BOARD OF EDUCATION

CITY OF CHICAGO

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

held on

March 26, 2008

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

had in the above-entitled matter at 125 South Clark
Street, Room 500, Chicago, Illinois, commencing at
2 o'clock p.m., MR. RUFUS WILLIAMS, presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS:

MR. RUFUS WILLIAMS, President
MS. CLARE MUNANA, Vice President
MR. NORMAN R. BOBINS
DR. TARIQ BUTT
MR. ALBERTO CARRERO, JR.
MS. PEGGY A. DAVIS
MS. ROXANNE WARD

ABSENT:

(None)

Reported By: Anna M. Morales, CSR, RMR
License No.: 084-002854
middle years with an IB program. And, again, for
the 2008-2009 school year, all current students are
guaranteed enrollment. Kindergarten classes and
remaining spaces and other grades will be filled
through a city-wide computerized lottery.
Beginning in 2009-2010, students will be selected
through the city-wide lottery; and, in terms of the
student enrollment through the computerized
lottery, proximity is 30 percent; sibling,
45 percent; principal discretion, 5 percent;
city-wide, 20 percent.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Questions?
DR. EASON-WATKINS: And EX5.
PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: No, let's do all of them
and then we'll vote.
MEMBER BOBINS: Let me just show as abstaining
on all of these because I don't feel I have enough
information, quite honestly, to make a decision.
So on the four, let my vote be cast equally on
whatever way you want because I will abstain.
PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Okay. Why don't we go on
and do Number 5 and then we'll decide what to do.
DR. EASON-WATKINS: EX5 is with regard to the
Oscar Mayer Magnet School program which would serve
students in grades pre-K through 8. The school
would offer a Montessori program for grades pre-K
through 5, and then beginning at the middle grades
level, at grade 6, they would offer the
International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program.

The Local School Council has been very
active in the community in the selection of these
particular programs. Again, this is another that's
being funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of
Education; and, beginning in 2008-2009, attendance
area students are guaranteed enrollment, and the
remaining seats would be filled by a city-wide
lottery.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Any questions on the EX5?
I have a question EX5. As we look at the
boundaries and who actually enrolls in Oscar Mayer
currently, the predominant portion of the students
are from outside of the area, correct?

DR. EASON-WATKINS: Yes.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: So that would become a
neighborhood school as this program is implemented
as it hits -- presumably as it hits the targets
that we're looking at?

CEO DUNCAN: I think, quite honestly, this has
been a school that has not been a school of choice. The neighborhood children have not chosen to attend. And so the goal in many of these is to enhance what's there so that it does become a school of choice.

MEMBER BOBINS: Isn't it by definition a magnet school is not a neighborhood school?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: It has proximity priority; and, in this case, if the neighborhood with the proximity priority fills up all the seats, then they take up all the magnet school seats in that process.

The concern that I have is that while it has been an underperforming school and it has not been a school of choice, as we create the new programs, those students who have populated the school will no longer be there. And I would suggest that there be some level, some way that we allow for some inclusion of those students who have been there for all this time to still be part of the population.

CEO DUNCAN: To be clear, no student leaves the school.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: I understand, but if we
look --

CEO DUNCAN: Going forward because every student remains there.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Right. But as we roll out eight years from now and we've created this wonderful school, the population of the school looks very different because the demographics of that neighborhood are different than the demographics of the school population currently. So how can we -- can we accomplish that or no?

MR. ROCKS: This school would be subject to the desegregation goals and the desegregation decree. So it would be a process of looking at the enrollment year by year and gauging those trends against the objectives and decree.

And so the first year, the plan is to have this function in the way Arne described, and then we would require -- it would require us to analyze this -- all of these schools that we're talking about right now in the same manner.

CEO DUNCAN: President Williams, if I can add, I think in a lot of these situations, we by necessity have to revisit these every year. For example, on the LaSalle II at Andersen, we're
setting aside a huge number of seats for children, the siblings of current Andersen students. After a certain point, we won't have to do that. And so I think we should come back to the Board on an annual basis, look at the -- you know, look at the admissions process policy in each of these situations, and where we need to make adjustments, make them accordingly. But I think, by definition, these are things that are going to change over time to your point.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Yeah, but we may not be here eight years from now. Some of us may change. And to the extent that we see where these things are now, when we look at some of the schools that develop as a result of the deseg consent decree, they will develop with a mixed demographic population as they were established.

