports in a gymnasium instead of
- 24 a partitioned cafeteria.

1	I do not think my child's education
2	will be deluded because it will happen in a
3	different building, if anything, it will be
4	enhanced by the additional resources that will
5	be available. A large part of the Courtenay
6	culture is the value we place on small class
7	sizes and inclusion and respect for all
8	students.
9	After meeting with some of the teachers
10	and parents at Stockton, I believe it is
11	something that Courtenay and Stockton share in
12	common. Historically, our students have been
13	admitted not through selected enrollment but
14	blindly regardless of ability and our teachers
15	are exceptional at assessing the strengths and
16	weaknesses of the individual student and find to
17	create ways to keep the students engaged.
18	I'm aware that Stockton's being closed
19	as an underutilized school and not an
20	underperforming school. I've met some of their
21	talented and passionate teachers as well and
22	personally I'd hope that remaining of them be
23	able to remain part of the Courtenay community.

Thank you.

24

- 1 MR. GONZALEZ: Hello, everyone, my name is
- 2 Jesus Gonzalez, I spoke in the -- in the last
- 3 meeting.
- 4 I have the opportunity to meet people
- 5 from Courtenay first and some of the
- 6 administration, very nice people, but -- well, I
- 7 got the opportunity to meet people from
- 8 Courtenay, I heard both sides, pro and con. One
- 9 of the things I am against it is they call that
- 10 welcoming school, merger, really it's not for
- 11 Stockton, it's really takeover for Stockton
- 12 building.
- 13 I spoke with several parents of
- 14 Stockton, which the ones I spoke with, they are
- 15 all against it, most of them my people, Latino
- 16 community, that's the one I spoke with the most.
- 17 They said that neighborhood schools definitely
- 18 sound like they speak very well about it, but I
- 19 have a stepdaughter who's in Lake View High
- 20 School and all her classes has very good
- 21 teachers, so I don't see what they see negative
- 22 in neighborhood school.
- 23 My son is a small Stockton -- sorry,
- 24 CPC, I travel from Logan Square to bring my son

- 1 to CPC because Stockton is a good school, my
- 2 stepson was there, my stepdaughter was there,
- 3 several of friends was there. We took college,
- 4 very good colleges, and nothing wrong with the
- 5 neighborhood schools.
- 6 And I believe if a merger -- takeover,
- 7 I'm sorry, it will happen, I think that our
- 8 administration from both the schools has to be
- 9 more open to parents and just to hear the
- 10 parents or our concerns. Whatever they happens,
- 11 I'm still against it, but I want the best for my
- 12 child.
- 13 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 14 Speaker No. 30, Derek Bridges,
- 15 Pete Winninger, and Maria Galicia. Can you,
- 16 please, state your affiliation with the school.
- 17 MR. BRIDGES: My name is Derek Bridges, I'm a
- 18 teacher at Stockton School, I teach 5th grade, I
- 19 actually spoke last Monday as well.
- And, once again, I wasn't planning on
- 21 speaking, but then I got here and couldn't help
- 22 myself. I've heard a lot of people say a lot of
- 23 things about Courtenay students and Courtenay
- 24 staff, and from everything I can tell, Courtenay

- 1 is an excellent outstanding school. I haven't
- 2 heard a lot of people talk about what Stockton
- 3 students get out of this, what are the benefits
- 4 for the children that I see every day.
- 5 I'm looking at this list, it says, "As
- 6 a welcoming school, Courtenay will offer a Level
- 7 2 school." Stockton was a Level 2 school last
- 8 year, we lost -- it was less than 1 percentage
- 9 point of attendance that dropped us down to a
- 10 Level 3. We'll be Level 2 again next year,
- 11 anyway, so they're not gaining anything there.
- 12 Pre-K program, already got it.
- 13 School safety plan to provide smooth
- 14 and safe transitions, our kids are staying in
- 15 the same neighborhood, don't need it.
- 16 I'm looking here, air-conditioning in
- 17 every classroom, they've got it.
- 18 Library in every school. Well, if they
- 19 would fund our librarian again, we have a great
- 20 library.
- 21 Newer upgraded technology support, we
- 22 already have two high, well-functioning computer
- 23 labs.
- 24 IPads for all students in grades 3

- 1 through 8. Well, Barbara Byrd-Bennett has been
- 2 in several School Districts in the last few
- 3 years of time, I've been at Stockton for three
- 4 years, we've had five CEOs, so I don't take
- 5 those promises too seriously (Applause), and
- 6 we'll be stuck with another CEO that makes
- 7 different promises and says, "Oh, well, I didn't
- 8 promise that, someone else did." So, I'm not
- 9 really holding my breath on that one and,
- 10 honestly, my kids have a lot bigger concern than
- 11 an iPad.
- 12 Improved ADA accessibility, we're
- 13 ADA-compliant.
- 14 Upgraded school interiors with fresh
- 15 paint, that's exciting, my kids will be really
- 16 excited about that.
- 17 I'm, also, looking at the situation
- 18 that we're at where both schools are without a
- 19 principal, we're looking at a principal
- 20 selection process. Stockton has almost twice as
- 21 many students as Courtenay, yet Courtenay's LSC
- 22 is the one choosing the new principal. There is
- 23 a joint LSC meeting where we were assured by
- 24 their LSC that they would represent our parents

- 1 and staff. At the same time, I've heard their
- 2 LSC say there were some parents from their own
- 3 school that they didn't agree with and they
- 4 weren't going to listen to which makes me
- 5 question how well they're going to listen to our
- 6 parents.
- 7 I'm hearing lots of promises, I'm not
- 8 seeing a single benefit in this to Stockton
- 9 students. I'm seeing new staff, excellent
- 10 staff, don't get me wrong, but new staff that
- 11 are all strangers to them, bigger class sizes,
- 12 lots of transition and upheaval and no benefits
- 13 at all. I've not found a single benefit on this
- 14 piece of page for these students, 475 of them.
- 15 I want to know what they're going to get. And I
- 16 don't want these things as answers because I've
- 17 told you why those aren't them. Thank you.
- 18 (Applause) Oh, and one more thing, if
- 19 this is about finances and stuff, we didn't
- 20 create the financial mess, someone else did. If
- 21 you can't figure out the finances, then maybe we
- 22 should find somebody who's a little better with
- 23 finances to run the district.
- MS. GALICIA: Good evening, my name is

- 1 Maria Galicia. I came to tell you about my son
- 2 and what happened with my son.
- 3 I live a block away from a school that
- 4 only went up to 6th grade, and there was another
- 5 school, a middle school where they had 7th and
- 6 8th grade and I moved him there. There was a
- 7 child in that school who threatened my son with
- 8 a knife. I took him out of there immediately
- 9 and I moved him into Courtenay.
- 10 He had a lot of trauma, he had a lot of
- 11 depression from what he had gone through in that
- 12 school. And I didn't have any doubts about
- 13 moving another son who was doing very well, high
- 14 performance with all A's and B's at the other
- 15 school and I took him -- I took both of them out
- 16 and moved them to Courtenay. And, then, my son
- 17 who was depressed from what had happened to him
- 18 improved quickly, they helped him with his
- 19 depression, and now he comes to the school and
- 20 he gets all A's and B's.
- 21 I'd like the school to remain in the
- 22 same site because now my younger kid is going to
- 23 go up to 7th grade and I'm afraid that my
- younger son that when he comes to the new school

- 1 building that the other students in Stockton are
- 2 going to see the kids coming from Courtenay as,
- 3 like, they're invading and they're going to do
- 4 the same thing to my son.
- 5 And that I, also, think that the other
- 6 thing is we're looked at as intruders by the
- 7 Mayor. There was someone here last time who
- 8 said that they think that they felt safer
- 9 because the Mayor lives there. I think it's the
- 10 other way around, I think it would be that the
- 11 Mayor looks at us as intruders, but I think it
- 12 would be easier for him to move out of the way
- 13 than for him to close down my schools
- 14 (Applause).
- 15 Thank you.
- MR. DE LONGEAUX: We have Speaker 31,
- 17 Pete Winninger.
- 18 MR. WINNINGER: My name's Pete Winninger, my
- 19 son attends Courtenay, he's currently in the 4th
- 20 grade.
- 21 I just want to right now publicly say
- 22 thank you, guys, because Courtenay has been an
- 23 amazing community and such a good fit for my --
- 24 my son. But aside from that, I'm sure Stockton

- 1 has been a very good home for their children as
- 2 well, and what I'm more upset about with this
- 3 entire process is the fact that the CPS, once
- 4 again, has not given us the time to integrate
- 5 our communities together so that I talked with
- 6 some Stockton student -- not students, some
- 7 Stockton parents earlier, I hear your concerns,
- 8 a lot of them are very similar to our concerns,
- 9 and if we could, actually, meet with them in an
- 10 orderly fashion, I think a lot of our
- 11 reservations would be lifted.
- 12 I haven't really seen a vehicle for
- 13 this to happen, has there been? I mean, correct
- 14 me if I'm wrong, but your jobs are funded by my
- 15 tax money and my real estate. So, I think that
- 16 we should have an equal chance.
- 17 Now, if the writing is on the wall and
- 18 this has to happen, I think all of us want it to
- 19 happen as positively as possible, I don't think
- 20 anyone wants a riot about this, but I think we
- 21 need to be able to be given the opportunity to
- 22 merge our schools because, obviously, the
- 23 Stockton people really care about their schools,
- 24 and I know damn well that the Courtenay people

- 1 care about our school. Let us do this in a way
- 2 that makes sense as humans, not as corporate
- 3 interests we're trying to, like, jack up prices
- 4 somewhere, I don't know, there's a lot of stuff
- 5 going around as far as why this is happening.
- 6 I don't really care about transparency
- 7 because I don't expect to get it, maybe that's,
- 8 like, my Jewish and Native American upbringing,
- 9 but I, also, understand though that these things
- 10 happen and sometimes you just have to go with
- 11 it, maybe that's my German upbringing.
- 12 This is the thing, I think we can make
- 13 this happen, I think this can be good for
- 14 everyone, but we've got to give a chance to this
- 15 community to do it, because we're invested in
- 16 it, we've got the most important investment in
- 17 our lives, our kids. Please, let us do that.
- 18 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'm now calling
- 19 Melanie Bienemann.
- 20 MS. BIENEMANN: That's Melanie Bienemann to
- 21 you. I was in 4H, and every time I got an award
- 22 it was Melanie Bienemann, so try and get it
- 23 right next time.
- 24 MR. DE LONGEAUX: I'll do my best.

