CLOSE ANTHONY OVERTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ADJUST THE ATTENDANCE AREAS OF IRVIN C. MOLLISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND EDMUND BURKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That effective June 30, 2013, the Chicago Board of Education close Anthony Overton Elementary School (School ID 610277) ("Overton"), located at 221 East 49th Street, Chicago, Illinois, for space utilization reasons, reassign returning Overton students to Irvin C. Mollison Elementary School (School ID 610276) ("Mollison"), located at 4415 South King Drive, Chicago, Illinois, and that the attendance areas of Mollison and Edmund Burke Elementary School (School ID 609819) ("Burke"), located at 5356 South King Drive, Chicago, Illinois, be adjusted to include the Overton attendance area.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Illinois School Code Sections 34-200 through 34-232, the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions ("Guidelines"), and the Board of Education's Policy on the Review and Establishment of School Attendance Boundaries, 05-0622-PO1, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the Chicago Public Schools may recommend the closing of schools and the adjustment of school attendance boundaries.

Pursuant to legal requirements, two community meetings were convened on April 8, 2013, and April 12, 2013, at Dunbar High School, located at 3000 South King Drive, Chicago, Illinois, and a public hearing was convened on April 19, 2013, at 125 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, following the issuance of proper notice. An independent hearing officer received oral and written comments and supporting documents at the hearing and kept the record open after the meeting to receive additional written comments or documentation. A transcript of the hearing, along with the supportive documents and summaries of the community meetings have been provided to the Board. The hearing officer summarized comments and written documentation received and reported that the CEO's proposal did not meet the requirements of the law because he determined that Mollison was not a higher performing school for the purpose of school action, despite his acknowledgement that "technically and mathematically" Mollison is "a higher-performing school". The hearing officer exceeded the scope of his authority by failing to adhere to the specific definition of "higher performing" outlined in the Guidelines. The CEO's proposal is compliant as Mollison is a higher performing school as defined by the Guidelines. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has decided to recommend that the Board close Overton effective June 30, 2013, reassign Overton's returning students to Mollison, and assign Overton's attendance area to Mollison and Burke.

Further, pursuant to the Board of Education's Policy on the Review and Establishment of School Attendance Boundaries, 05-0622-PO1, an additional public hearing was held to discuss the attendance area boundary change. The meeting was held on May 13, 2013, at Kenwood High School, located at 5015 South Blackstone Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Adjust Attendance Area Boundary of Irvin C. Mollison Elementary School (School ID 610276)

4415 South King Drive, Chicago, Illinois Effective June 30, 2013, for grades Kindergarten through eighth;

Beginning at Indiana Ave and 43rd St East to Prairie Ave North to 42nd St East to Dr Martin Luther King Jr Dr South to 43rd St East to Vincennes Ave
South to 45th PI
West to Dr Martin Luther King Jr Dr
South to 47th St
East to Vincennes Ave
South to 48th St
East to Forrestville Ave
South to 49th St
West to State St
North to 45th St
East to Indiana Ave

North to the starting point

Adjust Attendance Area Boundary of Edmund Burke Elementary School (School ID 609819)

5356 South King Drive, Chicago, Illinois
Effective June 30, 2013, for grades Kindergarten through eighth;

Beginning at Wabash Ave and 49th St
East to St Lawrence Ave
South to 51st St
East to Cottage Grove Ave
South to 60th St
West to Dr Martin Luther King Jr Dr
North to 56th St
West to Indiana Ave
North to Garfield Blvd.
West to Michigan Ave
North to 51st St
West to Wabash Ave
North to the starting point

LSC IMPLICATIONS: Overton's Local School Council will be dissolved effective June 30, 2013, upon the closing of Overton.

FINANCIAL: The financial implications associated with this school action will be addressed during the development of the fiscal year 2014 budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY13 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: The employment status of all faculty and staff members currently assigned to the schools affected by this authorization will be determined pursuant to Board policies and any collective bargaining agreements.

Approved for Consideration:

Respectfully Submitted:

Todd Babbitz

Chief Transformation Officer

Barbara Byrd-Bennett

Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

James Bebley

General Counsel