## APPROVE PAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR CATHERINE RAGEN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FULBRIGHT TEACHER EXCHANGE PROGRAM IN FRANCE

## THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Pursuant to Board Rule 4-1(a)(9), the Chief Executive Officer has approved an academic year paid leave of absence (September 2, 2009 – June 18, 2010) for Catherine Ragen, member of the teaching force, to participate in the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program in France.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program provides exchange opportunities for qualified Chicago Public Schools (CPS) educators to teach in countries up to one academic year with full pay and position security.

Catherine Ragen, an elementary French World Language Teacher at Lincoln Elementary School, applied and was selected by the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program to teach in France for the 2009-2010 academic year. The Board of Education will pay Ms. Ragen her regular base salary during the period of the leave and maintain all of her benefits. At the conclusion of her leave, Ms. Ragen will return to her position at Lincoln Elementary School. The principal of Lincoln Elementary School, Mark Armendariz, approved the teacher's participation in the program along with accepting the placement of Celine Leclerq from France to teach Ms. Ragen's French classes as part of this teacher exchange.

LSC REVIEW: Not applicable

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS:** Not applicable

**FINANCIAL:** The teacher on Fulbright Teacher Exchange leave (Ms. Ragen) will receive the basic salary which such member of the teaching force would have received if in actual service in the Chicago Public Schools and maintain all of her employment benefits. The Fulbright exchange teacher Ms. Leclerq will receive his basic salary from France.

Approved:

BARBARA EASON-WATKINS

**Chief Education Officer** 

Noted:

PEDRO MARTINEZ
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

PATRICK ROCKS General Counsel Respectfully submitted:

RON HUBERMAN

**Chief Executive Officer**