- 1 MS. BIENEMANN: So, all I want to say is I'm
- 2 not an elitist and I'm not against the Stockton
- 3 people, I've read their story, it's an amazing
- 4 story, and we just all want what's best for our
- 5 kids. Everybody here wants small class sizes,
- 6 everybody keeps telling us, I want 25 in a
- 7 class, I don't want 30. And I know CPS model is
- 8 25 to 30 and I don't see anything else
- 9 happening. The only reason that Courtenay has
- 10 had smaller class sizes is because they
- 11 literally couldn't fit anymore kids in the room.
- So, all I can say to you is, we'll just
- 13 have to keep using discretionary funds, but then
- 14 I have a concern that CPS will still try to shut
- 15 us down because we've used our discretionary
- 16 funds and they want us to have 28 to 30 and
- 17 we're never going to have those numbers and have
- 18 successful schools.
- 19 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- This is our last speaker on the list.
- 21 If anyone wants to speak again, please,
- 22 come and signup. So, I'm calling you,
- 23 Symantha Lancaster.
- MS. LANCASTER: Hello, everybody. I'm sorry

- 1 if you notice me doing a little outburst,
- 2 because as a parent of a special child and as an
- 3 employee for Chicago Public Schools for 23
- 4 years, I have a little idea. No, I'm not a
- 5 teacher, I'm career service, but I still work
- 6 with kids alongside my teachers.
- 7 I'm really here to discuss the problem
- 8 of some -- I was listening to people, some
- 9 people say, yes, they want, some people said,
- 10 no, they don't, that's not my big issue. I'm
- 11 talking more about as a person who witnessed a
- 12 shooting in front of the CPC door, it was a
- 13 person who was not even part of the gang, bring
- 14 their child into CPC at Stockton and they shot
- 15 them right out in front of the door of the
- 16 school when I was working there during broad
- 17 daylight.
- 18 So, the person who said there's no
- 19 problems with gangs, that's not all true. Yes,
- 20 it's much better than what it's been
- 21 20-something years ago, but there's still some
- 22 problems in there. Another time somebody else
- 23 got hurt. So -- and I know it's all over, it's
- 24 not just Stockton, it's everywhere, but I'm more

- 1 concerned about kids going to school not in
- 2 their neighborhood coming down the street unless
- 3 they got parents going there with them and I'm
- 4 quite sure a lot of parents, either they're in
- 5 school, or they're working, or they just don't
- 6 have time every single day unless they're part
- 7 of the school, that's my biggest concern about
- 8 kids coming to school wondering down the street.
- 9 I know Courtenay is, like, miles away
- 10 from me, because I'm on the bus, I don't drive,
- 11 so it's a good ways from me, and I'm quite sure
- 12 Courtenay is a beautiful school, Ms. Tammie, I
- 13 don't remember her last name, she's been
- 14 remarried, she's a sweet person and me and her
- 15 worked together when she was at Stockton, but,
- 16 like I said, my main thing is the kids come into
- 17 areas and, like I say, it may be Courtenay, I
- 18 don't know, it may be Stockton, but I'm
- 19 concerned about the gangs and what's happening
- 20 in the schools and if you're going to take a
- 21 child out of their neighborhood and have them go
- into a neighborhood that they, basically, don't
- 23 always go into, have you figured -- I know some
- 24 people say, well, we got that all taken care of,

- 1 we got security, we got police, but it's not
- 2 going to always be all the time, that's my main
- 3 concern. So, that's -- that's why I'm saying
- 4 something about that.
- 5 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 6 I'm calling Keti Tuthorn.
- 7 MS. TUTHORN: You guys are going to get sick
- 8 of seeing me, I know. I just can't help it, my
- 9 mother raised very vocal children.
- 10 Okay. So, I'm glad the whole safety
- 11 issue was brought up, because I got to tell you
- 12 something when I keep hearing about this safety
- 13 plan that's in effect, it doesn't make me feel
- 14 better, it actually makes me feel worse.
- 15 Because I'm going, what is my child going to be
- 16 walking through that we need this huge safety
- 17 plan in effect, because there is no safety plan
- 18 when my daughter goes to Courtenay right now.
- 19 So, that is a big change. And as the lady just
- 20 said before me, we can have police patrolling
- 21 there, but we all know they can only do so much.
- 22 You cannot stop a bullet flying across the
- 23 street. So, yeah, safety is a concern.
- 24 My other concern is, like I said

- 1 before, why can't we expand Courtenay, why can't
- 2 we put Courtenay in a safe neighborhood and then
- 3 people from Stockton if they choose to can spend
- 4 their kids to Courtenay because it's citywide,
- 5 people from all across Chicago can send their
- 6 kids to Courtenay because Courtenay is citywide.
- 7 I'm not talking about, oh, I don't want my kid
- 8 to go to Stockton, no, what I'm talking about is
- 9 an option for all of Chicago that's being
- 10 threatened to being taken away, we need citywide
- 11 schools, we need citywide schools as an
- 12 alternative to private schools and an
- 13 alternative to moving out to the suburbs and we
- 14 don't really have them right now.
- So, for the City of Chicago's sake, why
- 16 don't we have schools like Courtenay in a safe
- 17 neighborhood. It can be larger, but keep the
- 18 class sizes just a little bit on the smaller
- 19 side. Hey, if you want 25 to 30, let's keep it
- 20 at 25, 26, you know, we can compromise, we can
- 21 meet people halfway, it shouldn't always be all
- 22 or nothing.
- 23 I think that right now, this is just
- 24 happening way too fast and ${f I}$ know parents from

- 1 both Stockton and Courtenay feel that way, it's
- 2 just too fast, it's too much at once. And if
- 3 I'm feeling overwhelmed, I know my daughter's
- 4 going to feel overwhelmed, I know your children
- 5 are going to feel overwhelmed, and that's just
- 6 not fair. So, how about we just take a step
- 7 back right now. Why does this all have to
- 8 happen at once.
- 9 And by the way, when we close all these
- 10 schools down, how much of that deficit is it
- 11 really going to take care of at once, it's what,
- 12 6 percent I think (Applause). I want to know
- 13 what the plan is for the other 94 percent. What
- 14 is the plan, the long-term goal to take care of
- 15 the other 94 percent of what this deficit is.
- 16 Because if you're going to be closing my school
- 17 down, I want to make sure that we've got a
- 18 long-term plan in effect. That's just my --
- 19 thank you.
- 20 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.
- 21 Malisa Rakanovic.
- 22 MS. RAKANOVIC: Sorry, now I have another
- 23 child.
- 24 I just want to reiterate that earlier

- 1 when I said Courtenay versus neighborhood, I
- 2 have nothing against neighborhood, I just have
- 3 reservations possibly very, very possibly
- 4 returning to Kilmer, my neighborhood school
- 5 right now. Because I visited the school, I
- 6 don't like the administration.
- 7 And somebody said that Disney II was
- 8 getting funding. Why is Courtenay being closed?
- 9 Why can't that funding be, you know, for
- 10 expansion be given to a school you're
- 11 considering for closure?
- So, I just wanted to redirect, it's not
- 13 the neighborhood school issue. When I hear
- 14 neighborhood, I think boundaries.
- 15 So, I brought D because she -- if this
- 16 goes through, she won't be attending the same
- 17 school as her brother, and that's very unfair
- 18 for us. Because we can't just pick ourselves up
- 19 and what we're really considering is to move out
- 20 to the suburbs and I know many families that
- 21 thinking of that option, too.
- So, I -- I really don't know, it's
- 23 really complicated but I think as the Stockton
- 24 teacher said, there's no benefit to them, you're

- 1 just renaming Stockton Courtenay and there's
- 2 going to be such dire impacts on the communities
- 3 on the whole, Courtenay will -- will not be
- 4 welcoming -- Courtenay will not be welcomed by
- 5 Stockton. So, students -- this will change, I
- 6 don't think you'll see the school retaining the
- 7 performance that -- that Courtenay has shown
- 8 through the years.
- 9 So, I don't know. I don't agree to
- 10 this school merger, I still don't.
- 11 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Claudia Pesenti.
- MS. PESENTI: Hello, I'm still
- 13 Claudia Pesenti, and I'm still a teacher at
- 14 Stockton School until June 30th when Stockton
- 15 will cease to exist and as the Board person told
- 16 me.
- 17 And I was in the Stockton School
- 18 library for six years until Derrick told me in
- 19 June that Stockton's library was going to be
- 20 closed and I was no longer going to be the
- 21 librarian. Thanks to the diligent work of our
- 22 volunteers, the library opened in, I think,
- 23 February, or was it March.
- Anyway, I did find in my reading the

- 1 CReATE Research Brief on School Closures and it
- 2 says that, "When a school is closed, the
- 3 facility is shutdown, school staff is displaced,
- 4 children are sent to other schools, and the
- 5 community loses a vital resource." Thanks
- 6 Symantha.
- 7 All right. It says that, "In the
- 8 current round of school closures, the Chicago
- 9 Public Schools has stated that it is not closing
- 10 schools based on performance, but is looking
- 11 strictly at the utilization of a facility.
- 12 However, through the 2000s, the predominant
- 13 justification by CPS for closing schools was the
- 14 need to shutter or turn around standardized test
- 15 scores and attendance." Which will it be next
- 16 year? Huh.
- 17 All right. It says, "School closings
- 18 will negatively affect the achievement levels of
- 19 students in the receiving schools." And it
- 20 quotes studies, if any of you are interested, I
- 21 have the materials.
- Let's see, "In the current round of
- 23 school closures, Chicago Public School leaders
- 24 have changed tack and instead are focused on

