

MAY 27, 2003

CLOSE THE NIKOLA TESLA ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That the Chicago Board of Education close the Nikola Tesla Alternative School, located at 6657 South Kimbark Avenue, at the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Board of Education's Policy on the Closing and Consolidation of Schools, 02-0424-PO2 ("the Policy"), by the date of the annual May Board meeting and following a public hearing, the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools ("CEO") may recommend to the Board the closing of schools for any of the reasons for such action stated in the Policy.

On April 25, 2003, the CEO proposed that the Nikola Tesla Alternative School be closed due to the underutilization of the school and the fact that the special student population the school was intended to serve, expectant mothers, could be adequately served at other existing schools. Pursuant to the Policy, a public hearing was convened on May 12, 2003, pursuant to proper notice to receive public comment on the CEO's proposal. An independent hearing officer received comments and supporting documents at the hearing. The hearing officer has prepared a report including findings regarding the CEO's proposal. After receiving the hearing officer's report, the CEO has determined to recommend that the Board close the Nikola Tesla Alternative School at the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

Pursuant to the Policy, the Local School Council of Tesla will be dissolved effective the end of the 2002-2003 school year as a result of the closing of Tesla Alternative School. Also pursuant to the Policy, the regularly certified and appointed teachers of Tesla Alternative School will become reassigned teachers pursuant to the Policy on the "Reassignment and Layoff of Regularly Certified and Appointed Teachers Due to Changes in Staffing Needs," 97-0723-PO2. Pursuant to Section V of the Board-approved Uniform Principal's Performance Contract form, the contract of the Principal of Tesla Alternative School will terminate effective the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

LSC REVIEW: LSC approval is not applicable to this report.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATUS: None

FINANCIAL: None

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: None

Approved for Consideration:



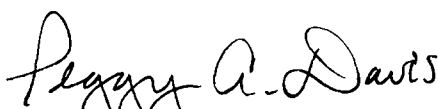
BARBARA J. EASON-WATKINS
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



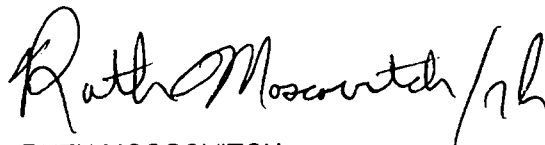
ARNE DUNCAN
Chief Executive Officer

Noted:



PEGGY DAVIS
Chief of Staff

Approved as to Legal Form: 



RUTH MOSCOVITCH
General Counsel