

BALTIMORE CITY --- PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Expanding Great Options Year 4 Recommendations

February 14, 2012

Overview of Presentation

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- Review guiding principles and methods to identify low-performing schools
- Review history and successes of Expanding Great Options Years 1-3
- Provide data snapshot, rationale and suggested intervention for each school recommended for
 - Closure
 - Grade configuration change
- Present timeline for Expanding Great Options Year 4

Expanding Great Options Guiding Principles

- We are working to create a system of great schools.
- We are closing or transforming schools that don't work for our kids.
- We are reconfiguring some schools and programs that have strong chances of success and expanding some programs that are already proving effective.
- We are reviewing our portfolio of buildings to maximize our ability to provide great school options in all areas of the city.

Identifying the Lowest Performing Schools

- A cross-functional work group considered a wide variety of data to determine which schools were most in need of intervention:
 - Student achievement trends
 - Student enrollment trends
 - School Climate Survey results from students, staff, and parents
 - Previous intervention strategies, such as changes in leadership or prior EGO plans
 - Fiscal sustainability
 - Building utilization rate and condition
 - Geographic location and area options
 - School improvement status

Expanding Great Options Progress

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Year 1
SY09-10

- Opened 8 new schools with strong chances of success.
- Expanded 1 successful high school to include middle grades.
- Closed 7 failing schools (over two years), merging 2 with expanding, successful schools.
- Relocated 5 schools to better utilize facilities and allow for school expansion.
- Reorganized citywide special education programs, placing classes at 17 additional schools.
- Expanded pre-kindergarten citywide with approximately 800 new seats.

Year 2
SY10-11

- Opened 5 new schools with strong chances of success.
- Expanded 2 successful elementary schools and 1 successful high school to include middle grades.
- Transformed 7 failing schools, pairing 5 with partner organizations.
- Closed 5 failing schools, replacing 2 with new schools and merging 1 with an expanding, successful school.
- Relocated 4 schools to better utilize facilities and allow for school expansion.
- Expanded citywide choice in middle grades by eliminating attendance boundaries for stand-alone middle schools.

Expanding Great Options Progress

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Year 3
SY11-12

- Transformed 6 failing schools, pairing 1 with partner organization.
- Closed 1 failing high school (over two years).
- Created 1 specialized program for international refugee students to ease transition and improve student achievement.
- Supported the planned expansion of existing transformation and charter schools.

Year 4
SY12-13

- Summary of recommendations pending Board and CEO feedback:
 - Close 1 failing high school – Southside Academy.
 - Change grade configurations at 3 elementary/middle schools – Stuart Hill Academic Academy, Federal Hill Prep, and Moravia Park – to make them elementary schools (PK-5 or K-5).
 - Support the planned expansion of existing transformation and charter schools.

Continue the work until all students in City Schools have the great school options they deserve.

City Schools Efforts to Close Low Performing and Underutilized Schools

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School Characteristics: FY07 Attendance Rates and MSA/HSA Performance

School Status	# of schools	% of total schools	Avg. Attendance Rate	Utilization Rate	% Advanced or Proficient	
					Math	Reading
Closed	26	13%	82%	61%	18%	31%
Remained Open	168	87%	92%	77%	54%	61%

The schools that closed from FY08 to FY11, on average, had lower attendance rates, utilization rates, and student proficiency levels than those that remained open. 21 closed schools ranked in the lowest percentile for math performance and 20 closed schools ranked in the lowest percentile for reading performance.

Notes: Closed schools defined as BCS school numbers that existed in the FY08 analysis but were not present in the FY11 analysis; % Advanced or Proficient was derived by aggregating 2007 MSA and 2007 HSA data. Advanced and Proficient student counts for MSA subject tests and the corresponding HSA subject tests were summed and divided by the sum of total subject test takers; 2007 performance data available for 24 of the 26 closed schools and 158 of the 168 open schools. Utilization rates available for 20 of 26 closed schools and 134 of 168 open schools

Source: BCPSS_20110826_Baltimore_YOYSchools DB RD v10

Expanding Great Options: Early Signs of Success

- **2009-2010: Year 1**
 - National Academy Foundation Expansion
- **2010-2011: Year 2**
 - Commodore John Rodgers Elementary/Middle School Turnaround
 - Diggs Johnson Middle School to Southwest Baltimore Charter School Conversion
 - West Baltimore Middle School to Green Street Academy Conversion

Summary of Recommended Interventions

School	Recommended Intervention
Southside Academy HS	Close school
Steuart Hill Academic Academy ES/MS	Change grade configuration to PK-5 and engage middle school students in choice process
Federal Hill Prep ES/MS	Change grade configuration to PK-5 and engage middle school students in choice process with preference to Thomas Johnson ES/MS and Francis Scott Key ES/MS
Moravia Park ES/MS	Change grade configuration to PK-5 and engage middle school students in choice process with preference to Northeast MS

School Recommended for Closure

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- Southside Academy HS

Southside Academy High School #181

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Data Snapshot

	Indicator	SYo8	SYo9	SY10	SY11	% Change
Test Data	HSA First Time Test Taker Pass Rate on All Tests	33.7	18.2	18.1	15.1	-55.2
	All HSA Test Pass Rate	29.9	19.7	19.3	13.8	-53.9
Non-Test Data	Enrollment	297	341	300	274	-7.7
	# 1 st and 2 nd Choices	77	61	41	42	-64.1
	Dropout Rate	7.9	3.6	7.7	2.6	-67.1
	Leaver Graduation Rate	96.0	77.6	68.8	69.4	-27.7
	4- Year Cohort Graduation Rate			45.2	47.4	4.9
	5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate			-	54.7	n/a
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Students		55.6	61.9	62.9	13.1
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Parents		75.0	84.2	62.5	-16.7
Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Staff		72.1	93.3	89.4	24.0	

