

MAY 27, 2003

CONSOLIDATE WOODSON NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL INTO WOODSON SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL AND CHANGE THE GRADE STRUCTURE AT WOODSON SOUTH

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Chicago Board of Education consolidate Woodson North Middle School, located at 4414 South Evans Avenue, into Woodson South Primary School, located at 4444 South Evans Avenue, and that its attendance area be assigned to Woodson South, effective June 25, 2003.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Board of Education's Policy on the Closing and Consolidation of Schools, 02-0424-PO2 ("the Policy"), by the date of the annual May Board meeting and following a public hearing, the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools ("CEO") may recommend to the Board the consolidation of schools for any of the reasons for such action stated in the Policy.

On April 25, 2003, the CEO proposed that Woodson North Middle School be consolidated into Woodson South Primary School due to the underutilization of both schools. Pursuant to the Policy, a public hearing was convened on May 8, 2003, pursuant to proper notice to receive public comment on the CEO's proposal. An independent hearing officer received comments and supporting documents at the hearing. The hearing officer has prepared a report including findings regarding the CEO's proposal. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has determined to recommend that the Board consolidate Woodson North Middle School into Woodson South Primary School consistent with the Policy, effective June 25, 2003.

As a result of the consolidation, Woodson North Middle School will be absorbed into Woodson South Primary School and will cease to exist effective June 25, 2003. Therefore, pursuant to the Policy, the Local School Council of Woodson North will be dissolved effective June 25, 2003. The regularly certified and appointed teachers of Woodson North Middle School will be transferred to Woodson South Elementary School effective June 25, 2003. Pursuant to Section V of the Board-approved Uniform Principal's Performance Contract form, the contract of the Principal of Woodson North Middle School will terminate effective June 25, 2003.

Effective June 25, 2003, the grade structure of Carter G. Woodson South Elementary School will change from grades kindergarten through fourth to grades kindergarten through eighth and the attendance boundaries of Woodson South will be adjusted as follows:

Grades kindergarten through eight:

Beginning at Vincennes Avenue and 43rd Street
 East to Drexel Boulevard
 South to 47th Street
 West to Langley Avenue
 South to 49th Street
 West to Forrestville Avenue
 North to 48th Street
 West to Vincennes Avenue
 North to 47th Street
 West to Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
 North to 46th Street
 East to Vernon Avenue (extended)
 North to 45th Street
 East to Vincennes Avenue
 North to starting point.

LSC REVIEW: LSC approval is not applicable to this report.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS: None

FINANCIAL: None

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: None

Approved for Consideration:



BARBARA J. EASON-WATKINS
Chief Education Officer

Noted:




PEGGY DAVIS
Chief of Staff

Approved:



ARNE DUNCAN
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:



RUTH MOSCOVITCH
General Counsel