CLOSE JESSE OWENS ELEMENTARY COMMUNITY ACADEMY
AND ADJUST THE ATTENDANCE AREA OF SAMUEL GOMPERS FINE ARTS OPTIONS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That effective June 30, 2013, the Chicago Board of Education close Jesse Owens Elementary Community Academy (School ID 609932) ("Owens"), located at 12450 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois, for space utilization reasons, reassign returning Owens students to Samuel Gompers Fine Arts Options Elementary School (School ID 609943) ("Gompers"), located at 12302 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois, and that the attendance area of Gompers be adjusted to include the Owens attendance area.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Illinois School Code Sections 34-200 through 34-232, the Chief Executive Officer’s Guidelines for School Actions, 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 11, 2013, at Harlan High School, located at 9652 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and a public hearing was convened on April 16, 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 and summaries of the community meetings have been provided to the Board. The hearing officer reported that the CEO’s proposal met the requirements of the law and summarized comments and written documentation received. After receiving the hearing officer’s report, the CEO has decided to recommend that the Board close Owens effective June 30, 2013, reassign Owens’ returning students to Gompers, and assign Owens’ attendance area to Gompers.

Adjust Attendance Area Boundary of Samuel Gompers Fine Arts Options Elementary School
(School ID 609943)
Current Address: 12302 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois
New Address: 12302 South State Street and 12450 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois
Effective June 30, 2013, for grades Kindergarten through eighth:

Beginning at Eggleston Ave and 124th St
East to Princeton Ave
North to the NIRC RR (at 121st St)
East to the IC RR (at Front Ave)
Southwest to the Little Calumet River
North and west to the line of Princeton Ave
North to 127th St
West to Harvard Ave
North to 126th St
West to Stewart Ave
North to 125th St
West to Eggleston Ave
North to the starting point
LSC IMPLICATIONS: Owens' Local School Council will be dissolved effective June 30, 2013, upon the closing of Owens.

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:

Todd Babbitt
Chief Transformation Officer

Respectfully Submitted:

Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

James Bebley
General Counsel