

**BEFORE THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**

<b>In the Matter of:</b>	)	
	)	
	)	<b>Before</b>
	)	
<b>The Public Hearing to Consider the Proposed</b>	)	<b>Hon. Francis J. Dolan (Ret.)</b>
	)	
<b>Closure of TEAM Englewood Community Academy</b>	)	<b>Independent Hearing Officer</b>
	)	
<b>High School effective July 1, 2019</b>	)	

**Hearing Officer's Report and Determinations to the  
Chief Executive Officer Regarding the Proposal to  
Close TEAM Englewood Community Academy High  
School effective July 1, 2019**

**I. Introduction**

The undersigned was recently retained by the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the Chicago Public Schools ("CPS") to serve as an Independent Hearing Officer in this matter. I am an attorney licensed to practice in the State of Illinois and a retired State of Illinois judge.

A public hearing was to have been convened at 5:30 p.m., on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, at the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, 42 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60602. The purpose of the hearing was to enable the Hearing Officer to receive public comments from concerned persons, specifically including representatives of the CEO, members of the school community and interested members of the public, concerning the CEO's proposal to close TEAM Englewood Community Academy High School ("TEAM Englewood"). Notice of that hearing had been served on the school community. Notice of that hearing had, also, been served upon the public by newspaper publication in the *Chicago Sun-Times* newspaper. Additionally,

the information concerning the hearing was published on the CPS Internet website. However, due to inclement weather throughout the Chicagoland area, that put members of the public in peril of serious bodily injury and interrupted both public and private transportation, the hearing was required to be postponed. Thereafter, notice of the rescheduling of the hearing to Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., at the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, 42 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60602, was served upon the public by newspaper publication in the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Additionally, the information concerning the rescheduled date was published on the CPS Internet website.

Accordingly, the Public Hearing was convened at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, 42 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60602, to fulfill the abovementioned purpose.

A certified Court Reporter transcribed the hearing.

Pursuant to the directives provided in 105 ILCS §34-230 (“School Action Public Meetings and Hearings”) and the document entitled "Procedures for Public Hearings on Proposed School Closure, Consolidation, Co-location, Phase-out, or Reassignment Boundary Change" the undersigned summarizes below the input received at the Public Hearing.

## **II. Relevant Statutory Provisions and Board Policies/Procedures**

### **A. Illinois School Code (105 ILCS):**

#### **1. §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...of schools of all grades and kinds;

“7. To apportion the pupils to the several schools;

“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.

“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.”

**2.     § 34-200. Definitions**

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

“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 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.”

**3.     § 34-230. School action public meetings and hearings**

“(a) By October 1 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 shall be created with the involvement of local school councils, parents, educators, and community organizations. 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 actions.

“(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....

“(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...[who]... shall have the following qualifications:

“(1) ...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.

“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.

“(g) Public meetings shall be conducted by a representative of the chief executive officer....

“(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.”

#### **4.     § 34-225. School transition plans**

“(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.”

**B. Board Policies/Procedures:**

**1. FINAL GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL ACTIONS  
2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR (“Guidelines”)  
(Published November 20, 2018)**

**I. PREAMBLE**

“The Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/34-230) requires the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to publish draft guidelines for school actions by October 1 of each year. These guidelines shall outline the academic and non-academic criteria for a school action, be created with the involvement of local school councils, parents, educators, and community organizations, and the draft guidelines, and each subsequent revision, are to be subject to a public comment period of at least 21 days before their approval. The Illinois School Code (105 ILCS 5/34-230) also requires that the CEO announce all proposed school actions to be taken at the close of the current academic year by December 1 of each year. The draft guidelines were published on September 28, 2018. Public comments were received on the draft guidelines until October 19, 2018. On November 20, 2018, Chicago Public Schools hereby publishes the Final Guidelines for School Actions applicable for the 2018-2019 school year.”

**II. CRITERIA**

“If recommending any school actions during the 2018-2019 school year, the CEO will consider the criteria specified below:

“D. Criteria for...Closure

“The CEO may propose a...closure only if the students impacted by a...closure will be provided the option to enroll in a higher performing school, whether designated as a welcoming school or otherwise. In addition one of the following criteria must be met:

“2. for a closure, the student enrollment as of  
November 1, 2018 is 0 students.”

**III. 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 concerning 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, students in temporary living situations, and English language learners; and supports 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.

#### **IV. DEFINITIONS**

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

"School action" means any school closing...."

