

CLOSE ROBERT LINDBLOM COLLEGE PREP HIGH SCHOOL**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That the Chicago Board of Education approve the closing of Robert Lindblom College Prep High School ("Lindblom College Prep") unit number 1450, located at 6130 South Wolcott Chicago, Illinois 60636, at the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

DESCRIPTION:

In 2003 Lindblom College Prep's building was in need of major physical repair and there was a decline in applications for the school. Therefore, it was determined that Lindblom College Prep would phase out, the Lindblom building would undergo renovations and then a new school established in the renovated building.

In July 2003, Lindblom College Prep stopped accepting new incoming freshmen and the students and staff were moved to a building at 707 East 37th Street which previously housed the former Donoghue School. For the 2003-04 school year classes took place in the former Donoghue facility for all previously enrolled Lindblom College Prep Sophomores, Junior and Seniors and for the 2004-05 school year for the remaining Junior and Seniors. During these two years, repairs to the Lindblom building took place and continued until they were completed in the summer of 2005.

In 2005, the Board approved the opening of the new Lindblom Math and Science Academy (Unit 7110), a citywide selective enrollment school offering a four year intensive curriculum focusing on math and science (Board Report 05-0323-EX11). Lindblom Math and Science Academy opened September 2005 at 6130 South Wolcott and enrolled its first 9th grade and the school will continue to enroll a 9th grade class each subsequent school year, ultimately serving grades 9 through 12.

Also in September 2005, the remaining 12th grade students from Lindblom College Prep who had been receiving classes during the previous two years in the former Donoghue building returned to the newly restored Lindblom building for their senior year. They currently share the facility with the 9th grade students from the new Lindblom Math Science Academy. Lindblom College Prep is ready to complete the school's phase out by closing at the end of the 2005-2006 school year. Upon the closing of Lindblom College Prep, the new Lindblom Math Science Academy will continue to operate and add grade levels as planned.

A racial impact analysis was conducted and determined that the proposed closing of Lindblom College Prep would have no significant impact on the racial composition and stability of the affected schools.

PUBLIC HEARING:

In accordance with the Board of Education's Policy on the Closing of Schools, 04-0225-PO02 ("Closing Policy"), a public hearing on the proposed closing of Lindblom College Prep was convened on February 11, 2006, following proper notice to receive public comment. An independent hearing officer appointed by the Chief Executive Officer received comments and supporting documents at the hearing. The hearing officer has prepared and submitted a report of the proceedings to the Chief Executive Officer. A copy of the Hearing Officer's Report is available for review.

RECOMMENDATION:

In accordance with the Closing Policy, the Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools ("CEO") may, following a public hearing, recommend to the Board the closing of schools for any of the reasons stated in the Closing Policy. After receiving the Hearing Officer's Report, the CEO has determined to recommend that the Board complete the phase out process and close Lindblom in accordance with Section I.C of the Closing Policy (for alternative use of school facilities), at the end of the 2005-06 school year for non-academic reasons.

LSC IMPLICATIONS:

Pursuant to the Closing Policy, the Local School Council of Lindblom College Prep will be dissolved effective the end of the 2005-2006 school year as a result of the closing of Lindblom College Prep.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:

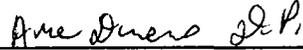
Tenured teachers assigned to Lindblom College Prep shall become reassigned teachers pursuant to the Board's policy, "Reassignment and Layoff of Regularly Certified and Appointed Tenured Teachers," 04-0623-PO5. Other personnel shall be laid off in accordance with Board rules, policies and applicable collective bargaining agreements, if any.

Approved for Consideration:



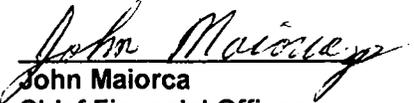
Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Approved:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to Legal Form:



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel