

**CLOSE FRAZIER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ADJUST THE ATTENDANCE AREAS OF
GREGORY, SUMNER, WEBSTER AND HENSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Chicago Board of Education approve the closing of Edward Franklin Frazier Elementary School ("Frazier") (Unit 7780), located at 4027 West Grenshaw Street, for academic reasons in accordance with the Policy on the Closing of Schools, 04-0225-PO2, and adjust the attendance areas of: Gregory Elementary School, located at 3715 West Polk Street; Sumner Elementary School, located at 4320 West Fifth Avenue; Webster Elementary School, located at 4055 West Arthington Street; and Henson Elementary School, located at 1326 South Avers Avenue, to include portions of the attendance area of Frazier Elementary School in accordance with the Policy on the Review and Establishment of School Attendance Boundaries, 05-0622-P01.

DESCRIPTION:

Pursuant to the Board of Education's Policy on the Closing of Schools, 04-0225-PO2 ("Closing Policy"), 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 stated in the Closing Policy.

School Closing Criteria

In accordance with the Closing Policy, the CEO employed the following inclusion criteria to identify schools for possible closing at the end of the 2005-2006 school year due to academic reasons:

1. **Probation.** The school has been on academic probation for at least one year;
2. **2004 Scores.** The school has a Composite Score on the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) of 25.0% or fewer students meeting or exceeding state standards and a Reading Score on the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS) of 25.0% or fewer students at or above national norms for the 2004-05 school year;
3. **4-Year Average Scores.** The school has a 4-year average ISAT Composite Score of 25.0% or fewer students meeting or exceeding state standards and a 4-year average ITBS Reading Score of 25.0% or fewer students at or above national norms for the 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 school years; and
4. **Student Gains.** The school has a four-year average students' gain index of less than 0.9 on the ITBS Reading Test for the 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 school years. A gain of 1.0 means a student has made one year's progress.

The additional criteria employed to exclude elementary schools from consideration for possible closing for academic reasons at the end of the 2005-2006 school year were the following:

1. There is no space available at a better-performing school to send students affected by the closing that is located within close proximity;
2. The school is a Chicago Teachers' Union/Chicago Public Schools Fresh Start school;
3. The school's principal has been serving for less than two (2) years; or
4. The school has students who had been previously re-assigned there from another school due to a prior Board action in the last two (2) years.

Frazier Elementary School satisfied the school closing inclusion criteria for the following reasons:

1. **Probation:** The school has been on probation since the 2004-2005 school year.
2. **2005 Scores:** The school's 2004-2005 ISAT Composite Score was 22.1% of students meeting or exceeding state standards; the school's 2004-2005 ITBS Reading Score was 23.1% of students at or above national norms.
3. **4-Year Average Scores:** Over the past four school years, the school's ISAT Composite Scores were: 26.6% in 2001-2002; 23.6% in 2002-2003; 27.5% in 2003-2004; and 22.1% in 2004-2005.

These scores give the school a 4-year average ISAT Composite Score of 25.0%.

Over the same period, the school's ITBS Reading Scores were: 25.7% in 2001-2002; 19.3% in 2002-2003; 22.4% in 2003-2004; and 23.1% in 2004-2005.

These scores give the school a 4-year average ITBS Reading Score of 22.6%.

4. **Student Gains:** The school's 4-year average student gains index on the ITBS Reading Test between the 2001-2002 and 2004-2005 school years is .81, which is .19 less than a full year's worth of growth as defined by the ITBS National Gains Index.

Exclusionary Criteria

Frazier did not meet any of the Exclusion Criteria for the following reasons:

1. There is available space at better-performing schools (Gregory, Sumner, Webster, and Henson) that are located within close proximity;
2. Frazier is not a Chicago Teachers' Union/Chicago Public Schools Fresh Start school;
3. The principal of Frazier has been serving more than two (2) years; and
4. The closing of Frazier will not result in moving students who had previously been reassigned to Frazier from another school due to a prior Board action within the last two (2) years.

Racial Impact Analysis and Enrollment Projections

In accordance with the Closing Policy and the Modified Desegregation Consent Decree, the Office of Demographics and Planning conducted a racial impact analysis including 3-year enrollment projections. The analysis determined that the proposed closing of Frazier and the assignment of all of its students to Gregory, Sumner, Webster and Henson would have no significant impact on the racial composition and stability of those schools. In terms of racial composition and stability, the option of maintaining the status quo offers neither an advantage nor disadvantage over the option of closing the school. While other possibilities were examined, no alternatives affected the resulting racial ethnic distribution of students. A copy of this report is available for review.

Public Hearing

Following proper notice, the public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed closing of Frazier was held on February 6, 2006. An independent hearing officer appointed by the Chief Executive Officer presided at the hearing and received comment and supporting documentation. The hearing was transcribed by a certified court reporter. 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. After receiving the Hearing Officer's Report, the Chief Executive Officer has determined to recommend that the Board close Frazier Elementary School at the end of the 2005-2006 school year and adjust the

attendance areas of Gregory, Sumner, Webster and Henson to include portions of the attendance area of Frazier.

Attendance Area Adjustments

The CEO recommends adjusting the attendance areas of Gregory, Webster, Henson and Sumner Elementary Schools as follows:

Adjust the Attendance Area Boundaries of Gregory Elementary School (Unit 3360)

Grades kindergarten through eighth:

Beginning at the Pulaski Road and Arthington Street
East to Springfield Avenue
North to the Eisenhower Expressway
East to Homan Avenue
South to B&O Railroad at (1011 South)
West to Pulaski Road
North to the Starting point

Adjust the Attendance Area Boundaries of Webster (Unit 6380)

Grades kindergarten through eighth:

Beginning at Keeler Avenue and Arthington Street
East to Kedvale Avenue
North to Fifth Avenue
Northeast to Pulaski Road
South to Flournoy Street
East to Springfield Avenue
South to Arthington Street
West to Pulaski Road
South to B&O Railroad at (1011 South)
West to Keeler Avenue
North to the Starting Point.

Adjust the Attendance Area Boundaries of Henson Elementary School (Unit 6570)

Grades kindergarten through eighth:

Beginning at B&O Railroad at (1011 South) and Keeler Avenue
East to Independence Boulevard
South to 14th Street
West to Keeler Avenue
North to the Starting Point.

Adjust the Attendance Area Boundaries of Sumner Elementary School (Unit 6110)

Grades kindergarten through eighth:

Beginning at Eisenhower Expressway and the Belt Railroad (4600 West)
North and East to Springfield Avenue
South to Flournoy Street
West to Pulaski Road
North to Fifth Avenue
Southwest to Kedvale Avenue

South to Arthington Avenue
West to Keeler Avenue
South to Roosevelt Road
West to Belt Railroad (4600 West)
North to the Starting Point.

**LSC
IMPLICATIONS:**

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

**PERSONNEL
IMPLICATIONS:**

Tenured teachers assigned to Frazier 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:

Approved:

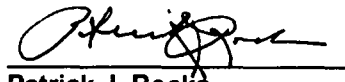

Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer


Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:

Approved as to Legal Form 


John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer


Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel