



December 1, 2017

Parent or Guardian of a Student at
Edward Jenner Elementary Academy of the Arts
1119 North Cleveland Avenue

Parent or Guardian of a Student at
Ogden International School of Chicago
24 West Walton Street

Re: Proposed Consolidation of Edward Jenner Elementary Academy of the Arts into Ogden International School of Chicago

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is committed to providing every child from every community with a high quality education that prepares them for success in college and in life. CPS students continue to make record-breaking academic progress in every part of the city. Our vision is that all CPS schools can build on this progress by offering high quality, rigorous instruction from talented educators that help put Chicago students on a path to lasting success.

Two years ago, the Local School Councils at Edward Jenner Elementary Academy of the Arts (Jenner) and Ogden International School of Chicago (Ogden) requested that a consolidation of Jenner and Ogden be considered. At that time, CPS declined to propose the consolidation of Jenner and Ogden and instead sought additional community engagement to address Jenner and Ogden's unique academic and utilization concerns. A Jenner/Ogden Community Steering Committee (JOCSC) was formed, comprised of parents and community members representing Jenner and Ogden, and they have led a community-driven approach to merge the two schools. JOCSC hired NextLevel NPO, LLC (NextLevel) to prepare a report evaluating options to address Ogden's overcrowding and Jenner's underutilization. NextLevel's report supports the proposal to merge Jenner and Ogden, providing Jenner students with an access to an International Baccalaureate Programme, addressing both schools' enrollment concerns and creating an integrated, diverse school.

For the reasons outlined above, I am proposing the consolidation of Jenner into Ogden. I will also propose Jenner and Ogden's attendance-area boundaries be merged into one attendance area boundary.

This proposal is consistent with the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions (Guidelines) because it is a proposal requested by parents or community members via the process to request proposals outlined in the Guidelines. Specifically, we have heard the request for this proposal from the JOCSC, various community meetings held earlier this year and a letter dated November 15, 2017 from the JOCSC. This proposal is also consistent with the Guidelines because the resulting space utilization after the consolidation will not exceed the facilities' enrollment efficiency range, as defined by the CPS' Space Utilization Standards. Finally, the students impacted by this proposed consolidation



are being provided the option to enroll at Ogden, a higher performing school, as defined by the Guidelines.

If this proposal is approved by the Board of Education of the City of Chicago (Board), Jenner and Ogden will consolidate and Jenner students will be transferred to Ogden, effective July 1, 2018. As part of the proposed consolidation, CPS proposes locating the Kindergarten - 4th grades in the 24 W. Walton building and 5th- 8th grades at the 1119 N. Cleveland building.

If you would like more detail about the proposed consolidation, please refer to the Draft Transition Plan that is included with this letter.

As a next step, CPS will hold two community meetings and one public hearing to hear further feedback on CPS' proposal (meeting information is below). Following the meetings and hearing, the Board of Education may vote on this proposal as early as February of 2018.

Public Comment on this Proposal

I invite you to share your feedback on the proposed consolidation and attendance-area boundary change during the following two community meetings and one public hearing outlined below:

Community Meeting 1

January 9, 2018
6 to 8 p.m.
Ogden International School of
Chicago
24 West Walton Street

Community Meeting 2

January 16, 2018
6 to 8 p.m.
Edward Jenner Elementary
Academy of the Arts
1119 North Cleveland Avenue

Public Hearing

January 25, 2018
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
CPS Central Office
42 West Madison Street

If you wish to comment at the community meetings or hearing, please adhere to the following procedures. You must sign up to speak on the day of, at the designated location, beginning one hour before the designated start time and ending one hour after the start of the meeting or hearing. You will have two minutes to speak, unless the hearing officer or meeting organizer provides an extension. The hearing will conclude at the stated end time or following the comments of the last person who has signed up to speak, whichever occurs first.

Thank you in advance for your feedback as we work to provide all Chicago Public School students with the high quality education they deserve. After the community meetings and public hearing, I will review a written report from the hearing officer and at that time, I may recommend that the Board consider and approve the consolidation of Jenner and Ogden.

42 W. Madison Street • Chicago, Illinois 60602
Telephone: 773/553-1600



Further questions and concerns

All of this information can be found at CPS.edu/Transitions. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this proposal and the Draft Transition Plan, please email transitions@cps.edu or call Chicago Public Schools at (773)553-1500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Forrest Claypool", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Forrest Claypool
Chief Executive Officer
Chicago Public Schools