

January 24, 2007

**APPROVE THE SMALL SCHOOLS CONVERSION PLAN TO CONVERT
SOUTH SHORE HIGH SCHOOL INTO FOUR SMALL SCHOOLS**

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Chicago Board of Education (the "Board") approve the small schools conversion plan for the conversion of South Shore High School ("South Shore") into the following four small high schools located

on the South Shore campus:

1. **The School of the Arts** opened in September 2002,
2. **The School of Entrepreneurship** opened in September 2002

3. **The School of Leadership** opened in September 2003, and
4. **The School of Technology** opened in September 2003.

II. General Educational Goals and Evaluation Plan for the New Small Schools

Each of the new small schools established on the South Shore campus will significantly improve student

(4) the percentage of students who go on to enroll and succeed in college or other post-secondary

b. The School of the Arts will accomplish its educational goals by:

- talents;
- (2) offering experiential and project-based learning opportunities, including internships in arts-focused settings; and
- (3) using interdisciplinary teams of teachers to integrate learning and facilitate social, emotional, academic, and professional growth of students.

c. Timeline

4. **The School of Technology**

a. Educational Focus and Goals

The School of Technology will provide a state-of-the-art technology based, college-prep, student centered, culturally grounded environment in which the students, teachers

parents, and mentors partner to constitute a small school learning community, utilizing best practice academic and service learning methods to produce a cadre of students who will be able to utilize and create with technology in every aspect of their lives.

b. The School of Technology will accomplish its goals by:

- (1) equipping classrooms with state-of-the-art computers, networked together to enhance every area of computing and communication;
- (2) shifting focus from teaching to active learning and emphasizing higher order

G. Small Schools Governance

A transition advisory council was established at each new small school on the South Shore
to provide appropriate oversight and support on an interim basis until such time as an

appointed Local School Council was established in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-2.4b. The

staff was hired for each new small school in accordance with Board hiring policies and procedures

Detailed staffing plans are found in each small school's development plan which is available in the Office

of New Schools.

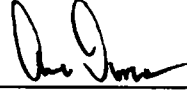
Each small school was staffed with a Principal, Counselor and clerk in the first year of operation, regardless of the number of students enrolled. Each small school was also granted one Lead Teacher position in years one and two. In year three and beyond, each small school was staffed with an Assistant

Reviewed for Consideration:

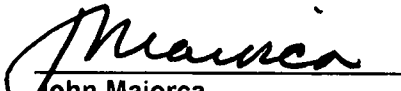


Barbara Eason-Watkins
Chief Education Officer

Respectfully Submitted:



Arne Duncan
Chief Executive Officer



John Maiorca
Chief Financial Officer



Patrick Rocks
General Counsel