13-0522-EX33

May 22, 2013

CLOSE GEORGE MANIERRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ADJUST THE ATTENDANCE AREA OF EDWARD JENNER ELEMENTARY ACADEMY OF THE ARTS

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That effective June 30, 2013, the Chicago Board of Education close George Manierre Elementary School (School ID 610048) ("Manierre"), located at 1420 North Hudson Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, for space utilization reasons, reassign returning Manierre students to Edward Jenner Elementary Academy of the Arts (School ID 610012) ("Jenner"), located at 1119 North Cleveland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and that the attendance area of Jenner be adjusted to include the Manierre attendance area.

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 10, 2013, and April 15, 2013, at Lincoln Park High School, located at 2001 North Orchard Street, Chicago, Illinois, and a public hearing was convened on April 30, 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 (1) the unique circumstances of Manierre were not considered in the draft transition plan and (2) the CEO's documentation fails to support the proposal when taking into account space utilization, academic progress and performance, and safety. 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 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. Moreover, the CEO's documentation presented at the April 30, 2013 hearing supported the proposal. The CEO has considered the hearing officer's report and the feedback received through 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 Manierre effective June 30. 2013, reassign Manierre's returning students to Jenner, and assign Manierre's attendance area to Jenner.

Adjust Attendance Area Boundary of Edward Jenner Elementary Academy of the Arts (School ID 610012)

1119 North Cleveland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois Effective June 30, 2013, for grades Kindergarten through eighth;

Beginning at the north branch of the Chicago River and North Ave
East to La Salle Dr
South to Division St
West to Wells St
South to Oak St
West to Orleans Street
South to Walton St
East to Franklin St

South to Chicago Ave West to north branch of the Chicago River Northwest to the starting point

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

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:

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James Bebley General Counsel