

September 22, 2021

**RESOLUTION REGARDING ACCELERATED PLACEMENT POLICY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

WHEREAS, there is still an ongoing outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") and infections are being reported internationally, including the United States and the City of Chicago and;

WHEREAS, in-person instruction was suspended for the 2019-2020 school year on March 17, 2020;

WHEREAS, the administration of assessments for the 2019-2020 school year was suspended on March 27, 2020;

WHEREAS, the District did not administer Spring Northwest Evaluation Association Measures of Academic Progress ("NWEA MAP") for the 2019-2020 school year;

WHEREAS, the District started the 2020-2021 school year with remote learning and began transitioning to hybrid instruction on January 11, 2021 for students in pre-kindergarten and cluster programs; on March 1, 2021 for students in kindergarten through fifth grade; and March 8, 2021 for students in sixth through eighth grade and;

WHEREAS, due to varying student learning modalities and the difficulties in scheduling in person testing in 2021, the District did not administer Spring NWEA MAP for the 2020-2021 school year;

WHEREAS, the district-wide NWEA contract for MAP Growth 2-5 and 6+ expired at the end of the 2020-21 school year and was not extended;

WHEREAS, the District will not administer NWEA MAP for 2021-2022 school year, which is administered to students in grades 2 through 8 and is required as a pre-qualification for consideration for Single-Subject and Whole-Grade Acceleration as outlined in Board Policy 301.12;

WHEREAS, the District does not have NWEA MAP or other student district wide assessment data for 2019-2020 school year, 2020-2021 school year, and will not have district wide assessment data available for the 2021-2022 school year;

WHEREAS, the Section 14A-32 of the Illinois School Code requires in the Accelerated Placement Act, that all districts have an Accelerated Placement policy that uses an assessment process that includes multiple, reliable indicators;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board") believes that with the Accelerated Placement Policy already requiring two other reliable indicators unaffected by the contract expiration (Illinois Assessment of Readiness "IAR" and Grade Point Average "GPA") to be considered for Single-Subject and Whole-Grade Acceleration;

WHEREAS, for the year 2021-2022, third grade students will not have IAR scores returned by ISBE in time to apply for Whole-Grade and Single-Subject acceleration, and therefore would have GPA as the only pre-qualification;

WHEREAS, with only the GPA as a pre-qualification the district will not have multiple, reliable indicators for an assessment process.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board hereby directs as follows:

1. All students applying for Whole-Grade and Single-Subject Acceleration in the 2021-2022 application cycle will have the NWEA MAP/district assessment test score pre-qualification requirement waived.
2. The district will use the IAR and GPA as the pre-qualification requirements for Whole-Grade and Single-Subject Acceleration.
3. All students applying for Whole-Grade and Single-Subject Acceleration in the 2021-2022 school year must currently be in grades 4-6.
4. This Resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.