

Proposal: Close Lathrop (Level 3), reassign returning students to Johnson (Level 2)

Network: Austin-North Lawndale
Elementary
Neighborhood: North Lawndale

Address: 1440 S Christiana
Principal: Rhonda Larkin
Grades: 3-8

Enrollment: 83
(1.1% of total students impacted
District-wide)

Why We Are Taking Action:

- Lathrop is one of three schools (Reed and Best Practice HS are the others) three years into a Board-approved phase-out
- Fewer than one out of two Lathrop students meet/exceed state standards on the ISAT
 - Other schools in the community are outperforming Lathrop by 15 percentage points on the ISAT
- Lathrop is among the lowest performing schools in the district when looking at the Trend and Growth data, which measures the school's progress on ISAT and individual student growth on the ISAT from one year to the next
 - Lathrop is in the bottom 8% of schools in the District based on the percent of trend and student growth points earned in the performance policy

Performance Data for Schools Subject to Action:	Sending School: Lathrop				Receiving School: Johnson			
	FY11	FY10	FY09	FY08	FY11	FY10	FY09	FY08
Performance Policy Level	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3	Level 2	Level 3	Level 3	Level 3
Percent of Policy Points	23.8%	47.6%	28.6%	26.2%	50.0%	40.5%	14.3%	16.7%
% of Current Status Points	16.7%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%	27.8%	11.1%	5.6%	5.6%
% of Trend and Growth Points	29.2%	70.8%	50.0%	45.8%	66.7%	62.5%	20.8%	25.0%
Trend and Growth Percentile Rank	8th	70th	44th	17th	58th	58th	5th	2nd
ISAT Composite Meets or Exceeds	49.6%	58.7%	49.6%	42.1%	60.4%	51.7%	42.1%	40.0%
NETWORK ISAT Composite	65.1%	59.6%	54.8%	53.2%	65.1%	59.6%	54.8%	53.2%

Opportunities for Students:

- Closure provides an opportunity to allow the remaining students to be transferred to a higher performing nearby Level 2 school (Johnson)
- The Lathrop boundary will be reassigned to Johnson and Lawndale pursuant to phase-out Board report
 - Johnson is an AUSL Turnaround (starting 2009-2010)

INVESTMENTS FOR STUDENTS

Safety & Security:

- OSS will work with local community groups, elected officials, sister agencies, CPD (specifically Commander Ruiz in the 10th District Commander and Commander Washington in the 11th District)
- Johnson will be staffed with safety and security personnel
- Five Safe Passage workers will be provided
 - Douglas and Kedzie
 - Four workers at Roosevelt Road and Kedzie at each quadrant of the intersection
- Climate team members will be deployed as needed
- OSS will conduct a security audit and provide in-service trainings for school staff to reinforce de-escalating conflict
- CPS will be included in regular meetings with neighboring high schools to discuss safety

Academic Support:

- Instructional leader to ensure classroom quality at Lathrop remains high throughout the transition, and students receive the instruction they need to progress and accelerate academically
- Highly trained intervention instructor who is exclusively focused on ensuring students from Guggenheim receive the intervention and remedial support they need to get on grade level
- Small group and individualized instruction for Lathrop students to boost academic achievement
- Targeted online supplemental instruction to give Lathrop students the individualized supports they need and increase engagement in learning
- Small counseling groups to help Lathrop students understand transition and prepare for new school setting
- Intensive data analysis to ensure Johnson is prepared to meet needs of incoming students, and ongoing analysis of academic performance to identify gaps in reading, comprehension, fluency, vocabulary and decoding skills to determine necessary supports to help all students succeed
- Johnson, as an AUSL school, offers heightened supports including:
 - Intervention and tutoring services so transitioning students won't fall behind
 - Advanced data systems and aligned assessments allow staff to identify struggling students early and get them help they need to be back on track
 - After school programs to give students access to additional instruction time to further accelerate student achievement.
 - Implementation of Common Core State Standards to ensure rigorous instructional program that gives students knowledge and skills needed to be college and career ready
 - In-house training for aspiring teachers that gives teachers strategies and tools needed to address diverse needs of students in transitioning urban environments

Social & Emotional Support:

- Host an open house at Johnson before the end of the year and a "Welcome Back Night" at the beginning of next school year to give transitioning students an opportunity to become familiar with their new school, and meet their new teachers and administrators
- CPS will work with staff to ease transition and address concerns regarding school closing
- Office of Youth Development will facilitate "peace circles" with students and assist staff, students, and parents at receiving schools in developing new school vision and plan for implementation
- A social worker will be staffed at receiving school for 2012-2013 school year to provide ongoing transition support.
 - Johnson also has a partnership with SGSA, a social emotional agency that provides student and family counseling
- All students at Johnson, part of the AUSL network, are taught skills related to self-management, responsible decision making, empathy toward others, establishing positive interpersonal relationships, and determining positive goals

Transportation: No transportation will be provided

- For the 30 In-Area students, our proposal would increase their travel distance by only +0.16 miles, or "a few blocks"
- For the 32 Out-of-Area students, our proposal would increase their travel distance by only +0.14 miles, or "a few blocks"