#### **4. 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, co-located, 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 may be accepted at the hearing, registration table, and on the next business day, before 5:00 p.m., if delivered by hand (42 W. Madison) or via email (transitions@cps.edu) to the attention of the CPS Law Department.
- “b. 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.”

### **III. HEARING**

Laura L. Battistoni, Assistant General Counsel of the Board of Education, presented the CEO’s proposal. She submitted the following evidence in support of the proposal:

#### **EXHIBITS PRODUCED**

Documentary submissions were received and included the following:

#### **A. CEO’s Compiled Exhibit 1**

##### **Notices of Hearing**

Tab 1 Notice Letters and Draft Transition Plans sent to the school community and staff of TEAM Englewood, dated November 30, 2018 for the proposed closure of TEAM Englewood.

Tab 2 Affidavit of Cheryl Nevins, Regional Portfolio Planner for the Chicago Public Schools, regarding: (a) publication of Draft Guidelines for School Actions on September 30, 2018, (b) publication of the List of Independent Hearing Officers for Hearings on October 31, 2018, (c) publication of Final Guidelines for School Actions on November 20, 2018, (d) publication of proposed school actions on December 1, 2018, (e) delivery of Notice Letters and Draft Transition Plan to school personnel of TEAM Englewood on November 30, 2018, (f) publication of summaries from community meetings on or before January 13, 2019 and January 22, 2019 and (g) notice to school communities of rescheduled public hearing dates due to inclement weather.

Tab 3 Affidavit of Francis Bilecki, Chief Policy Officer for the Office of Intergovernmental Relations at the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, regarding delivery of Notice Letters and Draft Transition Plans to elected officials on November 30, 2018.

Tab 4 Public notice of hearing and community meetings by newspaper publication in the *Chicago Sun-Times* on December 27, 2018 and January 29, 2019.

##### **Relevant Legal and Procedural Documents**

Tab 5 105 ILCS 5/34-18 (“Powers of the Board”), effective August 31, 2017

- Tab 6 105 ILCS 5/34-200 (“Definitions”), effective July 13, 2012
- Tab 7 105 ILCS 5/34-225 (“School Transition Plans”), effective November 30, 2012
- Tab 8 105 ILCS 5/34-230 (“School Action Public Meetings and Hearings”), effective November 30, 2012
- Tab 9 Chicago Public Schools School Quality Rating Policy, Policy Manual Section 302.6, Board Report 14-1119-PO1
- Tab 10 Chicago Public Schools Policy on Review and Establishment of School Attendance Boundaries, Policy Manual Section 703.2, Board Report 05-0622-PO1
- Tab 11 Chicago Public Schools Space Utilization Standards and Methodology (Issued January 1, 2019)
- Tab 12 Final Guidelines for School Actions, 2018-2019 School Year (Issued November 20, 2018)
- Tab 13 Chief Executive Officer's Procedures for Public Hearings on Proposed School Closure, Consolidation, Co-location, Phase-Out, or Reassignment Boundary Change

#### **Documents and Written Evidence in Support of the Proposal**

- Tab 14 Transcript of the January 8, 2019 community meeting regarding the proposed closure of TEAM Englewood, dated January 8, 2019
- Tab 15 Summary of the January 8, 2019 community meeting regarding the proposed closure of TEAM Englewood, dated January 8, 2019
- Tab 16 Transcript of the January 17, 2019 community meeting regarding the proposed closure of TEAM Englewood, dated January 17, 2019
- Tab 17 Summary of the January 17, 2019 community meeting regarding the proposed closure of TEAM Englewood, dated January 17, 2019
- Tab 18 Written statement of Megan Hougard, Chief of Schools for Network 16 of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, dated February 5, 2019
- Tab 19 Written statement of James Dispensa, Director of Demographics and Planning of the Department of Planning and Management for the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, dated February 5, 2019

**B. Public Comment Documents**

There were no documents offered by the public to be received at the public hearing.

It was announced at the public hearing that the record would be kept open until Wednesday, February 6, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., to allow those parties who were unable to attend the hearing, or for any other reason, to submit written testimony or any documents relating to the CEO's proposal that they would want made a part of the record of proceedings. The public was given the option to make delivery by hand (42 W. Madison, Chicago, IL 60602) or via email (transitions@cps.edu) to the attention of the CPS Law Department.

No documents were received for admission subsequent to the public hearing.

