

CLOSE LAS CASAS OCCUPATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That effective June 30, 2009, the Chicago Board of Education close Las Casas Occupational High School (unit 1910, school ID 609765) ("Las Casas"), located at 8401 South Saginaw Street, and that the students currently attending Las Casas and not expected to graduate at the end of the current school year will be reassigned to other school programs subject to approval by the Office of Specialized Services.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Board of Education's Policy on the Closing of Schools, 07-0523-PO2 ("the Policy"), and following a public hearing and community meeting, the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools ("CEO") may recommend to the Board the closing of schools for any of the reasons for such action stated in the Policy.

Pursuant to the Policy, a public hearing was convened on January 26, 2009, and a community meeting was convened on January 31, 2009, following the issuance of proper notice to receive public comment on the CEO's proposal to close Las Casas due to reasons associated with the condition of the building and reasons associated with space utilization. An independent hearing officer received comments and supporting documents at the hearing and meeting and kept the record open after the meeting to receive additional written comments or documentation. Transcripts of the public hearing and community meeting have been provided to the Board. The hearing officer has prepared and submitted a report regarding the CEO's proposal in which the hearing officer recommends the closing of Las Casas. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has determined to recommend that the Board close Las Casas effective June 30, 2009.

FINANCIAL: No additional cost to the Chicago Public Schools

LSC IMPLICATIONS: Pursuant to the School Closing Policy, Las Casas' Local School Council Occupational High School will be dissolved June 30, 2009 upon the closing of Las Casas.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: All faculty and staff members currently assigned to Las Casas will be displaced at the end of the 2008-09 school year in accordance with Board policies and any applicable collective bargaining agreements.

Approved for Consideration:

Approved:

Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Ron Huberman
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:

Approved as to legal form:

Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Patrick Rocks
General Counsel