

February 24, 2016

**CONSOLIDATE MARY MAPES DODGE RENAISSANCE ELEMENTARY ACADEMY
INTO MORTON SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That effective July 1, 2016, the Chicago Board of Education consolidate Mary Mapes Dodge Renaissance Elementary Academy (School ID 609888) ("Dodge") into Morton School of Excellence (School ID 610257) ("Morton") pursuant to a request from both school communities vis a vis their principals. Leadership recognized that due to Dodge's declining enrollment their current situation was unsustainable. As a result, they requested that the Board consolidate Dodge into Morton. Both schools are co-located in the same facility located at 431 North Troy Street. Morton is an attendance area school, and their boundary will not be affected by this proposal. Dodge is a citywide school with no attendance area boundary.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to Illinois School Code Sections 34-200 through 34-230 and the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions, 2015 – 2016 School Year, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the Chicago Public Schools may recommend to the Board the consolidation of schools.

Pursuant to legal requirements, two community meetings were held on January 13, 2016 and January 19, 2016 at George Westinghouse College Prep, located at 3223 West Franklin Boulevard, and a public hearing was convened on January 28, 2016 at 42 West Madison Street 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 hearing to receive additional 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 documentation received. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has decided to recommend that the Board authorize the consolidation of Dodge into Morton.

LSC IMPLICATIONS: The Dodge LSC will be dissolved at the end of the current school year, June 30, 2016. The Morton LSC will remain unaffected by this authorization.

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

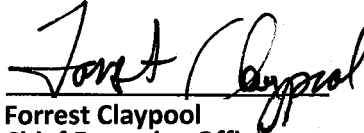
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The financial impact of this authorization will be addressed during the development of the fiscal 2017 budget. Because the Illinois School Code prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond fiscal year 2016 are considered contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

Approved for Consideration:



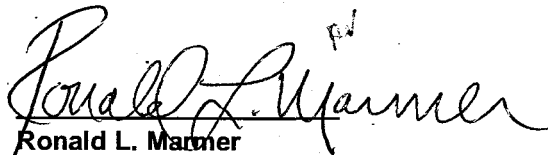
**Robert Boik
Interim Chief Planning &
Data Management Officer**

Respectfully Submitted:



**Forrest Claypool
Chief Executive Officer**

Approved as to legal form:



**Ronald L. Manner
General Counsel**