

APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW EARLY COLLEGE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STEM) HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SOUTHWEST AREA ECSS

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Board approve the establishment of a new Early College Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) High School to be known as Southwest Area ECSS. Southwest Area ECSS will be located at 7651 S. Homan Avenue.

A formal school name shall be assigned by the Board in accordance with the procedures identified for the naming of new schools in the Board's Policy on Naming and Re-Naming Schools (Board Report 03-0326-PO4).

Information sessions on this proposed high school were held on the following dates and places: March 14, 2012 at Lindblom High School, 6130 S. Wolcott Avenue, March 21, 2012 at Dawes Elementary School, 3810 W. 81st Place, March 21, 2012 at Hampton Elementary School, 3434 W. 77th Street, March 22, 2012 at Daley College, 7500 S. Pulaski Road, March 27, 2012 at Daley College, 7500 S. Pulaski Road, March 28, 2012 at Daley College, 7500 S. Pulaski Road, March 29, 2012 at Tarkington School, 3330 W. 71st Street, April 10, 2012 at Wrightwood Charter, 8130 S. California Avenue, and April 11, 2012 at Carroll/Rosenwald Specialty Elementary School, 2929 W. 83rd Street.

Description: Effective September 1, 2012, Southwest Area ECSS will open as an Early College STEM High School with an emphasis on Information Technology (IT) career development. The school will serve approximately 960 students with grades 9-12. The school will serve approximately 200 students in grade 9 in September 2012 and a grade will be added each year thereafter until the school serves grades 9-12.

Enrollment: The Chief Executive Officer or his designee is directed to hold a special application process in spring 2012 for ninth grade seats at the school and to create two school overlay attendance areas for Southwest Area ECSS. The first of these overlays will be a neighborhood overlay, as defined by the Chief Executive Officer or his designee. The second will be a network overlay, defined as the Southwest Side High School Network.

For the spring 2012 application process, the Chief Executive Officer or his designee will hold an initial lottery for applicants who attended an information session and live within the neighborhood preference overlay. If all seats are not filled through this lottery, a second lottery will be held for applicants who attended an information session and live within the Southwest Side High School Network. If all seats are not filled through this second lottery, a third lottery will be held for applicants who attended an information session and live within the rest of the city. Finally, if all seats are not filled through these three lotteries, preferences for enrollment will be given to applicants who did not attend an information session and live within the neighborhood overlay, then to those that did not attend an information session and live within the Southwest Side High School Network, and then to those that did not attend an information session and live within the rest of the city.

Beginning with the 2013-2014 application year, the Southwest Area ECSS shall enroll students based on the guidelines set forth in the Office of Access and Enrollment's Options for Knowledge Guide.

Attendance Boundaries: Overlay attendance preference areas will be established for this school.

Curriculum: All students enrolled at Southwest Area ECSS will enroll in core academic coursework preparing them for postsecondary success. In addition, Career Technical Education (CTE) will work with postsecondary and corporate partners to integrate STEM and IT programming throughout coursework, with dual enrollment and college courses offered to all students.

Governance: Initially, Southwest Area ECSS will establish a transitional advisory body. A Local School Council with voting boundaries will be established in a timely manner pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.1c.

Personnel Implications: Southwest Area ECSS will be staffed in accordance with Board staffing formulas for all positions. Unique teacher training, professional development, skills, abilities, proficiencies, experience and qualifications may apply to some teacher positions and may be required for educational support personnel.


Financial: The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2012-2013 fiscal year budget.

Approved for Consideration:



Oliver Sicat, Portfolio Officer

Approved:



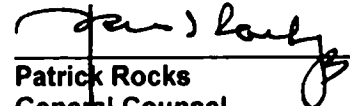
Jean-Claude Brizard
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Dave Watkins
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form:



Patrick Rocks
General Counsel
RV
4/24/12