And what I would ask is can we -- what I'm asking is can we establish a similar situation for this school as we're doing this process now? So that even though we look at it every year, when someone looks at it eight, ten years from now, the institutional memory isn't gone because we have now encapsulated it in the policy.
MEMBER BOBINS: Mr. Chairman, if I may make one other comment. I think that this is every bit as worthy of highlighting as, let's say, the bond program we announced today. We don't announce new schools at every meeting. And I certainly for one would have liked to have seen this highlighted more at the beginning of the meeting in a presentation form. I think the public ought to know what we're doing. We failed to be transparent enough I think as it is, and this only adds to it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you for that comment. What do you suggest that we do at this point, Member Bobins?

MEMBER BOBINS: I think we're done -- I just think in the future if we're going to announce five schools or four schools or four new magnets or whatever, I would certainly go to the trouble of taking 15 minutes at the beginning of the meeting, just as we did when we discussed refunding of a billion dollars of bonds today. That's all I'm suggesting. We might even want to do it at future meeting.

There's a tendency for people to sort of stop watching the meeting during this portion of
the telecast. It doesn't get the same attention as our earlier part of the telecast does.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Agreed, but it's going to be wildly interesting today, isn't it?

What is the -- if we were to hold off on this until next month so that we could have that presentation that Member Bobins is referring to, how would that impact what we're trying to do?

CEO DUNCAN: I think, again, there's enrollments that have to happen. The lotteries would have to happen. There are teachers that have to be hired and programs that have to be created. And so I think that would be difficult.

MEMBER BOBINS: A possible compromise is we could move forward and still present it next -- we could approve these and still do a better job of presenting it to the public at the next meeting even though it's not perfect to do it after the fact.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: To that point then, I would ask if the Board members feel they are prepared enough to make the vote at this time, and then we can move forward with the presentation to the general public next time, unless you don't feel
prepared enough to vote?

DR. BUTT: We are prepared.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: I'm still on EX5 on my question.

CEO DUNCAN: Again, I think Barbara outlined the proposed admissions policy for this year. I'm not quite sure what else you would like us to do.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: What I would like to do is set aside specific percentage of seats that ensures that there's diversity at Oscar Mayer Elementary School into posterity.

MR. ROCKS: Given the current demographic of the school, I think -- I would have to refer to Mr. Dispensa on what he projects would occur. My hypothesis would be that this would be an integrated school for some period of time.

What you could do is establish the rules for this year and then direct the staff to revisit that after the enrollments are complete, and then come back to the Board with a proposal for next year.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Is someone getting Mr. Dispensa?

VOICES: Yes.
PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: So what you're suggesting is that we continue with the enrollment as suggested -- what is your suggestion?

MR. ROCKS: One way to solve this problem would be to accept the recommendation of the staff for today and then direct the staff to review the situation, the enrollment situation. After all seats are filled for the fall, some time over the summer, and then have the staff come back to the Board with a proposal for an enrollment plan for the fall which would then be the options application period for the fall of '08 which would be for seats in fall '09.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: That seems to make it much more complicated. Why would we want to make it more complicated?

MR. ROCKS: The other option is to make it -- is to change those rules today effective immediately for the seats for fall '08. I think that requires staff input as to how to do that and what those rules would look like.

MEMBER CARRERO: Are we sure that we have the demographics right now?

MR. ROCKS: Mr. Dispensa has them. I
understand that someone is looking for him.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Let's vote. As we go through, let's hold this one until Mr. Dispensa avails himself to the Board, and then we can address the questions that are on the floor.

CEO DUNCAN: We'll get the hard numbers. This is a predominantly minority school. So, again, to Pat Rocks' point, this will continue to be a heavily diverse school for a while.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Right, Arne. A while is eight years until the students -- as we are preparing a grade school, I would suspect that the neighborhood which is not diverse would fill up those seats. And we consider today and expect that the school that we're looking to create would be dominated by a different population that excludes all the children and all the demographic that is there currently. That seems to be unfair.

So my suggestion is simply that we ensure that we create some level of inclusion for that group that's been in the school for all these years when it did not have this level of programming so that it doesn't -- so that we are not at the point of creating great schools and then moving this
population out. That seems to me to be fair. But
I'm only one vote.

Let's vote EX3, if we would. Is there a
motion?

