

**CLOSE SONGHAI ELEMENTARY LEARNING INSTITUTE  
AND ADJUST THE ATTENDANCE AREA OF GEORGE W. CURTIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That effective June 30, 2013, the Chicago Board of Education close Songhai Elementary Learning Institute (School ID 610160) ("Songhai"), located at 11725 South Perry Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, for space utilization reasons, reassign returning Songhai students to George W. Curtis Elementary School (School ID 609900) ("Curtis"), located at 32 East 115<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago, Illinois, and that the attendance area of Curtis be adjusted to include the Songhai 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 6, 2013, and April 12, 2013, at Harlan High School, located at 9652 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and a public hearing was convened on April 23, 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 Songhai effective June 30, 2013, reassign Songhai's returning students to Curtis, and assign Songhai's attendance area to Curtis.

**Adjust Attendance Area Boundary of George W. Curtis Elementary School  
(School ID 609900)**

32 East 115<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago, Illinois

*Effective June 30, 2013, for grades Kindergarten through eighth;*

Beginning at Princeton Ave and 115th St

East to Wentworth Ave

North to 111th St

East to Edbrooke Ave

South to 112th St

East to Indiana Ave

South to the C&WI RR

Southeast to the IC RR (at Front Ave)

Southwest to the NIRC RR (at 121st St)

West to Wentworth Ave

North to 120th St

West to Princeton Ave

North to the starting point

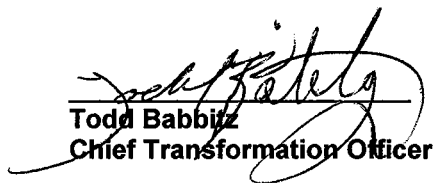
**LSC IMPLICATIONS:** Songhai's Local School Council will be dissolved effective June 30, 2013, upon the closing of Songhai.

**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.

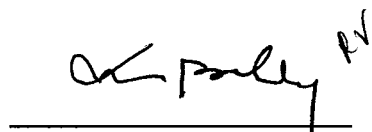
**Approved for Consideration:**

**Respectfully Submitted:**

  
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Todd Babbitz  
Chief Transformation Officer

  
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Barbara Byrd-Bennett  
Chief Executive Officer

**Approved as to Legal Form:**

  
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James Bebley  
General Counsel