

CLOSE BARTOLOME DE LAS CASAS OCCUPATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That effective June 30, 2010, the Chicago Board of Education closes Bartolome De Las Casas Occupational High School (Unit 1910, School ID 609765) ("Las Casas School"), located at 8401 South Saginaw Street, and that the students currently attending Las Casas School and not expected to graduate at the end of the 2009-10 school year will be reassigned to other school programs subject to approval by the Chicago Public Schools' Office of Specialized Services.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Board of Education's Policy on the Closing of Schools, 07-0523-PO2 ("the Policy"), and following a public hearing and community meeting, the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools ("CEO") may recommend to the Board the closing of schools for any of the reasons for such action stated in the Policy.

Beginning January 19, 2010, the CEO's designee published a notice of a public hearing regarding his proposal to close Las Casas School due to an impractical use of the facility. The public hearing was scheduled for January 29, 2010 at 8:00 pm. at 125 South Clark Street, 5th Floor, Board Chambers, Chicago, Illinois.

On January 27, 2010, members of the public were afforded an opportunity to provide public comment to the members of the Board at the Board's regular January 27, 2010 meeting, which was held pursuant to a published notice.

On January 29, 2010, the CEO, through his appointed Hearing Officer, Margaret Fitzpatrick, Esq., convened the public hearing to receive public comment on his proposal to close Las Casas School. Oral and written comments were received from those members of the public who wished to comment. The record of the public hearing was left open until January 30, 2010, at 5:00 p.m., to receive any additional comments that members of the public wished to submit in writing to the hearing officer.

Hearing Officer Fitzpatrick issued a report and recommendation to the CEO in which the hearing officer recommended the closing of Las Casas School.

On February 24, 2010, members of the public were afforded an opportunity to provide public comment to members of the Board at the Board's regular February 24, 2010 meeting, which was held pursuant to a published notice.

After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has determined to recommend that the Board close Las Casas School, effective July 30, 2010.

FINANCIAL: None.

LSC IMPLICATIONS: Pursuant to the Policy, Las Casas School's appointed Local School Council will be dissolved effective July 1, 2010 upon the closing of Las Casas School.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: All faculty and staff members currently assigned to Las Casas School will be displaced at the end of the 2009-10 school year in accordance with Board policies and any applicable collective bargaining agreements.

Approved for Consideration:



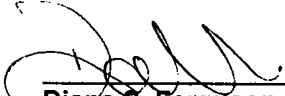
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



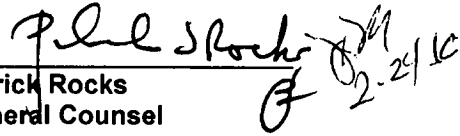
Ron Huberman
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Diana S. Ferguson
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form: *NA*



Patrick Rocks
General Counsel