

Hearing Officer Report Overview

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- Role of the hearing officer is to determine compliance with the guidelines set forth in Public Act 097-0474
- 66 total hearings held by 21 hearing officers
- 57 compliant reports
- 9 reports indicated non compliance around four issues
 1. Deficient transition plans
 2. Academic performance of welcoming school
 3. Future development not considered
 4. Improper notice given to the community

Transition Plans

- Deficiencies identified in 6 hearing officer reports
- The transition planning process is a fluid ongoing process and will continue until school starts next fall
- Deficiencies were identified in two main areas
 - Safety and security
 - Students with diverse learning needs
- Updated transition plans were posted on May 20, 2013

Transition Plan Updates – Safety

Safety and Security

- School-specific Safe Passage Routes have been identified, developed in partnership with CPD
- School-specific enhancements to full time security officer staffing has been identified
- School-specific enhancements to safety equipment identified
 - Camera systems with digital recording and monitoring capabilities
 - Enhanced school entry equipment (such as metal detectors)

School-specific safety meetings are being scheduled for parents to provide direct feedback on plans

Transportation

Initial proposals

- Transportation provided for current students of any school with a neighborhood component where the welcoming school is more than 0.8 miles walking distance.
- Duration: Provided until all current students graduate
- Ten routes:
 - Bethune to Gregory
 - Bontemps to Nicholson
 - Canter to Ray
 - Canter to Harte
 - Ericson to Sumner
 - King to Jensen
 - Kohn to Cullen
 - Overton to Mollison
 - Trumbull to McCutcheon
 - Trumbull to McPherson

Additional new recommendations

- Five additional routes recommended, based on input from Safety & Security and Community
- Duration: Provided for 1 year, with evaluation twice per year thereafter, based on need and current safety environment
- Additional routes:
 - Dodge to Morton
 - Melody (current building) to Delano (current building)
 - Parkman to Sherwood
 - Wentworth (current building) to Altgeld (current building)
 - West Pullman to Haley

Transition Plan Updates – Special Education

Special Education

- Transportation will be provided with bus aides consistent with a student's IEP
- IEP needs of every welcoming school student will be reviewed and services will be provided as required
- ADA renovations will be made where necessary
- Staffing for special education students will be implemented based on ISBE and federal requirements

Academic Performance Considered

Delano Closing into Melody at the Delano Facility

- “Higher performing” was specifically defined in the 2012-13 Guidelines for School Action.
- Based on these guidelines, schools are considered higher performing if they perform higher on a majority of the following metrics for the 2011-2012 school year: percentage of points on the CPS Performance Policy, ISAT composite meets or exceeds score, Value Added reading, and Value Added math
- We have updated the transition plan in the Delano, Melody action to include additional information about the relative performance of these two schools.
 - Percentage of points on the Performance Policy: 61.9% at Melody compared to 54.8% at Delano
 - Value Added Reading: 1.00 at Melody compared to 0.78 at Delano (85th percentile compared to 79th percentile)
 - Value Added Math: 1.55 at Melody compared to 0.39 at Delano (94th percentile compared to 68th percentile)

Future Development Considered

Calhoun Closing into Cather

- While not legally required to be shared at the public hearing, CPS has, in fact, considered the potential development in this neighborhood.
- We examined both “in development” and “to be planned” developments, currently planned for the area. In fact, we reviewed not just the 2014 development described in the report – but also potential developments that may occur in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2022 for which Cather would be the closest school.
- Sister agencies advised on the number of children to project based on the potential unit-type mix.
- We are confident that even if all of the planned developments came to fruition, Cather and other schools not proposed for closure in the area can support any potential increases in student population without overcrowding.

Proper Notice Given to Community

Close Williams ES and Williams MS into Drake and Relocate into the Williams Facility; Co-locate with Urban Prep

- In our draft transition plan, it was stated that Drake would operate across two facilities – its current facility and the Williams/Urban Prep facility.
- Upon additional community discussion, including with elected officials, it was suggested that if one of the involved schools would need to operate across two campuses that it should be Bronzeville-Urban Prep, not Drake.
- Based on that community input, our current proposal – although different from the initial notice – would have Drake operate out of a single building.
- Since notification of a change of address is not required under the law, and this proposal was fully discussed in our community meetings and public hearing, we believe that all schools involved in the proposed closures and co-locations received adequate notification and opportunity for public comment.