

# Creating A Higher Quality School Option for Students

Community Meeting:  
Friday, January 6, 2012



# Agenda for Today

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- **Welcome:**

Introduce CPS leadership in attendance, overview of the agenda, and the ground rules

- **Presentation:**

Why is there a proposal to make a change for this school and what does it mean for students?

- **Comments from the audience:**

Two minutes per individual

- **Adjourn**

# Chicago Public Schools Leadership in Attendance

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- Don Fraynd, Acting Officer, Office of School Improvement
- Theresa Plascencia, Chief of High Schools, West Side Network
- Jesse Ruiz, Board Member

# Ground Rules for Community Meetings

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- There is a two minute time limit on each speaker and we will provide a 30 second warning.
- Treat everyone with respect.
- If any individual continues to ignore the time-keeper or behaves in a disrespectful and uncooperative manner, then, unfortunately, we will be required to ask security to remove the individual that is disrupting the meeting.
- We will end the meeting at 8 p.m. or after the last speaker has spoken, whichever comes first.
- If you have questions or concerns, please see a floor team member and he/she will make a note of your concern and information so that we can follow-up with you.

## ***CPS Vision:***

*Provide students with a world class education in every community and ensure they graduate college and career ready.*



# Why are we proposing to phase-out Crane?

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- Crane ranks among the top 25 schools in the district in per pupil spending and has received \$7.5 million over the past five years, but continues to fail its students.
- Crane has been on probation for 10 consecutive years.
- One out of two Crane students does not graduate.
- 10 out of 20 Crane students are not meeting IL state standards on the PSAE.
- Only 15-17% of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the boundary choose to attend Crane.

# What is a Phase-Out?

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- Existing students may remain enrolled at the school.
- The school will not enroll any new students.
- The school will decrease by one grade level per year.
- Incoming freshman students who live in the current boundary for the school will be reassigned to a higher performing neighboring high school.

# What is a Co-Location?

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- Existing students may remain enrolled in the school.
- Two CPS schools share the current space in one facility.
- The schools operate together in the same facility – independent of one another.

# Why is there a proposal to co-locate Talent Development with Crane?

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- Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is committed to ensuring that every student, in every community, has access to high quality schools in order to graduate college and career ready.
- The facility at 2245 W. Jackson has 74 classrooms:
  - Crane is anticipated to need 28 classrooms
  - Talent Development is anticipated to need 32 classrooms
  - Total classrooms: 60

# What is Talent Development?

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- Chicago Talent Development Charter High School (Talent Development) opened in the fall of 2009 and is currently located at 4319 W. Washington.
- Talent Development's mission is to graduate all students prepared for success in college, career, and civic life.
- The school currently serves 200 students from 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade. The school expects to serve up to 600 students from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade next year.

# What Does This Mean for Students?

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## Academic

- Instructional leader will ensure academic programs address the needs of students and lead to performance.
- Additional instructional supports will focus on alignment of coursework to the College Readiness Standards (CCSS) so students graduate college and career ready.
- Intensive data analysis that includes student performance data, student transcripts, and course sequence options to ensure that the educational program provides the individualized support each student needs.
- ACT preparation programs will give students extra support in college preparation.
- Writing centers will provide critical literacy support to struggling students.
- After school tutoring programs will promote students' development and accelerate academic growth.
- Credit recovery review will maximize students' opportunity to meet graduation requirements.
- Counselor will help students successfully complete high school and give thoughtful consideration of post-secondary opportunities.

# What Does This Mean for Students? (cont.)

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## Social and Emotional

- The Office of Youth Development and Positive Behavior is committed to providing supports that will create a positive learning environment for all students.
- This Office will assist school leadership in providing supports to staff that will boost morale and promote a model of positive behavior for students.
- CPS will work with leadership and staff to address concerns regarding the phase-out of their school .
- This Office will also facilitate “peace circles” with students and parents to help them process information, ask questions, and review concerns related to this proposed action.
- The CPS Talent Office will work with staff to address concerns regarding the phasing-out of their school and emphasize the need for a positive learning environment for students during the phase-out period.

# How will we ensure a safe transition?

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- CPS considers student safety and security to be a top priority, and thoroughly reviewed all actions for safety concerns.
- CPS has worked in collaboration with OSS, CPD (12<sup>th</sup> District Cmdr.), CTA, and other sister agencies to develop a plan that puts student safety first.
- CPS will continue to provide safe passage workers to ensure the safety of all students and staff traveling to school.
- OSS will continue to follow Crane's current dismissal plan and foster Crane's partnership with the CTA to assist students as they travel to and from school.
- OSS will conduct a security audit of the Crane facility before the start of the 2012-2013 school year to ensure that the facility promotes a calm learning environment for all students.
- OSS is committed to maintaining the secure climate at Crane and supporting the current security team through this transition.
- In conjunction with parents, we will develop a safety transition task force to ensure that all safety concerns are addressed appropriately.

# How will we ensure a safe transition? (cont.)

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- Before the school year, the Campus Manager will facilitate a meeting between the principals of Crane and Talent Development to discuss safety and security in the building.
- The Campus Manager will also 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 Crane and Talent Development to develop a collaborative and calm learning environment in the facility.

# Inquiries from Parent Meeting

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- Has CPS considered a turnaround instead of closing the school? The building location is convenient for students, and parents have security concerns.
- Will this school really stay open or will parents get notification in a year that this school will close?
- How can you provide a reasonable curriculum for 100 students?
- How long has Talent Development been open? Why do they only have 200 kids? Is Talent Development selective enrollment?
- Why is CPS displacing the achievement academy?
- What are the better performing high schools that will be options for the reassigned 9<sup>th</sup> grade students?



## ***Crane Students 2012***

*Access to a school with a culture  
that breeds academic success  
and sets students on the path to  
college and career.*

# Upcoming Dates & Next Steps

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- Email feedback to [cpsfeedback@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:cpsfeedback@cps.k12.il.us)
- **Community Meeting #2:**
  - January 20, 2012 from 6-9 p.m.
  - Malcolm X College, 1900 W. Van Buren St.
- **Public Hearing:**
  - January 24, 2012 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.
  - Board Chambers, 125 S. Clark St., 5th floor

# Options for Knowledge Enrollment Workshops

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- **Current Crane students' home school assignments will not be impacted by the proposed phase-out.** Students and families will have the opportunity to pursue additional enrollment options. CPS will provide informational briefings regarding enrollment options on the dates below during the times specified. At these informational briefings, parents and guardians will be given relevant information to assist them in making informed choices on the enrollment of their children.
- **For current 9-11th grade students:**
  - *January 18, 2012 from 5-7 p.m. at Malcolm X College, 1900 W. Van Buren St.*
  - *January 21, 2012 from 12-3 p.m. at Austin Polytechnical High School, 1745 W. 63<sup>rd</sup> St.*