Proposal: Co-locate additional Chicago High School For the Arts (ChiArts) classrooms in the Doolittle East Campus

Network: Burnham Park
Neighborhood: Douglas
Address: 535 E. 35th St

Why We Are Taking Action:
• ChiArts is an existing contract school that will require additional classroom spaces for the Fall 2012 school year
• Currently, ChiArts occupies the Doolittle West building, which is only 50 feet away from the Doolittle East facility, and shares the auditorium of Doolittle East
• Doolittle East has more than enough excess capacity to accommodate ChiArts’ need for additional classrooms.
• Doolittle currently has 304 students in PreK-8
• ChiArts has 437 students but that is expected to increase next year
• There are 37 classrooms in the 1st – 3rd floors in the East building
  o There is also a Library, office space and a lunch room
• This division of the space provides 25 classrooms for Doolittle

INVESTMENT IN STUDENTS

Safety & Security:
• OSS will provide security personnel, training, and consultation when requested for Doolittle and ChiArts to ensure a safe school environment
• Before the school year, the Campus Manager will facilitate a meeting between the principals of Doolittle and ChiArts to discuss safety and security in the building
  o Work with the principals throughout the year to ensure consistent implementation and transparent communication regarding safety and security needs and strategies
• The principals will draft a safety and security plan for emergency protocols and safety precautions
• CPS will provide a school climate specialist and will help the administrators develop a strategy to encourage the students and staff members of Doolittle and ChiArts to develop a collaborative and calm learning environment in the facility.
• OSS will work closely with the CPD and the Commander of the Fifteenth Police District

Academic Support:
• Mitigating any space-sharing challenges that arise to maintain a positive learning environment
• Enable the individual school leaders to focus on the independent educational mission of each school
• Ensure that both schools are making full and complementary use of the available classroom and auxiliary space
• Coordinate a safe plan for dismissal such that Doolittle and ChiArts students do not each other’s learning time
• Encourage school leaders to collaborate to develop after-school programming to maximize and diversify academic and extracurricular offerings for students
• Encouraging and facilitating best practice sharing among school leadership and staff

Social & Emotional support:
• Maintain a positive atmosphere for learning and growth by fostering a respectful, caring, and motivating learning community
• Ensure optimal utilization of social work and counseling resources from both schools
• Regular meetings between both school leaders to maintain communication and build positive working relationships
• Provide peer-to-peer mediation support
• Maintain a shared events calendar to ensure available space and staff for Doolittle and ChiArts events