REPORT OF THE RESULTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S REVIEW OF THE FINDINGS OF FACT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE HEARING OFFICER REGARDING THE CHARGES PREFERRED AGAINST ROBERT COTTO, A TEACHER ASSIGNED TO CHASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING ACTION:

That the results of the Board of Education's review of the findings of fact and recommendation of the Hearing Officer regarding the charges preferred against Robert Cotto be reported. Accordingly, Robert Cotto should be dismissed as a teacher employed by the Board of Education.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to Section 34-85 of the School Code of Illinois, 105 ILCS 5/34-85, a teacher with contractual continued service status whom the Board seeks to dismiss from employment is entitled to a hearing before an impartial hearing officer appointed by the Illinois State Board of Education. After the close of the hearing, the hearing officer shall report to the Chief Executive Officer findings of fact and a recommendation as to whether or not the teacher shall be dismissed from the Board of Education's employ. The Board of Education, after receiving the hearing officer's findings of fact and recommendation, shall make a decision as to whether the teacher shall be dismissed from the Board of Education's employ.

On February 12, 2001, Charles Donegan, a hearing officer appointed by the Illinois State Board of Education, issued his report and recommendation that Robert Cotto be reinstated, but with no back pay, by the Board of Education. Thereafter, the Board of Education reviewed the transcript of proceedings and post-hearing briefs, along with the recommendation of the hearing officer, and statements from the parties, and determined that it would reject the hearing officer's recommendation, and adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law set forth in the Board's Opinion and Order on file in the Board's office. Accordingly, Robert Cotto is hereby dismissed as a teacher employed by the Board of Education.

LSC REVIEW:

LSC Review is not applicable to this report.

AFFIRMATIVE

ACTION STATUS:

None.

FINANCIAL:

None.

Approved as to legal form:

General Counsel

Paul G. Vallas

Chief Executive Officer

Respectfully submitted,