CLOSE WILLIAM H. KING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ASSIGN THE ATTENDANCE AREA OF WILLIAM H. KING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO JENSEN ELEMENTARY SCHOLASTIC ACADEMY

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That effective June 30, 2013, the Chicago Board of Education close William H. King Elementary School (School ID 610023) ("King"), located at 740 South Campbell Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, for space utilization reasons, reassign returning King students to Jensen Elementary Scholastic Academy (School ID 610271) ("Jensen"), located at 3030 West Harrison Street, Chicago, Illinois, and assign the attendance area of King to Jensen.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Illinois School Code Sections 34-200 through 34-232, the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions ("Guidelines"), and the Board of Education's Policy on the Review and Establishment of School Attendance Boundaries, 05-0622-PO1, 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 6, 2013, and April 11, 2013, at Young High School, located at 211 South Laflin Street, 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 because the draft transition plan did not adequately address academic and safety concerns. The hearing officer exceeded the scope of her authority by failing to apply the law and Guidelines as promulgated. The law requires that the CEO include a draft transition plan identifying supports for affected students with the notice of a proposal for a school action, which the CEO has done. The law states that the CEO prepares and implements a transition plan after the Board approves a school action. The CEO has considered the hearing officer's report and the feedback received throughout the public engagement process and has updated the draft transition plan accordingly. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has decided to recommend that the Board close King effective June 30, 2013, reassign King's returning students to Jensen, and assign King's attendance area to Jensen.

Adjust Attendance Area Boundary of Jensen Elementary Scholastic Academy (School ID 610271)

3030 West Harrison Street, Chicago, Illinois Effective June 30, 2013, for grades Kindergarten through eighth;

Beginning at the Eisenhower Expy and Kedzie Ave
East to Western Ave
South to Roosevelt Rd
West to Washenaw Ave
North to Taylor St
West to Francisco Ave
South to Roosevelt Rd
West to Whipple St
North to Filmore St
West to Kedzie Ave
North to the starting point

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

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:

Respectfully Submitted:

Todd Babbitz
Chief Transformation Officer

Barbara Byrd-Bennett Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:

James Bebley

General Counsel