CLOSE MARTIN A. RYERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ADJUST THE ATTENDANCE AREA OF LAURA S. WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND RELOCATE LAURA S. WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO THE 646 NORTH LAWNDALE AVENUE FACILITY

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That effective June 30, 2013, the Chicago Board of Education close Martin A. Ryerson Elementary School (School ID 610154) ("Ryerson"), located at 646 North Lawndale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, for space utilization reasons, reassign returning Ryerson students to Laura S. Ward Elementary School (School ID 610133) ("Ward, L."), located at 410 North Monticello Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, adjust the attendance area of Ward, L. to include the Ryerson attendance area, and relocate Ward, L. to the site of the former Ryerson school.

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 12, 2013, at Raby High School, located at 3545 West Fulton Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, and a public hearing was convened on April 29, 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 Ryerson effective June 30, 2013, reassign Ryerson's returning students to Ward, L., assign Ryerson's attendance area to Ward, L., and relocate Ward, L. to 646 North Lawndale Avenue.

Adjust Attendance Area Boundary of Laura S. Ward Elementary School (School ID 610133)

Current location: 410 North Monticello Avenue, Chicago, Illinois New location: 646 North Lawndale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois Effective June 30, 2013, for grades Kindergarten through eighth;

Beginning at the Belt RR (at Kenton Ave) and Chicago Ave
East to Pulaski Rd
North to Iowa St
East to St. Louis Ave
South to Franklin Blvd
East to Homan Ave
South to Governors Pkwy
West to St. Louis Ave
South to Carroll AVe
West to Central Park Ave
South to Lake St
East to Homan Blvd

South to Madison St

West to Hamlin Blvd
North to Lake St
West to Pulaski Rd
North to the Kinzie St
West to the Belt RR (at Kenton Ave)
North to the starting point

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

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:

Fodd Babeitz
Chief Transformation Officer

Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

James Bebley General Counsel