- 1 saving the district money by closing
- 2 underutilized schools."
- 3 "There's a relation between closures
- 4 and charters: Chicago Public Schools and
- 5 charter schools operators consistently claim
- 6 that school closures have nothing to do with
- 7 charter schools and that CPS will not repurpose
- 8 the closed schools into charter schools.
- 9 Briefly, charter schools are funded with public
- 10 money but are privately operated (either by
- 11 for-profits or non-profits), "Mr. Cawley, we
- 12 know about those, "and therefore are removed
- 13 from public decision-making processes."
- 14 "There are many reasons to believe that
- 15 school closures are directly related to the
- 16 expansion of the charter school system. First,
- 17 the budget deficit, in part, can be attributed
- 18 to the costs of expanding the charter school
- 19 system."
- 20 "Second, there is a strong local and
- 21 national trend of converting closed public
- 22 schools into privately operated charter
- 23 schools."
- 24 "Additionally, charter schools do not

- 1 save the district money. CPS compensates
- 2 organizations for, approximately, 75 percent of
- 3 charter schools' operational expenses."
- 4 "Third, Chicago Public Schools
- 5 currently has plans to expand their charter
- 6 system."
- 7 "Fourth, charter schools have created
- 8 the conditions under which traditional
- 9 neighborhood schools are considered
- 10 underutilized."
- 11 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Can you, please, conclude.
- MS. PESENTI: And, "Finally, the people in
- 13 charge of the closure process and Chicago Public
- 14 Schools leadership are supporters of charter
- 15 school expansion. The current CPS CEO,
- 16 Barbara Byrd-Bennett, is a Broad Foundation
- 17 executive coach, training superintendents in the
- 18 principles of business model school reform."
- 19 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Your time is up.
- 20 MS. PESENTI: Read, people, in your library,
- 21 or if it's closed, at home. Thank you, very
- 22 much.
- 23 MS. BIENEMANN: Melanie Bienemann, again.
- 24 I have two propositions: One, how

1	about CPS rent us the Courtenay building for \$1	
2	for the next 100 years like they're doing other	
3	charter schools and we make our own charter	
4	school (Applause), in the next two years that	
5	Courtenay building was turned into a charter	
6	school or I'll be pretty upset.	
7	ALDERMAN KAPLAN: I'm Alderman Kaplan, and I	
8	wish I could have been here earlier but I was at	
9	another event.	
10	I, also, am a former teacher and it's a	
11	very sad, sad moment for me. And I I don't	
12	know the answers, but I think I appreciated	
13	hearing your voices and I'll stand with you in	
14	any way I can to make sure that your children	
15	get the education that they deserve.	
16	Thank you, so much.	
17	(Whereupon, a discussion was had	
18	off the record.)	
19	ALDERMAN KAPLAN: I've I've been very,	
20	very outspoken about my stance, I as a former	
21	teacher, I do not support charter schools, I	
22	never have.	
23	(Whereupon, a discussion was had	
24	off the record.)	96
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- 1 ALDERMAN KAPLAN: Come into my office this
- 2 Saturday and we can talk more about it because
- 3 I'd like to hear more about it. Thank you.
- 4 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Well, thank you, very much,
- 5 all for coming. We close the session in 5
- 6 minutes.
- 7 Go ahead.
- 8 MS. BIENEMANN: So, I just want to know --
- 9 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Excuse me, we have one
- 10 additional speaker here. Can we, please, have a
- 11 bit of silence. Excuse me.
- 12 MS. BIENEMANN: So, why can't we have some
- 13 kind of compromise where it's 30 percent
- 14 neighborhood, 70 percent lottery --
- 15 MR. DE LONGEAUX: Sorry, excuse me, we have a
- 16 speaker here and it's very hard to understand.
- 17 MS. BIENEMANN: So, has anybody proposed
- 18 something like Courtenay and Stockton come
- 19 together for the first year and after that it be
- 20 30 percent neighborhood, 70 percent lottery, is
- 21 there any kind of compromise on the Board?
- Well, like another speaker said, if
- 23 you're relying on the neighborhood and the
- 24 neighborhood's too small, in eight years when

1	our kids have gone through, you're going to have	
2	the same problem.	
3	MR. DE LONGEAUX: Thank you.	
4	(Off the record at 9:26 p.m.)	
5	(Back on record at 9:30 p.m.)	
6	MR. DE LONGEAUX: It is now 9:30, and the	
7	meeting is officially closed. Thank you all for	
8	coming.	
9	(Which were all the proceedings	
10	had in the above cause this	
11	date and time.)	
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1	STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2) SS:
3	COUNTY OF C O O K)
4	
5	Sandra Di Vito, as an Officer of the
6	Courtenay, says that she is a shorthand reporter
7	doing business in the State of Illinois; that
8	she reported in shorthand the proceedings of
9	said hearing, and that the foregoing is a true
10	and correct transcript of her shorthand notes so
11	taken as aforesaid, and contains the proceedings
12	given at said hearing.
13	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF: I have hereunto
14	set my verified digital signature this 12th day
15	of April, 2013.
16	
17	Dandre DiVitor Sum
18	Illinois Certified Shorthand Reporter
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Community Meeting for the Proposal to Close Joseph Stockton Elementary and relocate Courtenay Elementary to 4220 N Beacon St.

April 11, 2013; 7:30-9:30 Location: Amundsen High School, 5100 N Damen Avenue

CPS Facilitators:

Tim Cawley, Chief Administrative Officer Sebastian De Longeaux, Chief Procurement Officer

Also in Attendance:

Craig Benes, Chief of Elementary Schools, Ravenswood Ridge Network Phil Salemi, Deputy Chief of Elementary Schools, Ravenswood Ridge Network Luis Garcia-Juarez, School Council Relations Aldermann James Cappleman, 46th Ward

Brief Summary

The purpose of the meeting was to receive public comments on the proposal to close Stockton Elementary School and relocate Courtenay Elementary School to 4220 N Beacon St. in accordance with Public Act 097-0474. CPS officials reviewed the proposed action. There were about 70 community members in attendance and 38 speakers. The speaker comments focused on a variety of topics including: the Courtenay community's capacity for the change and their desire to partner with and work together with the Stockton community, maintaining Courtenay's lottery status, and transition plans.

CPS Welcome

Tim Cawley, Chief Administrative Officer, welcomed those in attendance and introduced the meeting. He introduced the sign language interpreters and Spanish translators. He asked if anyone required Spanish translation. One attendee raised a hand, the translator moved to sit next to the person who had requested translation. Cawley then presented an overview of the proposal and reviewed the materials available to meeting attendees. Sebastian De Longeaux, Chief Procurement Officer then explained the meeting rules and procedures. The meeting was opened for public comment at about 7:45pm.

Public Comment

Natasia Lopez, Parent of two Students at Courtenay

Ms. Lopez said that she chose to send her children to Courtenay because of a negative experience at a neighborhood school despite having some good teachers and a good principal. She said the classrooms were overcrowded and her child struggled to hear. She said she was concerned about safety. She said that as a single Hispanic mother, she knows how few options there are for education and what the odds are against her and her children. She said magnet schools give them options. She said poor and minority children show two times the improvement in small class settings. She said that kids need stability in their schools and adult to



keep them safe. She concluded by asking how we can succeed in school when doors to opportunities are closed.

Cassandra Vickas, Parent of two students at Courtenay

Ms. Vickas said that she thinks this is not a bad plan. She thinks it is a good plan. She said that CPS is in a budget crisis and has known for a long time that Courtenay could be on a list because it is small. She said that Courtenay now can take a good school model to Stockton and help to make Stockton better. She said it relies on parents, teachers, administration and students, she said a school is not a building, but that people make a school and this is the kind of challenge they can accept. She said she would like to hold CPS accountable to ensure they support the transition. If the communities sacrifice and take the challenge they do not want to be left hanging. She said they don't want to hear about a fund, they want to see it and see the investments.

Gene DeRamos, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Mr. DeRamos said he rises in favor of the proposal as it stands. He said that he and his wife came to the conclusion with some level of anxiety as they are tremendously satisfied with their current circumstance: 1st class academics, safety, no bullying. He said they want to see those things preserved. He said whatever comes out of the new entity has to have the ability to be a 1st class school in the near term. He said there is great potential and great risk. He has seen that the synergies from mergers can be very elusive and don't materialize unless they are made to happen. He said a third party has to be involved and that the network must have a formal level of accountability and be an equal partner and invested in success just as the parents are. He said that if those conditions are there, then success can be had.

John Humpherys, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Mr. Humphreys said he is an attorney and parent of a Courtenay student. He said he is generally supportive of more efficient schools and better opportunities. He said there are two impediments to success, first that in eight years if the Stockton boundary does not have enough children to utilized the building, then they will be back in the same situation after Courtenay students graduate out. Next he said the CPS proposal calls Courtenay welcoming but is truly closing Courtenay without granting procedural rights. He said that he thinks Courtenay ceases to be Courtenay, loses its building, and becomes a neighborhood school. He said CPS is denying the process and benefits for schools under consideration for closure. He said Courtenay does not fit with the CPS model for closure, that it is high performing and not underutilized. He said there are viable solutions to keep Courtenay a lottery school.