DR. DAVIS: EX3, move approval.

MEMBER CARRERO: Second.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Ward?

MEMBER WARD: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: I would like to note an
abstention on EX3 for Mr. Bobins.

Ms. Munana?

MEMBER MUNANA: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Dr. Butt?

DR. BUTT: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. Carrero?

MEMBER CARRERO: On EX3, right?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: EX3, LaSalle Language.

MEMBER CARRERO: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Davis?

MEMBER DAVIS: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: President Williams?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Six ayes, one abstention.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Let me say for EX4, since
this seems to be a pattern, perhaps we can --

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Can I interrupt,

President Williams? One more note on EX3. That
item was draft on agenda and the final will be in
the action.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you. And then for
EX4, recognizing the abstention for Member Bobins,
if there are no objections from my fellow
Board Members, the previous affirmative vote shall
apply.

Jimmy didn't leave the building, did he?

CEO DUNCAN: We're still waiting on that one.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: We'll hold the EX5.

CEO DUNCAN: Let's come back to it.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: We'll come back to it.

Let's pick up with EX6.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: One note on EX4,

President Williams, I'm sorry, EX4 was draft on
agenda and the final will be in the action for EX4.

CEO DUNCAN: EX6 is the proposal to create a
second L.E.A.R.N., a replication of L.E.A.R.N., and
to put it for one year only into Gregory.

Gregory, as we talked about earlier in the
meeting, has gone from enrollment of 590 in 2005 to
SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Davis?

MEMBER DAVIS: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: President Williams?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: No.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: I would like to note for the record that there are two ayes and four nays. EX6 failed adoption.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: EX7?

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. President, I understand that Mr. Dispensa is in the audience. Would you like to go back to EX5?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Sure. Mr. Dispensa, the question is on EX5. EX5 relates to Oscar Mayer Elementary School. The discussion surrounded the admissions policy. And was that the question for Mr. Dispensa to answer?

MEMBER CARRERO: It was diversity of the --

A VOICE: Projections.

MEMBER CARRERO: What were the projections and the numbers?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: That's the question for Mr. Dispensa to answer.

CEO DUNCAN: I have the data here. I think the question is what is the current racial composition
of Oscar Mayer. It's about 15 percent white; about
49 percent African-American; Hispanic, about
25 percent; small numbers of other students; and
some students who are biracial.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: What's the percentage
white?

CEO DUNCAN: About 15.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: 15. And as we look at how
the school would change given the proximity
priority, how would we expect that that would
change going forward?

MR. DISPENSA: Well, the School Demographics
Department projects enrollments of schools based on
their historical enrollment.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: That's kind of irrelevant
in this case, isn't it?

MR. DISPENSA: Pardon?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: It's irrelevant in this
case since we're changing the focus quite
dramatically.

MR. DISPENSA: Right. And so my point is
whenever the Board approves the type of change that
is before it today that would create a magnet
school or a magnet school program, it becomes very
unclear as to what effect that will have on
attracting students from within the neighborhood
and from outside of the neighborhood. So, frankly,
there's no way to statistically predict what the
enrollment of Oscar Mayer would be given this
change.

What we've done in this case is simply
taken a look at the historical enrollment of
Oscar Mayer. We know that Oscar Mayer needs to
retain its traditional attendance area because
there are other schools nearby that cannot absorb
that boundary. And so we also know that there are
relatively few public school students that reside
within the relatively large geographical attendance
area of Oscar Mayer. About 100 students. If we
were --

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: But, Mr. Dispensa, when
you say relatively few public school students, a
lot of what is expected to happen with this change
in the focus will be to draw students who would
otherwise not be public school students into our
public school.

MR. DISPENSA: Absolutely.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: So the fact that it's only
100 public school students in that area will also be irrelevant when we create a much better environment that would draw those students into what is their neighborhood school, not much different than Lincoln is in that area and not much different than Alcott is in that area.

MR. DISPENSA: So what we can do in this case is look at historically what has occurred at other schools in that area when they have been given magnet cluster programs, for example. And I would not be surprised if the total number of public school students residing in Mayer's boundary were to increase quite dramatically.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: If that didn't happen, wouldn't we have missed our target? Wouldn't we have missed our objective? Isn't that part of what we're trying to do?

