

CLOSE WILLIAMS PREPARATORY ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That effective June 30, 2013, the Chicago Board of Education close Williams Preparatory Academy Middle School (School ID 610336) ("Williams Middle"), located at 2710 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, for space utilization reasons, and reassign returning Williams Middle students to John B. Drake Elementary School (School ID 609894) ("Drake"), currently located at 2722 South King Drive, Chicago, Illinois, and proposed to be located at 2710 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Illinois School Code Sections 34-200 through 34-232 and the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the Chicago Public Schools may recommend the closing of schools and the adjustment of school attendance boundaries.

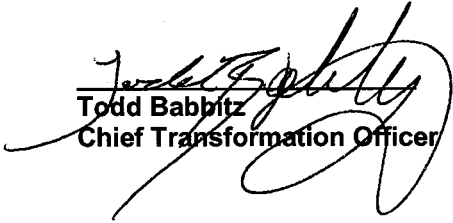
Pursuant to legal requirements, two community meetings were convened on April 10, 2013, and April 15, 2013, at Dunbar High School, located at 3000 South King Drive, Chicago, Illinois, and a public hearing was convened on April 26, 2013, at 125 South Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, following the issuance 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 summarized comments and written documentation received and reported that the CEO's proposal did not meet the requirements of the law. The hearing officer applied the law improperly. Notice does not need to be given for vacating the 2722 South King Drive facility when Drake relocates to 2710 South Dearborn. Notice only needs to be given with respect to the proposal to close Williams Middle, which was done by the CEO. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has decided to recommend that the Board close Williams Middle effective June 30, 2013 and reassign Williams Middle's returning students to Drake.

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

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.

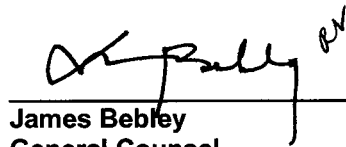
Approved for Consideration:


Todd Babbitz
Chief Transformation Officer

Respectfully Submitted:


Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:


James Bebbey
General Counsel