Southside Academy High School #181

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Rationale

- Steady decline in percentage of students passing HSA tests
- Decreases in enrollment
- Decreases in the number of eighth grade students choosing Southside as their #1 or #2 choice
- Low graduation rates

Recommendation

- Close school on June 30, 2012
- Offer current students an opportunity to participate in a school-based choice process
- Students have opportunity to attend two better schools – New Era Academy HS and Benjamin Franklin HS at Masonville Cove

Schools Recommended for Grade Reconfiguration

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- Steuart Hill Academic Academy ES/MS
- Federal Hill Prep ES/MS
- Moravia Park ES/MS

Steuart Hill Academic Academy #4

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Data Snapshot

	Indicator	SYo8	SYo9	SY10	SY11	% Change
Test Data	Grades 3-5 Overall MSA Reading – Proficient or Advanced	77.2%	74.2%	67.5%	55.6%	-28.0%
	Grades 3-5 Overall MSA Math – Proficient and Advanced	77.2%	84.6%	79.4%	62.6%	-18.9%
	Grades 6-8 Overall MSA Reading – Proficient or Advanced	53.3%	39.7%	44.4%	45.2%	-15.2%
	Grades 6-8 Overall MSA Math – Proficient or Advanced	31.1%	29.9%	31.8%	24.2%	-22.2%
Non-Test Data	Enrollment	454	476	446	427	-5.9
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Students		63.3	65.2	60.1	-5.1
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Parents		83.1	61.5	79.2	-4.7
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Staff		61.6	62.8	84.2	36.7

Steuart Hill Academic Academy #4

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Rationale

- Students in middle grades (125 students) would benefit from stronger academic programs
- Supports school in turning around elementary grades, where students already have better outcomes
- Preserves elementary school seats in a community where enrollment projections are expected to increase over the next 5-8 years

Recommendation

- Change grade configuration to PK-5
- Offer current 5th-7th grade students an opportunity to participate in a school-based middle school choice process

Federal Hill Prep ES/MS #45

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Data Snapshot

	Indicator	SY08	SY09	SY10	SY11	% Change
Test Data	Grades 3-5 Overall MSA Reading – Proficient or Advanced	87.4	83.8	87.9	76.3	-12.7
	Grades 3-5 Overall MSA Math – Proficient and Advanced	85.6	77.8	85.6	63.9	-25.4
	Grades 6-8 Overall MSA Reading – Proficient or Advanced	73.0	64.8	73.1	71.2	-2.5
	Grades 6-8 Overall MSA Math – Proficient or Advanced	86.5	69.0	79.1	46.6	-46.1
Non-Test Data	Enrollment	315	323	312	338	7.3
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Students		76.4	81.6	76.1	-0.4
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Parents		89.1	87.4	91.6	2.8
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Staff		97.4	99.5	96.2	1.2

Federal Hill Prep ES/MS #45

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Rationale

- Current and future enrollment projections will exceed school capacity
- Small number of students in middle grades (78 students currently) would benefit from stronger middle school academic programs at neighboring schools
- Responds to a community proposal to reorganize and coordinate the three schools on the peninsula

Recommendation

- Change grade configuration to PK-5
- Offer current 5th-7th grade students an opportunity to participate in a school-based middle school choice process and give preference at Thomas Johnson ES/MS and Francis Scott Key ES/MS

Moravia Park ES/MS #105

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Data Snapshot

	Indicator	SYo8	SYo9	SY10	SY11	% Change
Test Data	Grades 3-5 Overall MSA Reading – Proficient or Advanced	72.0	67.7	58.9	62.7	-12.9
	Grades 3-5 Overall MSA Math – Proficient and Advanced	71.1	75.1	58.5	68.4	-3.8
	Grades 6-8 Overall MSA Reading – Proficient or Advanced	53.0	62.0	60.6	47.5	-10.4
	Grades 6-8 Overall MSA Math – Proficient or Advanced	34.5	31.5	37.7	31.7	-8.1
Non-Test Data	Enrollment	926	949	1012	977	5.5
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Students		65.8	67.8	68.7	4.4
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Parents		79.4	84.1	87.1	9.7
	Climate Survey Overall Satisfaction Staff		91.3	81.8	73.8	-19.2

Moravia Park ES/MS #105

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Rationale

- Enrollment projections exceed school capacity for grades K-3
- Students in middle grades (220 students) would benefit from stronger academic programs
- Supports increased utilization of the International Student Education Center at Northeast MS – a specialized program that offers targeted support for international refugee middle grade students

Recommendation

- Change grade configuration to PK-5
- Offer current 5th-7th grade students an opportunity to participate in a school-based middle school choice process and give preference at Northeast MS

EGO 4 Timeline

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Activity	Date
Public Presentation of EGO Recommendations to the Board	2/14
Staff Meetings at Each School	2/15 – 2/22
Community Meetings at Each School	2/22 – 2/29
Steering Committee Process at Closing School	2/15 – 3/9
Board Public Hearings	3/6, 3/10
Board Vote	3/27

Board Public Hearings

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Tuesday, March 6, 2012

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Baltimore City Public Schools Central Office
200 E. North Avenue
First Floor Board Room

Saturday, March 10, 2012

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Baltimore City Public Schools Central Office
200 E. North Avenue
First Floor Board Room

Note: In the event that either Public Hearing date needs to be cancelled for inclement weather, the make-up date is Thursday, March 15, 2012, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Baltimore City Public Schools Central Office.

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Please send feedback and comments to:

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by March 15, 2012