

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

Network: Burnham Park

Address: 535 E. 35th St

Neighborhood: Douglas

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
 - 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
 - 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