MR. DISPENSA: Well, it depends on the time frame. If it jumps to 150 and then 200 and then 250, if over the course of three years we see that population rise to what we would expect it to be given the attraction of the new program, now we can look and say, there may be -- Oscar Mayer's enrollment may increase by as many as 100 or 200
students over the next several years. We can assume that given the fact that that attendance area consists almost predominately of nonminority students that that new influx of students would be nonminority.

What we don't know is the extent to which minority children may continue to apply to Mayer and be enrolled there. We actually may increase the nonminority population at Mayer, but, you know, it's hard to say because we haven't had an opportunity to see what the impact of the program would be.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: So I come back to my original point which is -- because we don't know all of these things, but our intent in changing the school, adding these programs to the school would be to create a much better educational environment, thus drawing in students from the neighborhood, seemingly would -- if we don't think that it would do those things, then we should not even be having this conversation.

If we believe it would do those things, then my suggestion is that we allow now for a certain portion of that incoming group every year
or, you know, however that works, to retain a level of diversity.

MR. DISPENSA: I think the plan going forward is to establish a proximity lottery like all magnet schools have and then allow the school to continue if it has space to accommodate students who may apply from outside of the attendance area.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: It is "if it has space" that causes me the issue. Because if we do it right, then it won't have space, and we will have created a better school in an environment where we used to have a not as good school and a different population of students.

MR. DISPENSA: You are absolutely right, but when we look at the number of empty seats at Mayer today and when we look at even our most ambitious expectations of how many new public school students would materialize from within that neighborhood boundary, I have to think that Oscar Mayer, as large as it is, will continue to offer public school students the opportunity to go there from both within and outside of the area.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Is there a problem with my suggestion? Anyone?
DR. DAVIS: Can legal counsel answer that question?

MR. ROCKS: The question -- what is the condition in terms of capacity at the surrounding attendance area schools? That's a factor that you mentioned a minute ago that seemed critical to this discussion.

MR. DISPENSA: The answer is it's a mixed bag. You have some Lincoln Park-Lakeview area schools that are absolutely at capacity, above capacity; and you have others, Prescott, Agassiz, Hamilton, Jahn come to mind that have ample space.

It's generally true in this area that when a school begins to become attractive to its neighborhood children, whether by way of some type of magnet or gifted program or not, that the schools' seats fill up rather quickly.

My only point with Mayer is that, yes, I expect we would see an increase in the number of neighborhood public school students which would be good. I don't think that we will see it surge so quickly to the point where we now have to not make those seats available for city-wide students; and, of course, because the Board has approved other
city-wide magnet schools, in any event, we
certainly don't expect a net loss of seats
available for city-wide students.

MR. ROCKS: The reason I asked that question,
Mr. President, is that it's difficult to think of a
neighborhood school where a certain number or
percentage of seats is set aside. The character of
the neighborhood school is that it is the priority
attendance area for those students that reside
within it.

This school, given the numbers that
Mr. Duncan just provided, is right on the cusp of
being racially identifiable.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Racially what?

MR. ROCKS: Racially identifiable under the
consent decree at 15 percent. The range for
integration, if you want to think about it from the
white percentage, is somewhere between 15 and 35.
Racially identifiable school is a school less than
15 percent white or more than 85 percent minority.

So we're looking at a school, depending on
if you got down into the decimal points, could
today be racially identifiable. I can't tell
exactly from these numbers, but it's darn close.
So the question for me is if you were to adopt the plan that the CEO has recommended for this year, what would happen? I agree with Mr. Dispensa. I don't think we know exactly. We can hypothesize what might happen, but I don't think we can know for sure until we see how decisions are made by individuals in the community and also when we see how many seats are left for city-wide.

Which is why earlier I suggested we think of this in stages, this being step one. Step two being to re-evaluate this on a year-by-year basis to see how these trends are moving with the idea that the desegregation decree does set that bracket or that range of seats that would be -- it would allow us to treat the school as an integrated school.

So I think I would ask you to consider that, that this year is step one, and that we look at these trends, this data as it goes along, and that we come back to with you an analysis at least in -- the summer I would say would be the right time because we would need to see how the seats filled out first, and then we would be able to have
a different conversation about where we think the
school is going. It could be that even this summer
we don't know. It may not be enough data, but at
least it would be the next logical step.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: So why can't we do what I
asked? Why can't we do what I have suggested? It
seems that even given all of those things there may
very well be a day when the neighborhood has
adopted this school and everyone from the
neighborhood is going to this school. All I'm
asking is that we preserve a portion to ensure that
the school has diversity.

