

March 26, 2008

**APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPENING OF A NEW ELEMENTARY MAGNET SCHOOL
TO BE KNOWN AS SIR MILES DAVIS MAGNET ACADEMY**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Board approve the establishment and opening of a new elementary magnet school, effective July 1, 2008, to be known as Sir Miles Davis Magnet Academy located at 6730 S. Paulina.

DESCRIPTION: Effective July 1, 2008, Sir Miles Davis Magnet Academy (Davis Magnet) will open at 6730 S. Paulina as a magnet school with a Children's Engineering program. Davis Magnet will serve approximately 650 students with grades K-8 in the magnet program. Davis Magnet will also have a Pre-Kindergarten program. Davis Magnet will enroll students for the 2008-2009 school year.

Enrollment: Students currently attending Vernon Johns Middle Academy located at 6936 S. Hermitage and students currently attending Miles Davis Academy located at 6723 S. Wood will be offered the opportunity, prior to the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year, to enroll at Davis Magnet. Any remaining spaces will be filled through a special magnet application process in spring 2008. Applications to the school for the remaining spaces will be made available through the Office of Academic Enhancement. If more applications are received than there are spaces available, students will be selected for the remaining spaces through a computerized lottery process, which will randomly select students to fill the spaces available at each grade. For the 2009-2010 school year and thereafter, Davis Magnet shall enroll students by citywide application.

Attendance Boundaries: No attendance boundaries will be established for this magnet school.

Curriculum: Davis Magnet will offer a Children's Engineering program beginning with the kindergarten level. The Children's Engineering program at Davis Magnet will create an age appropriate learning experience focused on concepts of the engineering process. Using the Technology Design Loop (TDL) & Problem-based learning processes, children will work together in cooperative groups on engineering design challenges, projects and activities, requiring them to define problems, research, design, construct, test, analyze, and communicate solutions. These design challenges will be part of interdisciplinary units of study driven by reading, math, writing and communication Illinois Learning Standards and national science, math and technology standards. The Children's Engineering design challenge problems will often originate from studies in language arts, social studies, art, music, and physical education. The Technology Design Loop (TDL) process incorporates the constructivist view of learning - knowledge is actively constructed by the learner as he or she experiences the world.

Academic Calendar: At inception, Davis Magnet School will follow Chicago Public Schools' standard 10-month academic calendar from August to June with a summer school program in July and August. Teachers may be required to commit to training and other activities outside of the academic calendar.

School Day: At inception, Davis Magnet will employ an open campus model with a minimum teacher school day of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. school day. Teachers will commit to after-school training and activities with students, staff and community. Students' standard school day will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. After-school programming will be established to provide tutoring, instructional activities, enrichment activities and/or social center activities to students.

GOVERNANCE: A Local School Council with voting boundaries will be established in a timely manner pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.1c.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: Miles Magnet will be staffed in accordance Board staffing formulas for all positions. Children's Engineering Teacher-in-Training positions with a unique program code and Children's Engineering Teacher positions with a unique program code will be created. Unique teacher training, professional development, skills, abilities, proficiencies, experience and qualifications will apply to all teacher positions and may be required for educational support personnel.

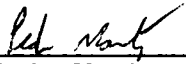
FINANCIAL: CPS has received a grant from the United States Department of Education in the amount of \$10,170,215.00 to support the establishment of five new magnet schools including Davis Magnet. Subject to the guidelines for establishing a magnet school, beginning in 2008, the Bureau of Student Transportation will need to establish bus routes for the new magnet school.

Approved for Consideration:



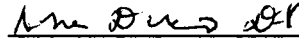
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Within Appropriation:



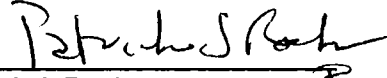
Pedro Martinez
Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Approved:



Arne Duncan
Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to legal form: 



Patrick J. Rocks
Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel