

September 24, 2026

**ESTABLISH GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION FOR
CATALPA EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER AND DR. FISHER EARLY LEARNING CENTER**

THE SUPERINTENDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

That the Chicago Board of Education establish the school governance structure for Catalpa Early Childhood Center and Dr. Fisher Early Learning Center as an Alternative Local School Council (ALSC) pursuant to Illinois School Code 105 ILSC 5/34- 2.4b and the Board's Policy on Governance of Alternative and Small Schools (Board Report 20-0325-PO1).

DESCRIPTION: Catalpa Early Childhood Center was first established as Cornelius Early Learning Center in September 2021 under Board Report 21-0922-EX2 and subsequently renamed Catalpa Early Childhood Center in June 2023 pursuant to Board Report 23-0628-MS1.

Dr. Fisher Early Learning Center was established in March 2021 as the Lincoln Park Early Learning Center under Board Report 21-0324-EX2 and was subsequently renamed the Dr. Fisher Early Learning Center in June 2023 pursuant to Board Report 23-0628-MS1.

Catalpa Early Childhood Center and Dr. Fisher Early Learning Center provide pre-kindergarten programs. The schools enroll their students in a citywide program that meets the selection requirements established by the Office of Early Childhood Education for all CPS Early Learning Centers.

GOVERNANCE AND COMPOSITION: The Catalpa Early Childhood and Dr. Fisher Early Learning Centers Alternative Local School Council (ALSC) shall consist of the following membership composition: One (1) Principal; Four (4) Parents; Two (2) Community Members; Two (2) Teachers; Two (2) Advocates for a total of Eleven (11) members. The quorum shall be six (6) persons.

APPOINTMENT DATE: Due to the unique student population at the school and grades served, the Alternative Local School Council (ALSC) selection process will begin in the fall of every even-numbered year. As a result, the members will be appointed to begin their term on December 1, allowing parents of newly enrolled students to be eligible to serve on the ALSC.

PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUALS TO SERVE ON THE ALSC: Parents, community residents, teachers, and advocates may submit nomination forms to the principal starting on the first day of school through the last school day of September in even-numbered years. These recommendations will be submitted to the Network Chief of Schools no later than October 8th of even-numbered years. During the first week in October, the principal will conduct non-binding advisory preference polls of the staff for the teacher representatives. By October 8th, the principal will submit the non-binding poll results and their ranked recommendations for parent, community resident, and advocate appointments to the Network Chief of Schools. For subsequent-year appointments, the ALSC will convene during the first week of October to submit its ranked recommendations for these roles.

TERM OF OFFICE: The term of office shall be a two (2) year term of office from December 1 to November 30 of the next even-numbered year.

FINANCIAL: This action is no cost to the Board.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS: None.

Approved for Consideration:

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Karime Asaf, Ed.D
Chief Education Officer

Approved:

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Approved as to Legal Form: 

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