

October 27, 2004

APPROVE THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND BUDGETS FOR SCHOOLS ON PROBATION**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:**

That the Chicago Board of Education approve the 2004-06 School Improvement Plans for Advancing Academic Achievement (SIPAAAs) and School Budgets for the 212 probation schools and delegate to the Chief Executive Officer and/or the Area Instruction Officer, as his designee, the authority to implement the SIPAAAs and approve any amendments to the plans and school budgets during the school year.

DESCRIPTION: The Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools is recommending approval of the school improvement plans (SIPAAAs) for correcting deficiencies for schools on probation that have completed the development of their school improvement plans pursuant to Section 5/34-8.3. of the Illinois School Code. The plans include specific steps that the local school councils and school staff must take to correct identified deficiencies and specific objective criteria by which the schools' subsequent progress shall be determined. The school budgets include specific expenditures directly calculated to correct educational and operational deficiencies identified at the schools.

These school improvement plans were submitted to the area offices and reviewed by the area officers and the individual principals prior to being submitted to the Chief Executive Officer. Individual plans were developed collaboratively at each school with the assistance of the Office of Research, Evaluation and Accountability, the Office of Management and Budget, Local School Councils and school personnel.

Once submitted to the area offices, SIPAAAs were reviewed to ensure that: all needed areas were addressed, the stated goals and activities were consistent with trend analyses and analysis of current conditions, instruction was the focus, recommendations from the assessment team were included, and budgetary concerns were addressed.

All of the SIPAAAs contain goals to implement the Chicago Reading Initiative and the Chicago Math and Science Initiative. A plan to enhance student attendance if the attendance rate is below 95% is appended to the SIPAAA. Many plans included the following actions: implementing new reading and mathematics programs, providing professional development, implementing reduced class size, purchasing instructional materials, and teaching reading at the high school level.

In accordance with the accountability policy adopted February 25, 2004, probation school SIPAAAs included specific expenditures directly calculated to correct educational and operational deficiencies. The schools directed their discretionary funding to the implementation of core programs, such as reading and math specialists, reduction of class size in grades K – 3, full-day kindergarten, and professional development. Monitoring of these SIPAAAs will be the responsibility of the area offices with the assistance of the Office of Research, Evaluation and Accountability and the Office of Management and Budget. All individuals noted in the plan will also be responsible for successful implementation of the plans.

Copies of the School Improvement Plans are available in the area offices.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION: Not applicable.

LSC REVIEW: Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

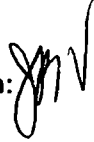
FINANCIAL: Within budgetary appropriations. No cost to the Chicago Public Schools.

Approved for Consideration:



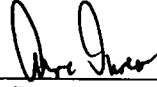
Barbara Eason Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Ruth Moscovitch
General Counsel

Approved:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer