

**ESTABLISH A SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS PROGRAM
AT LAURA WARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Board approve the establishment of a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics program at Laura Ward Elementary school.

Description: Effective July 1, 2013, Laura Ward Elementary will begin implementation of a STEM based educational approach focusing on grades 6-8.

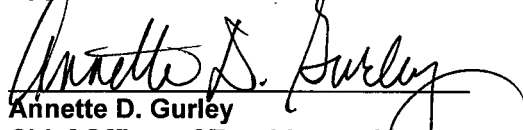
CURRICULUM: The STEM program will provide engaging learning environments to develop life-long learners and 21st century global citizens. The STEM program will provide students with a challenging, integrated curriculum that focuses on cultivating problem solving capabilities grounded in evidence-based reasoning. Laura Ward Elementary will provide students with a strong foundation in math, science, technology and early engineering based education beginning at the kindergarten level culminating with entry into the STEM program for grades 6 - 8.

LSC Review: Not applicable

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: A total of 7 teaching positions will be closed at the end of the 2013-14 school year. Educational support personnel positions will not be affected. Seven new teaching positions programmed as STEM teacher-in-training positions will be opened for the 2014-15 school year and filled through the Board's job posting procedures.

FINANCIAL: \$376,000 for Department of Magnet, Gifted, and Talented to fund start up supplies and equipment as well as 2 supplemental teaching positions beginning in the fall of 2013.

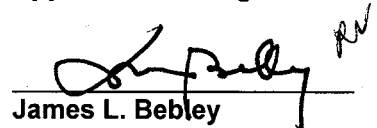
Approved for Consideration:


Annette D. Gurley
Chief Officer of Teaching and Learning

Approved:


Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Approved as to legal form:


James L. Bebley
General Counsel