In looking -- we can look at it next year
and we can look at it the following year, but all
I'm saying is -- and we know that diversity will
exist now. All I'm saying is when we get ten years
from now and these programs have moved like they
should, the students who have been going there for
all of these years should not be excluded from
going the better education that is now being
afforded to the group that is in the Oscar Mayer
School based on the changes that we're making.

MR. DISPENSA: My only response to that, and I
don't think that this will necessarily be any
consolation, but well before ten years from now, I suspect the Board will be confronted with this very specific issue about the means by which it can preserve or maintain or establish racial diversity based on the traditional decision rules that we've had at our -- and have at our disposal.

I would yield to Mr. Rocks. If you wanted, you know, a recommendation on what steps we can take now to preserve that type of diversity that we've been able to achieve at Oscar Mayer and only echo what Mr. Rocks said is that, if anything, our concern at Mayer should be this notion of racial identification of the school and that in year one or year two, if we can demonstrate that we've made Oscar Mayer more diverse than it is today, I think we'll be in a better place and, at that point, we can certainly entertain the types of recommendations you're suggesting.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Why wouldn't we do it now? If it won't matter, then it won't matter. If it doesn't change, then it won't matter. Why can't we just do it now?

MR. ROCKS: I think the answer to that is in the question about attendance, attendance
boundaries. In effect, what you are suggesting, Mr. President, is that this school be changed from a neighborhood school into a magnet school with a proximity, a 1.5 mile proximity boundary. That requires us to look at the underlying demographics of the neighboring attendance area schools because that space would then have to be filled up with the other schools.

And what I'm hearing Mr. Dispensa say is that the geographic and demographic realities won't permit that, at least today.

MR. DISPENSA: That's right.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: There's no reason to think -- unless you have one. I live in the neighborhood, so I kind of know what the demographics are. Unless you have reason to think the neighborhood is going to change substantially, I think it's going to be a lot more like it is now.

MR. DISPENSA: I don't question that. The only thing I question is the rate at which new public school students who are not currently attending public schools will emerge from within that area and choose Mayer. It would be really unprecedented if that number were to double in the first year of
the school; and, even if it were to double, I don't think that we would be in a position where we would be losing any seats.

Mr. Rocks is correct. The special nature of this is that Oscar Mayer is a neighborhood school, and we don't have any policies that allow us to manage or set aside seats at a neighborhood school in the same way that we do for a nonattendance area magnet school.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Can't we have proximity at a higher percentage? We don't have a policy that says we can have proximity at 70 percent and the other 30 percent can come from somewhere else?

MR. DISPENSA: We do for nonattendance area magnet schools. We don't for magnet schools that have traditional boundaries like Mayer.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Is this an unusual situation? As Mayer is, for the most part, the student -- Mayer is in a predominantly white area. And most of the students there are not white. So they're coming in from somewhere else. Is that a unique situation in our schools?

MR. DISPENSA: That's -- for neighborhood schools -- unique? I could probably think of six
or seven other instances where that's the case.

    PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: I won't discuss this
forever tonight. No, it's not okay with everybody
else. I will abstain then.

    You understand, Mr. Rocks, what my
objective is?

    MR. ROCKS: I do.

    PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: How do we meet that or can
we -- are we saying we can't meet it? I'm
concerned about agreeing that we will revisit it
next year because I just may not remember and we
just may not have the institutional memory that
gets us there. I don't know how we do it so that
we don't lose track of what I think will create an
unfair situation if the neighborhood does do what
we should expect they would do by creating this
wonderful school that is Oscar Mayer. How do we do
that?

    MR. ROCKS: I have to think about that.

    Honestly I don't have an answer for you tonight.
The two models that Mr. Dispensa and I have been
describing, one being a regular neighborhood
attendance area model, the other being the magnet
school model with a proximity priority lottery are
the models under which -- with which we function.

    In effect, I think you're describing a
hybrid where it's a neighborhood school where some
seats are set aside for a city-wide function or
purpose, and I would need to think about how to do
that.

    PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: What can we vote on
tonight that either moves or does not move this
forward that allows us to capture your thinking
about this and coming to what would be a palatable
situation for at least me?

