

**CLOSE REZIN ORR COMMUNITY ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL****THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:**

That the Chicago Board of Education close Rezin Orr Community Academy High School ("Orr"), located at 730 N. Pulaski Road, at the end of the 2003-2004 school year.

**DESCRIPTION:**

In April 2002, Orr began the process of converting into four small schools in accordance with the Board's Small Schools Policy (Board Report 02-0424-PO03). Since that time, two new schools have opened on the Orr campus: Phoenix Military Academy opened in September 2002 and Mose Vines Prep Academy opened in September 2003. Two more schools, the Applied Arts, Science and Technology Academy ("AASTA") and the EXCEL/Future Teachers Academy ("EXCEL") are both scheduled to open in September 2004. With the opening of these final two schools, the small school conversion process will be complete. In accordance with the Orr Small Schools Conversion Plan approved by the Board (Board Report 04-0428-EX6), Orr is scheduled to close at the conclusion of the 2003-04 school year.

Pursuant to the Board of Education's Policy on the Closing of Schools, 04-0225-PO02 (the "Closing Policy"), a public hearing on the proposed closing of Orr was convened on May 21, 2004 following proper notice to receive public comment. 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.

Pursuant to the Closing Policy, the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools ("CEO") may, following a public hearing, recommend to the Board the closing of schools for any of the reasons stated in the Closing Policy. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has determined to recommend that the Board close Orr as set out in the Orr Small Schools Conversion Plan.

Pursuant to the Closing Policy, the Local School Council of Orr will be dissolved effective the end of the 2003-2004 school year as the result of the closing of Orr. Orr teachers who have not been hired, as described in Orr Small Schools Conversion Plan, by one of the new small schools on the Orr campus shall become reassigned the regularly certified and appointed teachers of Orr will become reassigned teachers pursuant to the Policy on the "Reassignment and Layoff of Regularly Certified and Appointed Teachers Due to Changes in Staffing Needs," (Board Report 97- 0732-PO2).

Upon the closing of Orr, the Orr unit number 1830 may remain open for administrative purposes related to the operations of the new small schools as well as the operations of the pre-kindergarten program located on the Orr campus.

04-0526-EX7

**LSC REVIEW:** Not applicable

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:** Not applicable

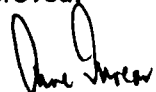
**FINANCIAL:** No cost to the Board at this time.

**PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:** None

**Approved for Consideration:**

  
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**Barbara Eason-Watkins**  
Chief Education Officer

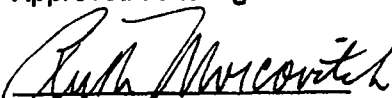
**Approved:**

  
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**Arne Duncan**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Within Appropriation:**

  
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**John Maiorca**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Approved as to legal form:** *MA*

  
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**Ruth M. Moscovitch**  
General Counsel