

February 24, 2010

**RECONSTITUTE WENDELL PHILLIPS HIGH SCHOOL AND PHILLIPS HIGH SCHOOL
ACHIEVEMENT ACADEMY AND REMOVE AND REPLACE THE STAFF, INCLUDING THE
PRINCIPALS, AT THE END OF THE 2009-10 SCHOOL YEAR**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board") approves the reconstitution of Wendell Phillips High School and its Achievement Academy, Units 1510 and 7960, School IDs 609727 and 609743, (hereafter collectively referred to as "Phillips High School"), both located at 244 West Pershing Road, Chicago, Illinois and remove and replace their staffs, including the principals, at the end of the 2009-10 school year.

DESCRIPTION:

Statutory Authority. Pursuant to Section 5/34-8.3(d) of the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/34-8.3(d), and following the opportunity for a public hearing, the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools ("CEO") may recommend to the Board the reconstitution of a school on probation for at least one year for academic reasons, and the replacement and reassignment of its entire staff, including the principal.

Procedural History: Public Notice, Public Hearings, and the Hearing Officer's Report and Recommendation. On January 19, 2010, the CEO gave written notice of his proposal to turnaround Phillips High School by reconstituting the school in accordance with Section 5/34-8.3(d) of the Illinois School Code to:

- (a) the parents of students enrolled at Phillips High School;
- (b) the principal of Phillips High School;
- (c) the assistant principal(s) of Phillips High School;
- (d) the teachers and staff of Phillips High School; and,
- (e) the Local School Council members of Phillips High School.

Beginning January 19, 2010, the CEO's designee published a notice of a public hearing regarding his proposal to reconstitute Phillips High School. The public hearing was scheduled for February 1, 2010 at 5:30 pm. at 125 South Clark Street, 5th Floor, Board Chambers, Chicago, Illinois.

On January 27, 2010, members of the public were afforded an opportunity to provide public comment to the members of the Board at the Board's regular January 27, 2010 meeting, which was held pursuant to a published notice.

On February 1, 2010, the CEO, through his appointed Hearing Officer, Fred Bates, Esq., convened the public hearing to receive public comment on his proposal to reconstitute Phillips High School. Oral and written comments were received from those members of the public who wished to comment. The record of the public hearing was left open until Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., to receive any additional comments that members of the public wished to submit in writing to the hearing officer.

Hearing Officer Bates issued a report and recommendation to the CEO in which Hearing Officer Bates recommended that the CEO proceed with his proposal to reconstitute Phillips High School.

On February 24, 2010, members of the public were afforded an opportunity to provide public comment to members of the Board at the Board's regular February 24, 2010 meeting, which was held pursuant to a published notice.

Basis for CEO's Recommendation. On December 16, 2009, the CEO published the criteria that would qualify underperforming schools for turnaround, by reconstitution and other means. The CEO determined that schools that had received less than 33.3% of possible performance points under the CPS School Performance, Remediation and Probation Policy for school years 2007-08 and 2008-09 would be considered for turnaround. That policy assesses High School performance based on current status and growth trends with respect to the (1) one-year drop out rate, (2) freshman on track, ACT scores, (3) PSAE reading scores, (4) PSAE math scores, (5) PSAE science scores, (6) attendance, (7) AP class enrollment, (8) students with scores of 3+ on AP examinations, (9) students making expected EPAS reading gains, and (10) students making expected EPAS mathematics gains. Phillips High School met the CEO's turnaround criteria.

A. Phillips High School's Probation History. Phillips High School has been on probation for fourteen years. During that time, the District has provided Phillips High School the following:

- 1) Since school year 2006-07, the District has provided the school with a comprehensive instructional development system (IDS). Through IDS, the school's teachers in English, mathematics and science receive curriculum aligned to PSAE, Illinois and College Readiness Standards; quarterly and end of year assessments aligned to the curriculum and meant to provide ongoing data about student progress and learning gaps; and targeted professional development in the form of workshops as well as site-based one-on-one coaching;
- 2) Since the school has been on probation, the District has provided oversight of its discretionary budget to ensure funds are allocated in line with the school's goals for student outcomes;
- 3) Beginning in school year 2006-07, the school operated under an Area Instructional Officer-monitored restructuring plan as a result of not meeting annual yearly progress. The plan emphasized double-period reading and mathematics classes to support student progress and professional development for the administrative team related to standardized assessments, and specifically PSAE data; and,
- 4) During school year 2008-09, the District provided the school two additional educational support persons in order to dramatically improve the rate at which freshmen entering Phillips High School completed their first year of high school on-track to graduate.

B. Phillips High School Meets the Turnaround Criteria. Phillips High School satisfied the school turnaround criteria in as much as it received 27.8% of available performance points for the 2007-08 school year and 19.4% of available performance points for the 2008-09 school year.

C. Reconstitution is in the Best Interests of Phillips High School Students. Reconstitution will enable the CEO to select a principal and administrative team to give Phillips High School a clean slate. No students will be displaced from the school.

After reviewing the Hearing Officer's Report and Recommendation, the CEO recommends that the Board reconstitute Phillips High School at the end of the 2009-10 school year in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-8.3(d). The reconstitution of Phillips High School will take effect July 1, 2010.

FINANCIAL: None.

LSC IMPLICATIONS: As Phillips High School will remain on probation after its reconstitution, the powers and duties of the Phillips High School Local School Council with respect to the School Improvement Plan and School Expenditure Plan will remain the same after reconstitution. As the result of the reconstitution pursuant to section 5/34-8.3(d) of the Illinois School Code, the Phillips Local School Council will have no authority to select a new four-year contract principal. until the school is removed from probation pursuant to Section VIII of the Board's School Remediation and Probation Policy for the 2009-10 school year, or any successor policy on school probation.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: Pursuant to 105 ILSC 5/34-8.3(d)(4), all Phillips High School employees, including the principal, will be removed and replaced in accordance with Board rules, policies and applicable collective bargaining agreements, if any.

Approved for Consideration:



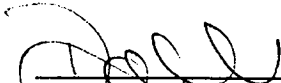
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



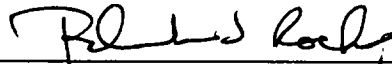
Ron Huberman
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:

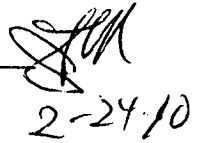


Diana S. Ferguson
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel



2-24-10