**TESTIMONY PRODUCED:**

**A. CPS Witnesses:**

**Name**

**Affiliation**

**Megan Hougard**

**Network Chief for Network 16 for the Chicago Public Schools**

Good evening, Your Honor. My name is Megan Hougard, and I am the Network Chief for Network 16 for the Chicago Public Schools. Chicago Public Schools are divided into Networks. TEAM Englewood Community Academy High School ("TEAM") is a city-wide school located in Network 16, and I am responsible for the support and oversight of TEAM on behalf of the CEO. Prior to being a Network Chief, I was a teacher, administrator, and deputy chief. I have been TEAM's Network Chief since October 2015.

The Chicago Board of Education voted in February 2018 to close the school effective July 1, 2021 due to declining enrollment at TEAM. This closure, and the accompanying transition support plan, was part of the district's nearly \$100 million investment in a new state-of-the art STEM high school in Englewood.

The original decision to close TEAM effective July 1, 2021 was made to allow students currently enrolled at that time to graduate from their school if they so chose.

The original closure timeline and transition support plan was developed based on an extensive community engagement process involving community meetings, parent meetings, a public hearing, and regular discussions with elected officials and the Englewood Steering Committee.

After the Board voted in February 2018 to close TEAM, CPS staff mobilized to implement the accompanying transition support plan. From March to April 2018, CPS staff met individually with each TEAM student to discuss their academic plans and high school options for SY18-19. Through this process, CPS gave students the choice to remain at TEAM or transfer to a higher performing school of their choice with parental consent.

At the end of SY2017-18 TEAM had 76 students enrolled. Over a third of the 76 students graduated from CPS. The remaining CPS students voluntarily chose to transfer to CPS schools of their choice for the current school year.

Without any current students to serve, the Chief Executive Officer is proposing to close TEAM ahead of July 1, 2021.

The current proposal to close TEAM effective July 1, 2019 meets the criteria of the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions ("Guidelines") because student enrollment as of November 1, 2018 was zero.

It should be noted that TEAM students who transferred are receiving a variety of transition resources including transportation benefits and safety plans. Each of the schools that welcomed TEAM students received \$6,100 per transfer student in funding to provide academic, social and emotional, and other supports. These schools completed a rigorous transition support planning and budgeting process during the summer of 2018. As part of this process the district provided these schools with student profiles, held a budget and planning workshop for schools, and had a committee of subject matter experts review and approve all school support plans and budgets.

Currently, TEAM Englewood has zero students enrolled, and thus, I recommend that the Board approve the CEO's recommendation for closure.

Thank you, Your Honor. This concludes my statement.

**James Dispensa**

**Director of School Demographics  
and Planning for CPS**

Good evening, Your Honor. My name is James Dispensa, and I am the Director of Demographic Analysis and Planning for the Chicago Public Schools. My responsibilities include undertaking school demographic studies, enrollment projections, and the monitoring of space utilization of the public school facilities throughout Chicago. I have been in this position since October 2004.

The Chief Executive Officer, or CEO, has asked me to appear at this hearing today to convey to you, the parents, staff, and school community of TEAM Englewood Community Academy High

School ("TEAM Englewood"), as well as interested members of the public in attendance, information relevant to the proposal to close TEAM Englewood.

According to the CEO's Guidelines for School Actions for the 2018-2019 school year, the CEO may propose a closure if the student enrollment as of November 1, 2018 was zero students.

TEAM Englewood is located at 6201 S. Stewart Avenue, Chicago, IL 60621. TEAM Englewood is an open enrollment high school serving students in 10<sup>th</sup> - 12th grades. TEAM Englewood's enrollment as of November 1, 2018 was zero students. No students are projected to enroll for the 2019-2020 school year. Because no students will be transitioning to a new school as a result of this proposed closure, it is not necessary to identify a higher-performing welcoming school.

Finally, because TEAM Englewood is an open enrollment high school, it is not necessary to propose a boundary change.

Thank you, Your Honor. This concludes my statement.

**B. Public Comments:**

There were no public comments made at the public hearing.

