APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A MULTI-TRACK YEAR-ROUND SCHEDULE FOR JOHN H. HAMLINE SCHOOL

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

Approve the implementation of a 60-20 multi-track, year-round schedule for the John H. Hamline School located at 4747 S. Bishop Street. The school will convert to a multi-track calendar beginning July 1, 2001.

DESCRIPTION:

The multi-track year-round program is designed to relieve overcrowding and to provide enriched educational opportunities for students. Under the multi-track year-round schedule, students and teachers will be grouped into four separate tracks. At any time during the school year, students in only three of the four tracks are in attendance. Space utilization is thus reduced by 25%.

The 60-20 calendar is selected as the most educationally effective year-round schedule. This schedule is designed such that students are in school for approximately 60 days and off school for approximately 20 days, for a minimum of 180 days of total attendance per year.

The Comprehensive Student Assignment Plan, adopted by the Board of Education on January 22, 1982 (Board Report 82-12) states: "The Board will seek to eliminate overcrowded schools to the greatest extent practicable considering all circumstances."

The Hamline multi-track calendar is designed so that beginning July 1, 2001, about 25% of the students will be on intersession at any given time, thus freeing up valuable classroom space. This will allow the school to implement art, ESL, and library programs for which space had not been previously available. In addition, it would allow the school to enhance and expand special education and counseling services for which space had not been previously available. Since many more kindergarten students will be seeking enrollment than there are eighth graders who will be leaving, the situation is more critical each year. This calendar will provide relief until such time as a new school or addition is constructed in the community.

LSC REVIEW:

The proposal was reviewed and approved by the Local School Council at a special meeting on February 6, 2001.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS: Not applicable

FINANCIAL:

The cost incurred by year-round calendars is the result of specific instructional support staff requirements for the entire 12 calendar months from July 1 to June 30 of any fiscal year. Costs incurred due to any increase in enrollment are not attributed to the year-round calendar schedule. Maintenance, security, and other facility costs are required for the entire year. Schools will have the authority to hire staff or use the equivalent dollars to extend work schedules of current staff.

Approved for Consideration:

COZETTE M. BUCKNEY Chief Education Officer hard of

Chief Executive Officer

Approved:

Within appropriation:

KENNETH C. GOTSCH Chief Fiscal Officer

Approved as to Legal Form: W

MARILYN F. JOHNSON General Counsel