Melanie Bienemann, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Bienemann said she is a proud parent of CPS Courtenay Elementary School student. She said that Courtenay is a level 2 school by CPS standards; it went to a 2 from a 1 during reconfiguration of standards. She said that what is being proposed loses Courtenay. She said Courtenay has great teachers, good leadership and is small school so there should be 100% open enrollment and no boundaries. She said parents embrace diversity; parents want to choose remain 100% lottery to be successful; she said there are too many transitions. Courtenay can't



be successful as they combine, double their size, and hire new principal; she said this process is rushed, it can't have integrity. She stated that when she worked at Lurie's Children's hospital there was a moving plan that took five years to construct; the procedural changes were made 3 years in advance and 6 months before and after the move there were no changes. She said her daughter had a challenging PK experience and Courtenay loves her daughter. The administration loves her. She is doing wonderful; she knows her 1st grade teacher. She said the school can't be prepared to move forward with there being so many transitions in short period of time; she suggested CPS keep the Courtenay model intact so teachers and students are allowed to do their best work.

Tim Cawley – The only way Courtenay name will change is if Courtenay Local School Council (LSC) chooses to change the name. No one else can do that. Only body that has power to change name is the LSC.

Cynthia Heywood, Teacher at Courtenay and LSC member at Courtenay

Ms. Heywood read a statement written by Courtenay teachers, to the Stockton teachers and then added a few comments:

"Dear Stockton Teachers: In light of the proposed situation and after feedback from April 8th's community meeting, we the Courtenay teachers feel it is important for you to know our thoughts feelings. In event that our schools merge, we want you to know that we hold your staff in high regard. We know there are great teachers at Stockton. This proposed merger would be very difficult without you and we look forward to working together for the good of our new school. Our goal is to make the new school the best school it can be and that it is structured to meet the needs of all our future students. We, like you, value high quality teaching and small class sizes. We plan to find an administration that values that as well. We look forward to meeting and working with you in the near future."

She ended on a personal note, stating that Courtenay has only been a lottery school for 2 years, perhaps as a strategy to keep open because enrollment has been small as long as she has been at Courtenay. She said previously Courtenay took everyone who walked in door. There was high expectation for students; students worked hard, and teachers worked hard. Success had nothing to do with the building or lottery. She said a school is not a building, a school is community. She closed by saying that we believe we can be a community with the people currently at Stockton.

Mila Cohen, Mother of Student at Courtenay

Ms. Cohenis the mother of a special needs student at Courtenay. She said she opposed the proposal and said that the mayor says the time for negotiation is over but there has been no negotiation, dialogue or transparency. She asked if Courtenay was ever on a closing list; and why should it be? She said it is one of the top 25 schools, the second most promising school. She said there is a high percent of low-income students and the only reason the school is not Level 1 is that there was no significant movement — she said using that logic CPS would downgrade Harvard for not improving. She said relocation, and welcoming schools are all euphemisms. She said by destroying everything that makes Courtenay, they are being punished for success.



The Mayor and CEO who tout choice are contradictory. She explained that the only rational explanation is that the school is real estate for developers; the rationale is not ethical. She said CPS is cramming together students, selling public land, and putting charters in the area. She said even Margaret Thatcher would not do this. She said she is concerned because charters do not take special education students because they are not profitable. She said he daughter is safe and happy. She concluded by saying that society judges how people treat the most vulnerable, and for CPS it is not good.

Megan Cusick, CPS Parent

Ms. Cusick said she is a CPS parent, and member of a neighborhood school organization in Rogers Park, and also a member of the organization of Northside Save our Schools. She spoke to procedural concerns, and had no intention to speak until she heard Mr. Cawley at an earlier meeting talking about there was a large turnout for this meeting; not so much for earlier meeting. Mr. Cawley commented on that. She said she acknowledgedthe fact that the Mayor said time for negotiations is over. He just closed the door on parents; this makes this process a sham. She mentioned stability and doing what is best for children; and this has to be done in a few months; and we know kids need more stability. She said Mr. Cawley got a 2-year reprieve because his daughter needed stability in schooling. She said Mr. Cawley appreciates what these children need what is good enough for his child should be good enough for these communities as well. As far as the partnership with the Chicago Police Department (CPD) she commended CPD for stepping up, saying it is a difficult job because it will wreak havoc; this partnership should be with parents, teachers, and students.

Kandalyn Hahn, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Hahn said she is a parent of a Courtenay student and spent 4 years looking at schools for her son. She toured three dozen schools, maybe more, she lost count. When she saw Courtenay, she saw something special: small classrooms, low numbers, it was more than nice. With other schools there will be too much noise; she said one can't think much less learn. She said even before lottery status parents were making active choices that parents cared enough to drive to do better for their kids. She said parents chose to go to school without bells and whistles, and no auditorium, gym, full time music, or specialty teachers. She said many who chose Courtenaydid sobecause of the culture they created. She said teachers are not overwhelmed by classrooms that are too big. She said she turned down a gifted program and Agassiz which has dance, language, and a nice building. She said she knows what is important, that kids were focused at Courtenay and would be supported to learn. She said to turn Courtenay into a neighborhood would make it lose what is special. She asked what would it be like if you don't want to give commitment to parents like her; and answered her own question by saying we'll do what we have to do for our kids and CPS may lose us for good.

Stacy Walker, Parent of Students at Courtenay

Ms. Walker said her children attend Courtenay and she proposes that they go to Stockton because our kids deserve a better facility, and our kids can go to a better facility and our teachers go to help students; she said to embrace Stockton not to turn away, that two heads are better than one. She said better we go to help all children perform at higher level because no



child should be left behind. She said every child deserves a better education; don't want to throw away our future and children are our future.

Alonzo Rivas, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Mr. Rivas and his wife chose Courtenay over schools that were arguably better. They saw the value of educational model, diversity and that the administration and staff were welcoming and fostered parent involvement in education. He said he thought after hearing the subsequent debate about merging both student populations that the merger will not benefit Courtenay or Stockton students. First, he does not believe the district can keep low class size as the hallmark of both schools as it has been representing. He said that given the fact both schools have sizeable sped populations above 30% that require lower class sizes. He said even though the district stated only Stockton is closing, and that Courtenay will become a welcoming school, but CPS's plan in effect is closing both schools. Courtenay will cease to exist. Administration and staff at current school will be replaced so the staff unfamiliar with community. He said these are the reasons he is opposed to merger. He supports move for keeping Courtenay model and to keep it as 100% lottery school.

Lindsay Annunzio, Teacher at Courtenay, Teacher LSC chair

Ms. Annunziosaid she is a middle school science at Courtenay and the LSC teacher chair. She said she wasn't here on Monday, and she feels that the culture was misrepresented. She said Courtenay has a long history of educating all children; Courtenay was the first to use inclusion education and make special education a high priority; it was the first school in CPS to educate HIV positive children; when students succeeded at Courtenay they attended other schools in CPS. She said the lottery is new, up until 2 years ago students just walked in door. She said that staff loved and nurturedevery child that did [walk in the door]. Even though the school was not lottery that goal was still achieved. She said to please know that if the merger takes place, children, parents, and teachers will be welcomed. She said she plans on doing what she has been doing: providing ahigh quality education to all students no matter the building. She closed by saying "I am good at what I do, no matter who I teach."

Alderman Capplemanjoined the meeting.

Corina Chou, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Chou said she has two upper grade students and that a lot of upper grade parents heard commotion after Monday. She said many are invested in getting a transition plan in place. She said she has two high performingstudents and when she walked into Courtenay, the school wasn't lottery school. She said she didn't know if it is lottery in upper grades. She said shefindsthe whole thing disturbing; she lives in Uptown; she knows Uptown inside and out and she knows the Stockton area. She does not like the attacks she has heard on the neighborhood she said those attacks make her a bad parent. She asked the question why would I choose to live in Uptown? She said there is phenomenal potential with Alderman and a diverse and integrated community. She said there is phenomenal leadership, teachers, and parents at Courtenay and she is sure Stockton has same. She said when my teachers and leadership tell me this is going to be challenging but glass half full we can make best of it, we will make the new



schools phenomenal. She said she has faith in the new school's new teachers and new administration. She said we would like to see investment from CPS. She said we're willing to come in; we want to come; we want training. She said all of the meetingsare just holding us up at this point. She said she has kids who need to go to new building and she doesn't want them to walk to hostile environmentshe wants them to walk to the best place.

Brad Reed, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Mr. Reed says he appreciates the opportunity to speak, and is thankful for all Courtenay parents and those who couldn't be there who entrusted him to deliver community message. He said it is important to know and understand that the majority of Courtenay parents are concerned with the proposal. He said numerous parents representing all grades totaling 130 peoplehave signed a petition. He said many Courtenay parents are concerned over the absence of an initial forum to discuss the action. In addition this could have served as venue for other options such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), or magnet IB. He asked why Courtenay istheonly school in action proposals that incorporates a change to enrolment policy. He suggested moving the school but changing it to 100% lottery. He said parents of Courtenay want to remove Courtenay from the proposed action due to not meeting criteria combined with absence of a forum to discuss the proposal. He said it is unethicalto call it "welcoming" when it will absorb a building, community, and enrolment model. He said if a merger must happen, and it looks like it will, to expand the model to maintain lottery without boundaries. He said this is proven and effective; Courtenay is most successful as school of neighborhoods not a neighborhoodschool.

LarrenTuggle, Parent of Student at Courtenay

Mr. Tugglesaid he is a proud dad of a Courtenay student. He has been a CPS teacher for 13 years. He said he stayed up all night trying to write something but like many colleagues he was working on grades for last threedays. He said he wanted to talk to the idea of what he thinks is the timeline. His son was accepted into Peirceand then they heard from Courtenay, which sounded like special place so they chose to go there and passed on Peirce. He said the lottery was in December and then in CPS made announcements regarding schools consolidations and then parents were asked if they wanted to fill out a second lottery, which they did, but when theyfilled out there were a lot of schools missing, where is due process, he asked. He said that criminals get due process and asked, do teachers, students, parents? He said they were promised opportunity to be at higher functioning schools. He heard that promise before, it was NCLB (No Child Left Behind) and that that didn't happen. Mr. Tuggle said he is good at what he does, he is a Golden Apple winner and has had success for 13 years, but he has had five different administrations in two years; he said CPS is in the third iteration of the people runningSIG grants. He said he can work 90 hours a week but given those movementsthere would still be chaos; it is hard to do job well. His final comment was "Vote for stability."