**This concluded the testimony taken during the public hearing.**

**IV. Statement of Determinations**

The proposal to close TEAM Englewood effective July 1, 2019, is put in context by the following testimony:

“The Chicago Board of Education voted in February 2018 to close the school effective July 1, 2021 due to declining enrollment at TEAM. The original decision to close TEAM...was made to allow students currently enrolled at that time to graduate from their school if they so chose. At the end of SY2017-18, TEAM had 76 students enrolled. Over a third of the 76 students graduated from CPS. The remaining CPS students voluntarily chose to transfer to CPS schools of their choice for the current school year. Without any current students to serve, the Chief Executive Officer is proposing to close TEAM ahead of July 1, 2021.” (*Tab 18*)

Accordingly, I make the following determinations regarding that proposed school action:

1. Compliance with the provisions of §34-230 (a) requiring the CEO to prepare, publish and submit for public comment “guidelines for actions” has been had. (*Tab 12*)

2. Because there are no students currently enrolled at TEAM Englewood there are no parents or guardians, principal or local school council. Written notice was given to elected officials. Since there are staff working elsewhere each day whose job is still technically assigned to TEAM Englewood and, therefore, they are affected by this proposed action, written notice was given to them. Accordingly, compliance with the provisions of §34-225 requiring “school transition plans” has been had. (*Tabs 1 through 3*)

3. Compliance with the provisions of §34-230 (d) requiring publication of notice has been had. (*Tab 4*)

4. Compliance with the provisions of §34-230 (e) (1), and (f) (1), (2), (3) requiring a public hearing conducted by a qualified independent hearing officer has been had via the hearing held on February 5, 2019, wherein the undersigned presided.

5. Compliance has been had by this report which was prepared, and is submitted, by the undersigned, concerning the provisions of both §34-230 (f) (requiring: “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”), and “Procedures for Public Hearings on Proposed School Closure, Consolidations, Co-Location, Phase-Out or Reassignment Boundary Change” (requiring:

“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.”) (*Tab 8*)

6. Compliance with the provisions of §34-230 (e) (2), and (g) requiring opportunities to elicit other public comment has been had via public community meetings conducted by a representative of the CEO on January 8, 2019, and January 17, 2019. (*Tabs 14 through 17*)

7. Compliance with the provisions of the Guidelines (*Tab 12*), specifically, “III. Notice and School Transition Plans” and “Procedures for Public Hearings on Proposed School Closure, Consolidations, Co-Location, Phase-Out or Reassignment Boundary Change” (*Tab 13*) has been had via compliance with the various provisions of §34-230 as set out hereinabove. (*Tabs 1 through 4*)

8. The Guidelines require the CEO to consider certain criteria when recommending certain school action governed by the provisions of §34-230. The CEO’s proposal to close TEAM Englewood requires consideration of the following criteria set out in the Guidelines:

## **“II. CRITERIA**

### **“D. Criteria for...Closure**

“The CEO may propose a...closure only if the students impacted by a...closure will be provided the option to enroll in a higher performing school, whether designated as a welcoming school or otherwise. In addition,...the following criteria must be met:

- “2. for a closure, the **student enrollment as of November 1, 2018 is 0 students.**” (*Tab 12*) (Emphasis added)

9. The original decision to close TEAM Englewood effective July 1, 2021, was made to allow students currently enrolled at that time to graduate from their school if they so chose. By the beginning of the 2018–2019 school year, all TEAM Englewood students had transferred to other schools. Consequently, TEAM Englewood does not have any students to serve. (*Tab 18*)

10. Compliance with the criterion set out in the “Guidelines” at II. D. 2, permitting closure if “...student enrollment as of November 1, 2018 is 0 students”, has been had.

11. TEAM Englewood students who transferred are receiving a variety of transition resources including transportation benefits and safety plans. Each of the schools that welcomed TEAM Englewood students received \$6,100 per transfer student in funding to provide academic, social and emotional, and other supports. These schools completed a rigorous transition support planning and budgeting process during the summer of 2018. As part of this process the district provided these schools with student profiles, held a budget and planning workshop for schools, and had a committee of subject matter experts review and approve all school support plans and budgets. (*Tab 18*)

12. Because no students will be transitioning to a new school as a result of this proposed closure, it is not necessary to identify a higher-performing welcoming school. (*Tab 19*)

13. Because TEAM Englewood is an open enrollment high school, it is not necessary to propose a boundary change. (*Tab 19*)

## V. Conclusion

Based on these determinations, I conclude there is compliance with the requirements of the Illinois School Code and the CEO’s Guidelines for School Actions concerning the CEO’s proposal to close TEAM Englewood Community Academy High School effective July 1, 2019.

Submitted this 11th day of February, 2019



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Hon. Francis J. Dolan (Ret.)