    MR. ROCKS: Can you give me a few minutes to
reflect on that?

    PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Absolutely. Thank you,
Mr. Dispensa.

    Why don't we go on down to the next one
and we'll come back here again. We voted EX6.
Let's look at EX7. Mr. Duncan?

    CEO DUNCAN: That one I think is a little less
complex, and the goal is to allow Perspectives to
replicate --

    PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: We can vote EX7? Let's
vote EX7. Is there a motion?

    MEMBER MUNANA: So moved.
finals will be in the action. PR9, 10, 11, 12, PR13, 14. PR15 was draft on agenda and the final will be in the action. PR16. PR17 was draft on agenda and the final will be in the action. PR18, PR19.

And, Mr. President, these items do require a vote.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Madam Secretary, if there are no objections from my fellow Board Members, the previous affirmative vote shall apply.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. Mr. President, before we continue, can we go back to take a vote then on the matter for EX5?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Yes, we may. Mr. Rocks, do you have another idea?

MR. ROCKS: Yes, Mr. President. The current draft of the Board report has a section titled Attendance Boundaries. I need to read this short section before I make this proposal. Mayer's current attendance boundaries will be maintained. Each year thereafter, a demographic assessment will be conducted to determine whether Oscar Mayer will maintain its designation as a magnet school with attendance boundaries or will be categorized as a
magnet school with no attendance boundaries.

My suggestion is that we add a sentence to that section that would require the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to submit a report of that assessment to the Secretary of the Board on or before September 1st of each year. And the reason I make that suggestion is that it would allow us on an annual basis to report to the Board any changes in the demographics of that school and of the neighboring schools around it. That data would then inform a decision whether to reclassify the school as a school without an attendance boundary.

It would also be a mandate from the Board that this report be submitted to the Secretary in time for consideration of a change prior to the Options for Knowledge Window which typically begins in October and ends near the middle or end of December.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Can we add the purpose for which we are doing that?

MR. ROCKS: Yes. We can add a reference to the desegregation decree, and we would -- we could require that the assessment take into account the requirements of the decree.
PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Mr. Dispensa?

MR. DISPENSA: If I may just add or ask that we use October 1st as the date because that's the date by which we will have an opportunity to take the most recent enrollment and demographic data, process it and present it. September 1st is -- we don't yet know what the enrollment of the school is. I think we would be better informed after -- if all things being equal, if that's okay.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Mr. Rocks?

MR. ROCKS: I was aware of that fact when I made the suggestion. My concern is that if we were to make or to recommend to the Board a change in the attendance rules, we would want that to be finished in time to be included in the options period in the fall. And that typically begins middle of October which would mean we would need to make the September Board meeting.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Mr. Duncan?

CEO DUNCAN: I think I really understand the issue. It would be -- to Jimmy's point, it would be less precise, September 1st, because you don't count for every single student, but I think it would be 85 to 90 percent precise. And so I'm
comfortable with the September 1st date because,
again, I think it's important -- it's less
important to be 100 percent precise. It's more
important to get this done in time so that we can
make any necessary adjustments before the
application process for the upcoming year.

So as long as can you live with less than
100 percent accuracy on it, I think September 1st
is a good suggestion.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: I am, indeed, a reasonable
man.

MEMBER CARRERO: So moved.

MEMBER BOBINS: I move the amendment.

MEMBER CARRERO: Second.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. Bobins, you had noted
an abstention on that matter. Would you like to
strike that for the record?

MEMBER CARRERO: He second the amendment.

MEMBER BOBINS: I would -- given the work of my
leader, I would support this.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. So we will
strike the abstention for Mr. Bobins on EX5, and I
will proceed with the roll call. Mr. Bobins?
MEMBER BOBINS: Yes.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Munana?

MEMBER MUNANA: Yes.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Dr. Butt?

DR. BUTT: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. Carrero?

MEMBER CARRERO: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Davis?

MEMBER DAVIS: Aye.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: President Williams?

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Absolutely.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Six ayes, zero nays.

I will continue with the agenda items that do not require a vote, and they are OP1. And I would like to note for the record an abstention for Dr. Butt on OP1. OP2 was draft on agenda and the final will be in the action.

MS1.

ED2, ED3.

AR1.

Mr. President, these items just need to be accepted by the Board.

PRESIDENT WILLIAMS: Madam Secretary, please mark received and filed.