

APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SOUTHWEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That the Board approve the establishment and opening of a new classical and Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) Magnet school to be known as Southwest Elementary School ("Southwest Elementary").

A formal school name shall be assigned by the Board prior to June 30, 2018 in accordance with the procedures identified for the naming of new schools in the Board's Policy on Naming and Re-Naming Schools (Board Report 03-0326-PO4).

A community meeting was held on October 11, 2017, at Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture located at 6500 S. Pulaski Road.

DESCRIPTION: In the fall of 2018, Southwest Elementary will open at 4120 W. 57th Street. Southwest Elementary will provide a Classical Program and a STEAM program and will serve approximately 570 students with grades K-8. The school will serve grades K-2 in September 2018 and a grade will be added each year thereafter until the school serves grades K-8.

ENROLLMENT: The Classical Program at Southwest Elementary shall enroll its students citywide based on the established identification and selection requirements for all Classical Schools, as outlined in the Board's Policy on Admissions for Magnet Schools, Selective Enrollment and other Options for Knowledge Schools and Programs (17-0426-PO2).

The STEAM Program at Southwest Elementary will first enroll applicants residing within a 2.5 mile radius via lottery. If any additional seats remain they will be distributed to siblings and then applicants residing outside of the 2.5 mile radius, in accordance with the Office of Access and Enrollment (OAE) guidelines.

The OAE will develop a process to amend the GoCPS Application to enable students applying to enroll in grades K-2 in the 2018-2019 school year to select Southwest Elementary School as an option. Parents applying to enroll their students in grades K-2 will be notified of the amended application and may reapply in accordance with the established guidelines.

CURRICULUM: The Classical School curriculum at Southwest Elementary will be designed to provide a challenging liberal arts course of instruction for students with high academic potential. The Classical Program will provide the acceleration of one year above grade level in reading and math.

The teaching and learning approach of the STEAM Magnet School Program will be a fully integrated STEAM experience that will utilize art as a learning tool. Engineering curricula, inquiry and problem based pedagogical approaches, enrichment experiences and meaningful technology infusion will be critical learning components. Students will be prepared for success in high school, postsecondary education and the workforce across all content areas, while inspiring scholars to pursue careers in STEM related fields.

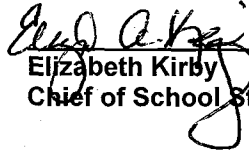
TRANSPORTATION: School bus transportation will be provided in accordance with the Board's Policy on Admissions for Magnet Schools, Selective Enrollment and other Options for Knowledge Schools and Programs (17-0426-PO2).

GOVERNANCE: Initially, Southwest Elementary will establish a transitional advisory body. A Local School Council with voting boundaries will be established pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.1c.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: Southwest Elementary will be staffed in accordance with Board staffing formulas for all positions. New teachers will be hired through a merit-based competitive process, prioritizing qualifications and experience. Unique teacher training, professional development, skills, abilities, proficiencies, experience and qualifications will apply to all teacher positions and may be required for educational support personnel.

FINANCIAL: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2018-2019 fiscal year budget.

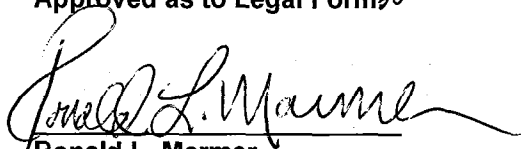
Approved for Consideration:


Elizabeth Kirby
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Approved:


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Approved as to Legal Form^{etc}


Ronald L. Marmer
General Counsel