

**APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COLLINS ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL****THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:**

That the Board approve the establishment of the Collins Academy High School ("Collins Academy") as a Renaissance Performance School located at 1313 S. Sacramento, Chicago, IL 60623.

**DESCRIPTION:**

School Designation: Collins Academy will open in the fall of 2007 as a Small School pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b and also as a Performance School in accordance with Board's Renaissance Schools Policy, 05-1026-PO2, as amended ("Renaissance Policy").

Public Hearing: A public hearing on the opening of Collins Academy was held on November 8, 2006 at Collins High School, 1313 South Sacramento Drive in accordance with the Renaissance Policy. The hearing was recorded. A summary report of the hearing is available for review.

Request for Proposals: In May 2006, the Office of New Schools issued a Request for Proposals to solicit responses from parties interested in starting schools under the Renaissance 2010 Initiative. Proposals to operate either a charter, contract or performance school were submitted by interested parties on July 6, 2006, and supplemental application materials were submitted on October 5, 2006. Proposals were evaluated pursuant to the standards set forth in the Renaissance Policy. Proposals were reviewed by the Office of New Schools and a Comprehensive Evaluation Team and recommendations were submitted to the Chief Executive Officer based upon those reviews and evaluations.

School Design Team: The design team proposal for the establishment of Collins Academy was submitted by the Academy for Urban School Leadership. CPS will establish the school with the assistance of the design team.

School Profile: Collins Academy will open in the fall of 2007 serving approximately 150 students in grade 9. In subsequent years the school will add a 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade and serve up to 500 students. Collins Academy shall be a neighborhood school with the majority of students expected to come from the North Lawndale community. The Department of School Planning will work with the Office of New Schools, Collins Academy and the North Lawndale community to develop an attendance boundary plan for submission to the Board for approval, if appropriate. Collins Academy will provide a rigorous and engaging educational college preparatory high school program of high academic standards and expectations, where students will have the opportunity to explore postsecondary options either in colleges or careers.

Beginning in its second year of operation, Collins Academy will also be a teacher training site, where AUSL teacher trainees will gain teaching experience in live classrooms on a daily basis. Teacher trainees will be guided by mentor teachers who will be teaching full-time in the classrooms. Students will benefit from increased supervision and personalized instruction, while the Chicago Public Schools will benefit from having home-grown teachers with real-life experience to help bolster their teaching careers as they move on to teach at other CPS schools.

Governance: Initially, Collins Academy will establish a transitional advisory body. Thereafter, a school governing body shall be appointed by the Board in a timely manner in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b and the Board's guidelines on the establishment of appointed local school governing bodies.

Performance Plan: The operation and performance of Collins Academy will be in accordance with a Performance Plan to be established pursuant to the Renaissance Policy within 120 days following the approval of this Board Report. The President and the Secretary of the Board shall be authorized to approve and execute the Performance plan and all ancillary documents necessary to effectuate the

Performance Plan. At a minimum, the Performance Plan will address student academic outcomes and financial and management practices of the school.

**FINANCIAL:** Using current year financial data, the General Fund cost of 150 students in 2007-08 will be approximately \$1,132,500. The financial implications will be addressed during the development of the 2007-2008 fiscal year budget. Since the School Code of Illinois prohibits the incurring of any liability unless an appropriation has been previously made, expenditures beyond FY07 are deemed to be contingent liabilities only, subject to appropriation in subsequent fiscal year budgets.

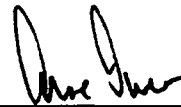
**PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS:** As a Performance School, Collins Academy will employ CPS teachers and staff. Performance Schools are subject to the collective bargaining agreements between CPS and the Chicago Teachers Union and other labor organizations, including the waiver provisions of those agreements.

**Approved:**



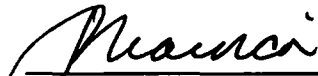
**Barbara J. Eason-Watkins**  
Chief Education Officer

**Respectfully Submitted:**



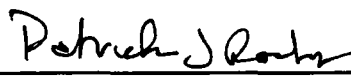
**Arne Duncan**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Within Appropriation:**



**John Maiorca**  
Chief Financial Officer

**Approved as to Legal Form**

  
**Patrick J. Rocks**  
General Counsel