Lavera Lee, current LSC chair of Stockton

Ms. Lee said her biggest concern is around special educationchildren and the services they receive at Stockton, like the Snoozlen room. She said some of the parents who have special education children are really concerned. She said she is against any closings in Chicago. She said that since we have had to come together she has listened to people say "neighborhood".



school" like they were spitting. She said Stockton is a wonderful school. She sent all of her children to Stockton. My oldest is an engineer. She said it is not the area. It's what a school does with children. She said that if this is going to happen, we want it to be as smooth as possible for the kids. She said all of this politics and the kids are being lost. She said to think about their feelings and make the transition as smooth as possible.

Anne Cuddy

Was called to speak and did not address the meeting

Melisa Rakanovic, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Rakanovic is the parent of a high functioning child with autism. She said they missed the opportunity to participate in early intervention and she went to the neighborhood school to initiate the IEP; she said the school did not accept her child because they were full. In February of 2013, her child was placed at Courtenay. She said when his IEP was written he was uttering 2-3 words in phrases and now he is talking. She said she is against school closing period. She said to invest in education; she does not agree with proposals because of the wording. Stockton is not being closed; Courtenay is. Regardless, she said they should be proposing to expand resources and funding to higher performing schools to Stockton instead of a merger. She said that the deficit needs to be figured out; it is not for the kids benefit that CPS is doing this. She said she does not want to lose Courtenay. She does not agree with converting Courtenay to a neighborhood school.

KetiTuthorn, Parent of Student at Courtenay

Ms. Tuthornsaid she wanted to clear up misconceptions; she said when parents talk about Courtenay's lottery they are most concernedabout being confined to a neighborhood. She said she has a son going to Courtenay and said that if the school becomes a neighborhood school then her second child would probably not get it. She said when we talk about lottery that is what we're talking about; equalopportunity for all children. She said everyone is concerned regardingclass size and that Courtenay and Stockton pride themselveson using discretionary funds to keep size down; they are committed to small class size. She asked ifStockton with 33% and Courtenay 30% special education how is it possible to accommodate all these people. She said we don't need to traumatize them all over again. She said she understands money, she is not stupid. She suggested doing change slowly over time. She said an alternative is to expand Courtenay, that there are empty buildings and CPS should let Courtenay into an empty building then let in the 200 children on wait list. She said Disney II is getting funding to expand, how come they are getting funding, can't CPS send money to Courtenay to the school can grow PK to 12. She said people will leave and go to private schools or the suburbs.

Kerry Martin, Special Education Teacher at Courtenay

Ms. Martin said she came to talk to people here. She has been a special education teacher at Courtenay for 20 years. In 1993 Courtenay started to bring in general education students because previously we had been 100% special education. She said Courtenay has always been a diverse community both academically and culturally. The school was named after woman at



forefront of free and appropriate education for all. She said she personally welcomes theopportunity to work with the Stockton community and sees this as chance to grow professionally. She said they can develop a stronger professional community to increase collaboration and to stretch their wings, that it is a great opportunity for kids and families, they will have more space to grow access to better facility and larger community of friends. She said she looks at it like this:Stockton needs kids and Courtenay has some. Courtenay needs a building and Stockton has a beautiful one. She said let's make this work. She said she was on the picket line with the teachers. She does not want to see any schools close. She said she does not want parents and children to be stressed out. Both Courtenay and Stockton will survive. "Let's make it the best darn school in the city!" She said like others, she still has questions, after 20 years a superior rating, NBCT (National Board Certified Teacher) and masters'degree plus, she feels she still doesn't have the job security she is looking for. She said she finds comfort in knowing if she keeps her personal high professional expectations for herself, she will be okay and so will you.

Christine Clark, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Clark said that when the new Courtenay becomes the best school in city her 3 year old son won't attend because we don't live in boundary. She said her neighborhood school Principalhas been removed twice. She said she does not know what she is going to do with her son. She then read on behalf of Ameli Jacobi: Ms. Jacobi wrote that her voice is in opposition of moving Courtenay to Stockton. She wrote of challenging family circumstances including a change of residency and the need to spend large amounts of time on public transportation get to school, but she do it because she loves Courtenay. She wrote that her children do well academically. She said the idea was sold in a manner that benefited Stockton and was a disservice to parents and kids. She wrote that safety is a large concern. She wrote that CPS guidelines state that no child will be transferred to lower ranking school and this is not accurate with the Courtenay/Stockton proposal. She concluded by writing that children are not responsible for lack of planning by the Board of Education. She closed asking listeners to reconsiderthe effects on decision livesof children of Chicago.

SP, Student at Courtenay

SP said she was first afraid of movingto Stockton because she didn't know anyone and didn't know if they would be nice. She said she went to visitand felt okay, she thought the school was really big – there was a gym, music room, auditorium and lockers. She said she met some of the kids when playing basketball. She said they were nice, and let her shoot some hoops with them. The music teacher let her play xylophone; she was friendly nice let her go on the stage in auditorium. SP said she is excited to move to Stockton because Courtenay doesn't have all of these things. She is so excited to make new friends and meet new teachers.

Romana Puente Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Puente said she knows people are upset. She said CPS is proposing these schools and move. She said in a perfect world CPS should keep all schools open. She said this is not a perfect world. She said we are losing sight what matters most – students. She said we should work together with teachers to make the transition as easy as possible for kids. She said Stockton is an



amazingschool, building and thatteachers, staff andparentsare all a pleasure to meet. She said she has faith in teachers and students, and that parents have nothing to worry about. She said the schools separately are amazingand to imagine and what we can do together.

Tamiye Meehan, Stockton Community Resident

Ms. Meehan said she has lived on DoverStreet for the last 50 years and watched Stockton grow from a small to school to a school loaded withmobile units. She said Dover street neighborhoods are welcoming the changes. She said listening to Courtenayteachers she is impressed. She said Stockton will benefit from the combination and Courtenay will too. For last several months theDover Street neighbors have been working with the library and are impressed with the quality of materials in library. She said there is not sufficient staff to keep open and center for reading for children of Courtenay or Stockton. She says there needs to be a full-fledged ALA accredited librarian as well as aides. She said neighborhood condos go for \$300-400kso people don't need to worry about who is walking down street. She said what you might have to worry about are coyotes between 9:30 and 11:30 at night. She said the neighborhood came a long way in 50 years and she is looking forward to retiringsafely in hercommunity. She said, welcome Courtenay. She says she looks forward to what they will do and to a school that they can market as great to the neighborhood.

Patrick Lyman, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Mr. Lyman said his daughter had started in neighborhood school, it was fine, however, when they got the opportunity go visitCourtenayhe immediately saw that it was a special place. He said within two days of being at Courtenay his daughter was transformed – she was engaged and happ and told her parents she was much happier there. He said everyone's stories share that Courtenay is a very special place. He said we all want to be hopeful about change but it is hard not to be cynical aboutthe announcement at the last minute. He said Courtenay doesn't meet criteria, and that it is like putting the Cardinalsname at Wrigley Field. He said his request is they maintain the lottery program, maintain what is special about Courtenay. He said he has young twins who will be affected, and won't be able to attend Courtenay with their sister. He asked to do take time to consider maintaining what makes Courtenay special.

Brooke Gard, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Gard said she is here to read on behalf of parent **Dawn Kirsschman** who couldn't attend. Ms. Kirsschman's letter expressed concern regarding special education students and asked about the impact on populations that were each 30% special education. She said that students need structure and consistency and that when students move classrooms that teachers take months to prepare them for such transitions. She questioned much larger transitions to a new building with new people. She wrote that it is a humanitarian issue. She said many children cannot return to their neighborhood schools that maybe they were forced out or the schools simply couldn't help special education students because of resources. She asked what betterplace than one where the administration and teachers trained and care. She wrote that she thinks Stockton as lot to offer. Shethink Courtenay has a lot to offer. My problem is not with putting two together it's about the process and how parents were informed. She said they are feeling like we made choice to attend a school and that choice is being take way.



TarynKurth, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Kurth said she supportsrelocation. She chose Courtenay because it small and intimate and had strong academics. She said they have an exceptional faculty and administration dedicated to children. She said amenities are not possible in the current building. She does not think education will be diluted because of a different building; there will be additional experiences available. Small class sizes support inclusion and shows respect for all students. She said Courtenay and Stockton share in common that students are admitted blindly, teachers are exceptional at assessing strengths and weakness of all students. She said Stocktonis proposed to close as underutilized; she met teachers and hope many can come in as part of the Courtenay community.

Jesus Gonzalez, Parent of a Student at Stockton

Mr. Gonzalez spoke at the last meeting. He had an opportunity to meet people from Courtenay, some of the administration. He said they were very nice people and heard both sides pro and con. He said one of the things he is against is that they call it a welcoming school; really it is not for Stockton it is a takeover for the Stockton building. He said he spoke with several Stockton parents and the people he spoke withare all against it including most of Latino community. He said the neighborhood school doesn't speak very well about it. He has a stepdaughter at Lakeview HS honor classes, very good teachers; he doesn't see what is negative in a neighborhood school. He said he travels from Logan square to CPS because Stockton is a good school. He said nothing is wrong withneighborhoodschools; if a takeover will happen, the administration from both schoolswill have to be more open to parents. To hear parents who are concerned. He said whatever happens he is still against it but he wants the best for hischild.

Derek Bridges, Teacher at Stockton

Mr. Bridges said he is a teacher at Stockton and he teaches 5th grade. He said he spoke on Monday and once again, wasn't planning on speaking. He said he heard a lot of people say a lot about Courtenay. He said not many talk about what Stocktonstudents get. He asked what the benefits are for my children. He said Stockton was level 2 last year. He said there are no gangs and they already have prekindergarten. He said Stockton students are in the same neighborhood and they already have Air Conditioning and aLibrary, two technology labs, and iPads. He said In three years CPS has hadfive CEOS who don't fulfill promises. He said his students have bigger concerns than iPads. He talked about the principal selection process and said Stockton has two times the students but Courtenay choosesthe Principal. He said the joint LSC meting assured attendees that they would represent both schools, but some parents said their LSC doesn't listen to them –he asked if they don't listen to their own parents, how will they listen to Stockton parents. He said he does no see a single benefit to Stockton students. He said that is closures are about finances, teachers and students did not create the financial mess and that if CPS can't figure it out to find someone better with finances to run the district.

Maria Galicia, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms.Galica told a story about her son. They lived a blockaway from school that only went to 6th grade. There was a middle school and they moved him there. While there, a child threatened her



son with a knife. Maria said she took him out and moved him to Courtenay. He had a lot of trauma and depression from what he wentthrough at school. She said she didn't have any doubts about moving another son to Courtenay. She said at Courtenay, her son who was depressed improved quickly and now he gets As and Bs. Ms. Galica would like the school to remain on the same site, now her younger son will be in 7th grade. She is afraid her younger son would be at the new building. She said Stockton students see Courtenay students like they invading and she fears they will do something to her son. Maria said the other thing is we're looked at as intruders by the Mayor; butit is easier for him to move out of way than for us to move our school.

Pete Winninger, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Mr. Winningerhas a son in fourth grade at Courtenay. He wanted to say publically, thank you, Courtenay is an amazing community and such a good home for his son. I'm sure Stockton has been good home for their children as well, he is upset about fact that CPS has not given time to integrate the communities together. He said had he talked with Stockton parents earlier that he hears their concerns, similar concerns, if we could met with them in orderly fashion his reservations would be lifted. He hasn't seen a vehicle for this. He said your [facilitators] jobs are funded by my tax money, my real estate. He said the writing is on the wallthat this has to happen and he wants it to happen positively as no one wants a riot. He said to let us merge i a way that makes sense as humans not as corporate interests. He said no one knows the "why", and that he doesn't care about or expect transparency. He said they need to be given a chance to transition and the most important investment is our kids.

Melanie Biememann

Ms. Biememann said she is not elitist; she is not against Stockton people. She said she has read the story, and it is anamazing story. And we all want what is best for our kids. She said we want small class sizes, 25, not 30. She said Courtenay has small class size because they can't fit more kids in room. She said we have to keep using discretionary funds but CPS will shut us down the effort because CPS wants us to have 28 -30. She said we can't have those numbers and have successful schools

Symantha Lancaster, ESP Stockton

Ms. Lancaster said she was sorry if you noticed her doing outbursts because as a parent of a special child and employee of CPS for 23 years she has some ideas she wants to share. She said she witnessed a shooting in front of the Child Parent Center (CPC), a person who was not a part of gang, brought a child to CPS and was shot out front of school. She said there are still problems. She said this happens everywhere. She said Courtenay is miles way and that she is sure it is beautiful. She said Tammy [Courtenay AP], is a sweet person, and they worked together when at Stockton. She said the main thing is that kids are coming to a new area. She is concerned about safety.

KetiTuthorn, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Tuthorn said that she was glad safety was brought up. When she keepshearing about safety planit does not make her feel better, it makes her feel worse. She asked what will childrenwalkthrough such that we need plan. She said there is no safety plan at Courtenay; that is



a big change. She said the police can only do so much. She asked why can't we expand Courtenay and put it in a safe neighborhood. She said people from Stockton can send their children to Courtenay as could people from all across Chicago. She said she is not saying that she doesn't want kids to go to Stockton, but that anoption for all of Chicago isthreatened to be taken away. She asked why don't we have schools like Courtenay in safe neighborhoods that can be large and keep class sizes smaller at 25, 26 we can compromise we can meet half way. She said things are moving too fast.

MelisaRakanovic

Ms. Rakanovic said she has reservations about returning to Kilmer, her neighborhood school. She said she visited and did not like the administration. She asked why is Courtenay being closed, why can't funding be given to Courtenay. She said when I say neighborhood I think boundaries. If this goes through my other child won't attend same school as her bother. She said that her family cannot pick up and move. She said, as a Stockton teacher said, there is no benefit to just renaming Stockton Courtenay and there is going to be dire impact on community on the whole. She said she does not think CPS will see the school repeat the performance that Courtenay has shown.

Claudia Pesenti, Teacher at Stockton

Ms. Pesenti she said she is a teacher at Stockton until June 30th when Stockton will cease to exist as a Board of Education person told her. She said she was in Stockton library until Derek told her in June that the library would be closedand she wouldn't be the librarian; the library opened in Feb. or March. She read a research brief on school closures that found that when a facility shuts down are children displaced, and communities lose vital resources. Says that current round of closures CPS stated that it was not closing on performance but utilization of the facility. However throughout 2000s the justification for CPS was using standard test scores. She said there is a relation because closure and charters. She said CPS and charter school operators claim closures have nothing to do with charters and that CPS will not repurpose buildings into charters. She said chartersare funded withpublic money and privately operated by for –profits or non-profits removed from public decision makingprocesses. She said CPS has plans to expand charter system which creates conditions under which traditional neighborhood schools are underutilized. She said the people in charge of CPS are supporters of charter school expansion.

Melanie Bienemann, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Bienemann said she has two propositions 1. How about CPS rent us the Courtenay building for 1 dollar of the next 100 years, then we can make our own charter. Then she said she better not hear the building was turned into a charterschool or she will be upset.

9:21pm

Alderman Cappleman

Alderman Cappleman said he wished he had arrived earlier however he was at another event. He said he is a former teacher and this is a sad sad moment. He said he doesn't know the answers. He appreciates hearing your voices. He said he will stand with you in any way he can to make



sure your children get the education they deserve. He said he has been very outspoken about hisstance and as a former teacher he does not support charter schools.

Melanie Bienemann, Parent of a Student at Courtenay

Ms. Bienemann said why can't we have a compromise where 30% neighborhood 70% lottery? She asked has anyone proposed something like Courtenay and Stocktoncome together and have 30% neighborhood and 70% lottery? She said another speaker said relying on neighborhoodwon't work as the neighborhood is too small and we will have the same problem in 8 years.

Tim Cawley thanked attendees for their comments and participation and closed the meeting at 9:30pm.

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Public Hearing to Consider:

Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center Statement of Benjamin Felton, Portfolio Planner April 16, 2013

Good evening, Your Honor. My name is Benjamin Felton, and I am a Portfolio Planner for the Chicago Public Schools. I have been in this position since July of 2012. As a Portfolio Planner, I manage strategic planning to improve the efficient utilization of CPS facilities. Prior to becoming a Portfolio Planner, I worked as a teacher at CPS. I then joined the Tennessee Department of Education, where I focused on teacher and principal recruitment and contributed to the development of the department's five-year strategic plan. I have a Bachelor of Science from Vanderbilt University.

I have been asked to appear at this hearing today to convey to you, the parents and the community, as well as interested members of the public in attendance, information regarding the space utilization of the Stockton facility with respect to the proposal to close Stockton.

According to the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for the 2012-2013 school year, the CEO may propose to close a school if it is underutilized based on CPS Space Utilization Standards and student enrollment numbers recorded on the 20th attendance day for the 2012-2013 school year. The CEO may only propose a closure if the impacted students have the option to enroll in a higher performing school and the resulting space utilization after the closure will not exceed the facility's enrollment efficiency range as defined by the CPS Space Utilization Standards. I will discuss the details regarding the space utilization of this proposal, while my colleague Craig Benes, will discuss the performance of the welcoming school and highlight the supports being offered in the draft transition plan.

Stockton is currently located at 4420 North Beacon Street. Stockton is an elementary school that, as of the 20th day of attendance for the 2012-2013 school year, serves 475 students in pre-kindergarten through 8th grades.

To understand the enrollment efficiency range of a facility, Chicago Public Schools utilizes its Space Utilization Standards, which are located in your binder at tab B14.

The enrollment efficiency range is plus or minus 20% of the facility's ideal enrollment. For elementary school buildings, the ideal enrollment is defined as the number of allotted homerooms multiplied by 30. The number of allotted homeroom classrooms is approximately 76%-77% of the total classrooms available. As an elementary school's enrollment increases above the efficiency range, a school may be considered overcrowded as programming options are reduced or compromised. As an elementary school's enrollment decreases below the efficiency range, a school may be considered underutilized as classrooms are unused or poorly programmed, making the use of limited resources less effective.

A typical elementary school building has a total of 39 classrooms. Therefore, the number of allotted homerooms, approximately 76%-77% of 39, is 30 classrooms. Multiplying 30 classrooms by 30 equals the ideal enrollment number of 900. Finally the enrollment efficiency range is plus or minus 20 percent of 900, which is 720 - 1080. If a school in this typical elementary school building had an enrollment below 720, it would be considered underutilized. Alternatively, if the school's enrollment was above 1080, it would be overcrowded.

There are 46.5 total classrooms within the Stockton facility; the .5 indicates the presence of one or more small classrooms. Approximately 76%-77% of this number is 35, the number of allotted homerooms. This number multiplied by 30 yields the ideal enrollment of the facility, which is 1050. As such, the enrollment efficiency range of the Stockton facility is between 840-1260 students.

As I stated, the enrollment of Stockton, as of the 20th day of attendance for the 2012-2013 school year, is 475. This number is below the enrollment efficiency range, and thus, the school is underutilized.

