Extension of Time for Principals To Prepare and Local School Council (LSC) Review and Approval of School Budgets

Whereas, the Local School Council Advisory Board (LSCAB), acting as an advisory body to the Chicago Board of Education, is committed to promoting effective governance and decision-making within Local School Councils (LSCs);

Whereas, the LSCAB recognizes the critical role played by LSCs in reviewing and approving school budgets to ensure the best interests of their respective schools and meet the needs for implementation of the continuous improvement work plan;

Whereas, the timeframe provided for LSCs in the past to review and approve school budgets is deemed inadequate, limiting their ability to conduct thorough evaluations and informed decision-making;

Be it resolved that the LSCAB strongly recommends to the Chicago Board of Education and the Chicago Public Schools to extend the time allocated for LSCs to review and approve proposed school budgets;

Further resolved, it is recommended that the Chicago Board of Education and the Chicago Public Schools proactively release school budgets, allowing principals at least four (4) weeks to prepare and share them with LSC members.

Finally, it is resolved that upon the principal’s completion of the school budget, principals share the budget and supporting documents with LSC members, allowing four (4) weeks before the deadline for review and approval. This will ensure adequate time for LSC members to prepare insightful questions and contribute meaningfully to decision-making.

The LSCAB respectfully submits this resolution on February 12, 2024, to the Chicago Board of Education for consideration and implementation by the Chicago Public Schools.