The CEO has proposed that the students from Stockton be welcomed by Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center or Courtenay. Courtenay will be relocated from its present location to the current Stockton facility at 4420 North Beacon Street. If this proposal is approved by the Board of Education for the City of Chicago, the resulting space utilization will not exceed the 4420 North Beacon Street facility's enrollment efficiency range as defined by the CPS Space Utilization Standards.

To fully explain the enrollment trend associated with these schools, I would like to direct your attention to the screen. Projected is a slide that shows the enrollment trend of Stockton and Courtenay, green hashed lines showing the enrollment efficiency range of the 4420 North Beacon Street facility, and a circle representing the combined projected enrollment for 2013-2014. Stockton's current enrollment is 475 students and Courtenay's current enrollment is 281 students enrolled for a total of 756 students, below the enrollment efficiency range of the 4420 North Beacon Street facility. Further, the projected enrollment of Stockton for the 2013-2014 school year is 474 and the projected enrollment for Courtenay for next year is 314 for a total combined projected enrollment of 788 students which is also slightly below the enrollment efficiency range. Thus, there is enough space within the 4420 North Beacon Street facility for students from Stockton and students from Courtenay.

If Stockton is closed, the CEO is also proposing that Stockton's attendance area be reassigned to Courtenay, proposed to be located at 4420 North Beacon Street. A map showing the proposed boundary is located in your binder at tab 23 and copies of this map were available tonight at the registration desk. In proposing this boundary, several factors were considered as outlined in the Review and Establishment of School Attendance Boundaries Policy, including, but not limited to, the capacity of the 4420 North Beacon Street facility, geographic barriers, travel time, distance traveled, and program considerations.

After all of the students within the neighborhood are accommodated, available seats will first be offered to siblings of currently enrolled students, with a lottery if there are more sibling

applicants than seats. The remaining seats will be filled through a city-wide lottery. To access these seats, siblings must apply though the options for knowledge process.

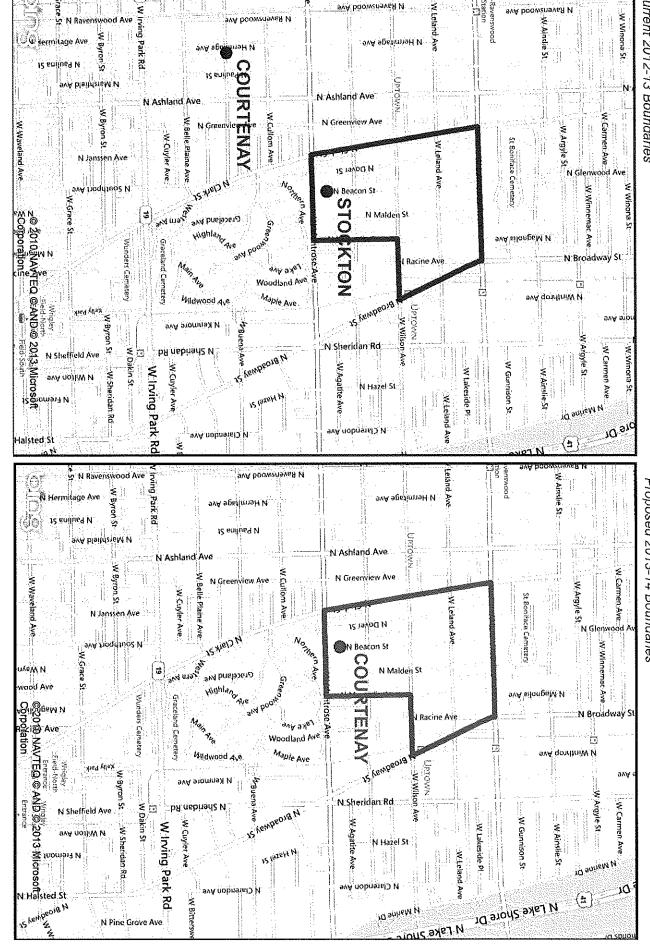
You will next hear from my colleague, Craig Benes, who will discuss the performance of Courtenay and highlight the proposed transition efforts.

Thank you, Your Honor. This concludes my statement.

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Attendance Area Boundaries **Current and Proposed**





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CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Public Hearing to Consider:

Proposed Closure of Joseph Stockton Elementary School and Relocation of Mary E. Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center

Statement of Craig Benes, Chief of Schools for the Ravenswood-Ridge Elementary Network

April 16, 2013

Good evening Your Honor. My name is Craig Benes. I am the Chief of Schools for the Chicago Public Schools, Ravenswood-Ridge Elementary Network. Chicago Public Schools are divided up into Networks. Network offices are run by a Chief and provide support and oversight for the schools assigned to them on behalf of the CEO. Courtenay is within the Ravenswood-Ridge Elementary Network and I am responsible for the support and oversight of Courtenay on behalf of the CEO. I have been the Chief of Courtenay since fall of 2011.

By way of background, over the past 28 years, I have worked in a number of capacities within public education and social services, including Crisis Team Supervisor, Special Education Teacher, Behavioral Interventionist and Curriculum Writer for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. I have also served as assistant principal and principal before becoming Chief in the Ravenswood-Ridge Network. I hold a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, a Master of Science degree in Applied Family and Child Studies from Northern Illinois University, a Master of Arts degree in Special Education from Northeastern Illinois University and a Certificate of Advanced Study Type 75 Administration and Supervision from National Louis University-New Leaders for New Schools Principal Training Program.

As you have already heard, Stockton fits the criteria of the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions because it is underutilized based on CPS Space Utilization Standards and student enrollment numbers recorded on the 20th attendance day for the 2012-2013 school year. If this proposal is approved, Stockton students will be welcomed by Courtenay, and Courtenay will relocate to the current Stockton facility, located at 4420 North Beacon Street. The facility at 4420 North Beacon Street has enough space for Stockton and Courtenay students and the resulting combined enrollment will not exceed the facility's enrollment efficiency range.

When Stockton students are welcomed by the Courtenay administration, staff, and students, they will be attending a higher performing school based on the CEO's Guidelines for School Actions. One way that the CEO's Guidelines for School Actions define a higher performing school is if a school received a higher level on the Performance Policy for the 2011-2012 school year. Under the CPS Performance Policy, located in your binder at tab B12, each school receives an annual rating based on its performance on a variety of student outcome measures, including standardized test

scores and student attendance. District-wide, schools designated Level 1 are the highest performing and schools designated Level 3 are the lowest performing. Stockton received a Level 3 rating for the 2011-2012 school year, while Courtenay received a Level 2 rating. The Performance Policy reports reflecting these levels are included in the binder of documents that you have received at tab C25. Please note that the performance policy ratings from the 2011-2012 school year appear under the 2012-2013 header on these reports, as these rating are used to determine each school's accountability status for the 2012-2013 school year.

If this proposal is approved, students will receive additional supports at Stockton during the remainder of this school year and at Courtenay next year, and the Network will provide assistance to ease the transition process as much as possible. CPS has developed a plan dedicating additional resources to address any safety concerns and to fulfill students' academic, social and emotional, and other individual needs. The draft transition plan, explaining these additional resources, was sent home to all families affected by this proposal and is located in your binder at tab A1. CPS will publish final transition plans, if the Board approves this proposal, which will incorporate feedback from community meetings, this hearing, and additional input received.

The CPS Office of Safety and Security, or OSS, has worked with the Chicago Police Department, Department of Family and Support Services, local community groups and faith partners, elected officials, and other sister agencies to develop a plan for the safe transition of students. If this proposal is approved, OSS will take the following steps:

- First, OSS will review and update school safety audits, security personnel allocations, and school safety technology systems to make enhancements as appropriate,
- Second, OSS will be available to address specific safety concerns raised by students and staff.
- Third, OSS will provide Safe Passage supports for students and staff traveling to and from school. Safe Passage workers wear identifiable vests and stand on designated street corners to monitor students' safety during their travel to school in the morning and home in the afternoon. Prior to the start of the 2013-2014 school year, OSS will work with the Courtenay administration and the community to designate specific intersections for safe passage supports.

Additionally, students will receive academic supports as they transition, including the following:

First, a Principal Transition Coordinator, or PTC, will be assigned to help the
principal of Stockton maintain academic rigor for the remainder of the school
year and ensure a smooth transition to Courtenay. PTCs are former principals,
or other administrators with significant experience, who will be a resource for
the administration and ensure continuity of support for faculty and students.

- Second, the Courtenay administration will receive comprehensive, studentspecific data on all transitioning students to allow staff to proactively identify individual student needs and prepare to meet those needs.
- Third, I held parent meetings on April 3 with Courtenay and Stockton families. I am open to holding more parent meetings to welcome families and students affected by this action to discuss concerns and educational options.
- Fourth, the principals will receive discretionary resources to provide direct academic support to students. For example, these funds may be used to provide an instructional coach, teacher leader, or to obtain an academic tutoring position or program for students in reading and math. I will support the principals as they consider how to use these resources and approve their selections once decisions are made.

Students will also receive social and emotional supports to help them adjust to a new school environment, including the following:

- First, CPS will help school staff members facilitate intervention groups or peace circles aimed at helping students work through concerns associated with the transition.
- Second, CPS will help staff members implement restorative practices, such as peer circles and peer juries, to encourage peer-to-peer problem solving and resolution.
- Third, groups of students in need of more individualized attention will be provided with access to highly structured interventions.
- Fourth, to foster an environment that is both supportive and inclusive for all students, CPS will provide resources to the Courtenay leadership to implement culture-building activities, such as staff luncheons and team- and trust-building activities. Resources will also be provided to sponsor activities such as school visits for families, coffee chats with the principal, picnics, field trips, or parent meetings to help transitioning families get to know their new school.

Finally, additional transition supports will be provided to ensure that Stockton students who have unique needs or circumstances are adequately supported in this transition, including students with diverse learning needs, students in temporary living situations, English language learners, and early childhood participants. For example, the Snoezelen room (pronounced "SNOOZE-a-lin") at the 4420 North Beacon Street facility will continue to provide a specialized selection of sensory equipment and materials to assist students with sensory stimulation and to advance education and therapy goals. Other additional supports are described in more detail in the draft transition plan, located in your binder at tab A1.

In conclusion, Stockton is underutilized, the combined enrollment of Stockton and Courtenay students at the 4420 North Beacon Street facility will not exceed the facility's enrollment efficiency range, and Courtenay is a higher performing school. The CEO

believes that this proposed school closure will help the District better serve all students and is prepared to assist students with additional supports as they transition.

Thank you for your time and attention. This concludes my statement.

Performance Policy



2012 Elementary School Performance Policy Report

Joseph Stockton Elementary School

School ID: 610189

Network: Ravenswood-Ridge Elementary Network

Current Status and Trend	2009	2010	2011	2012	Current Status	Trend	Points
ISAT Reading Meets/Exceeds %	77.29%	7,2,024	V3.92%	71298	74.1% (2 points)	-4.5 (0 points)	2 of 6
ISAT Math Meets/Exceeds %	897. <i>1</i> 07.6		19 64 21 %	NODAZ	82.3% (3 points)	-5,0 (0 points)	3 of 6
ISAT Science Meets/Exceeds %	30.5%	E5 824	ZEKEKK		68.4% (1 point)	-18.2 (0 points)	1 of 6
ISAT Composite Exceeds %	13-28/a	14F-026	13.8%	10.3%	12.1% (1 point)	-3.9 (0 points)	1 of 6
8th Grade ISAT Composite Exceeds %	9 59/	16.29		8.0%	12.8% (1 point)	-6.1 (0 points)	1 of 6
Adjusted Attendance Rate	PERK.	B/ \3 23	A5.078	95,7%	95.1% (3 points)	+0.1 (3 points)	6 of 6

Student Growth Metrics	2012 Score	Percentile	Points
Value-Added Reading	-0.5	29th	1 of 3
Value-Added Math	-0.2	40th	1 of 3

Overall Rating

Performance Policy Rating Performance Policy Points Earned Performance Rating ISAT Composite Meets/Exceeds % Probation Status **2012-2013** 16 of 42 (38.1%) Level 3 72.6% (2012)

Probation

2011-2012 21 of 42 (50%) Level 2 80.4% (2011) Not on Probation 2010-2011 20 of 42 (47.6%) Level 3 76.6% (2010) Probation growth of similar students District-wide. This comparison is made using a regression methodology that controls for each prior ISAT performance, and student demographics.

Adjusted Attendance

For the Performance Policy, attendance is adjusted for students with medically fragile conditions and early graduation fo 12th grade students. This adjustment is only made if it results in a positive adjustment. This does not replace the school rate and may not match the attendance rate reported elsewhere.

Minimum Performance Standard Elementary schools with an ISAT Composite score below 50% or high schools with a PSAE score below 10% are automa probation, regardless of Level achieved.

Scoring

	If Current Status	School	If Trend	School
	score is:	receives:	score is:	receives:
ISAT Reading	Less than 50%	0 points	Less than 0.1	0 points
Meets/Exceeds %	50.0% to 69.9%	1 point	0.1 to 2.9	1 point
(Ceiling = 90%)	70.0% to 79.9%	2 points	3.0 to 5.9	2 points
	80.0% or more	3 points	6.0 or more	3 points
ISAT Math	Less than 50.0%	0 points	Less than 0.1	0 points
Meets/Exceeds %	50.0% to 69.9%	1 point	0.1 to 2.9	1 point
(Ceiling = 90%)	70.0% to 79.9%	2 points	3.0 to 5.9	2 points
	80.0% or more	3 points	6.0 or more	3 points
ISAT Science	Less than 50.0%	0 paints	Less than 0.1	0 points
Meets/Exceeds %	50.0% to 69.9%	1 point	0.1 to 2.9	1 point
(Ceiling = 90%)	70.0% to 79.9%	2 points	3.0 to 5.9	2 points
	80.0% or more	3 points	6.0 or more	3 points
ISAT Composite	Less than 5.0%	0 points	Less than 0.1	0 points
Exceeds %	5.0% to 14.9%	1 point	0.1 to 2.9	1 point
(Ceiling = 90%)	15.0% to 24.9%	2 points	3.0 to 5.9	2 points
	25.0% or more	3 points	6.0 or more	3 points
Highest Grade ISAT	Less than 5.0%	0 points	Less than 0.1	0 points
Composite Exceeds %	5.0% to 14.9%	1 point	0.1 to 2.9	1 point
(Ceiling = 90%)	15.0% to 24.9%	2 points	3.0 to 5.9	2 points
	25.0% or more	3 points	6.0 or more	3 points
Attendance Rate	Less than 90.0%	0 points	Less than 0.1	0 points
(Ceiling = 95%)	90.0% to 92.9%	1 point	0.1 to 0.4	1 point
	93.0% to 94.9%	2 points	0.5 to 0.9	2 points
	95.0% or more	3 points	1.0 or more	3 points
	If Value-Added score is:	School receives:		
Value-Added	Less than -1.0	0 points		
Reading	-1.0 to -0.1	1 point		•
	0.0 to 0.9	2 points		
	1.0 or more	3 points		
Value-Added	Less than -1.0	0 points		
Mathematics	-1.0 to -0.1	1 point		

0.0 to 0.9

1.0 or more

2 points 3 points

Ratings and Statu

If percent of				
points is:				

71% or more

50% to 70.9%

Less than 50%

*Notes on Probation: Schools that have been on prol more consecutive years must a 2 rating for 2 consecutive years probation.

Schools where the Board has to Section 8.3 of the Illinois Schoo to be removed from probation such action was taken or th consecutive years, whichevel

Charter schools do not receive charter school accountability is agreement with the Board.

For More Informa

For more information on the please visit www.cps.edu/pc

Performance Policy



2012 Elementary School Performance Policy Report

Mary E Courtenay Elementary Language Arts Center

School ID: 610355

Network: Ravenswood-Ridge Elementary Network

Current Status and Trend	2009	2010	2011	2012	Current Status	Trend	Points
	10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1				86.6%	-2.6	3 of 6
ISAT Reading Meets/Exceeds %	\$9.9% 5	37.54	87.64	85.50	(3 points)	(0 points)	
					91.7%	-5.4	6 of 6
ISAT Math Meets/Exceeds %	PE AV	97 (62)	11.37.31%	20.026	(3 points)	(3 points)	
ICAT Calculate Managed (Transporter 9)	915,714		189 Mg		91.5% (3 points)	+1.5 (3 points)	6 of 6
ISAT Science Meets/Exceeds %					(a bours)	(5 points)	
					23.9%	-2.7	2 of 6
ISAT Composite Exceeds %	76 576	2828	24.27	2305-76	(2 points)	(0 points)	
			45.704	0.0%	8.4%	-23.1	1 of 6
8th Grade ISAT Composite Exceeds %	1926	33.796	46.7%	0.0%	(1 point)	(0 points)	
Adjusted Attendance Rate	94.7/Mc	0 5,4%	H+15f	115 PM	95.4% (3 points)	+0.7 (3 points)	6 of 6

Student Growth Metrics	2012 Score	Percentile	Points
Value-Added Reading	+1.0	86th	3 of 3
Value-Added Math	-1.8	3rd	0 of 3

Overall Rating

Performance Policy Rating Performance Policy Points Earned Performance Rating ISAT Composite Meets/Exceeds % Probation Status 2012-2013 27 of 42 (64.3%) Level 2 88.4% (2012) Not on Probation

2011-2012 26 of 42 (61.9%) Level 2 90.3% (2011) Not on Probation 2010-2011 37 of 42 (88.1%) Level 1 94.4% (2010) Not on Probation growth of similar students District-wide. This comparison is made using a regression methodology that controls for each prior ISAT performance, and student demographics.

Adjusted Attendance

For the Performance Policy, attendance is adjusted for students with medically fragile conditions and early graduation fo 12th grade students. This adjustment is only made if it results in a positive adjustment. This does not replace the school rate and may not match the attendance rate reported elsewhere.

Minimum
Performance Standard

Elementary schools with an ISAT Composite score below 50% or high schools with a PSAE score below 10% are automas, probation, regardless of Level achieved.

Scoring

	If Current Status	School	If Trend	School
	score is:	receives:	score is:	receives:
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	80.0% or more	3 points	6.0 or more	3 points
ISAT Math	Less than 50.0%	0 points	Less than 0.1	0 points
Meets/Exceeds %	50.0% to 69.9%	1 point	0.1 to 2.9	1 point
(Ceiling = 90%)	70.0% to 79.9%	2 points	3.0 to 5.9	2 points
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Meets/Exceeds %	50.0% to 69.9%	1 point	0.1 to 2.9	1 point
(Ceiling = 90%)	70.0% to 79.9%	2 points	3.0 to 5.9	2 points
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	25.0% or more	3 points	6.0 or more	3 points
Attendance Rate	Less than 90.0%	0 points	Less than 0.1	0 points
(Ceiling = 95%)	90.0% to 92.9%	1 point	0.1 to 0.4	1 point
	93.0% to 94.9%	2 points	0.5 to 0.9	2 points
	95.0% or more	3 points	1.0 or more	3 points
Value-Added	If Value-Added score is: Less than -1.0	School receives: 0 points		
Reading	-1.0 to -0.1	1 point		
· ·	0.0 to 0.9	2 points		
	1.0 or more	·		
		3 points		
Value-Added Mathematics	Less than -1.0	0 points		
iviathematics	-1.0 to -0.1	1 point		
	0.0 to 0.9	2 points		

3 points

1.0 or more

Ratings and Statu

If percent of points is:

71% or more

50% to 70.9%

Less than 50%

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Charter schools do not receive charter school accountability is agreement with the Board.

For More Informa

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