FOR ACTION COOK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 68 Agenda Item 4d
Skokie, Illinois

Regular Board Meeting – March 15, 2011

SUBJECT: **K-5 REDISTRICTING and TRANSITION PLAN**

It is recommended by the Administration that the Board of Education adjust the elementary school attendance boundaries by moving the one and one-half block area bounded by Davis Street, Skokie Boulevard, Grove Street, and the alley between Lamon Avenue and Lacrosse Avenue from the Highland School attendance area to the Devonshire School attendance area.

Background Information

During Board meetings beginning in October, 2010, the Board reviewed K-5 enrollment, staffing, and class section trend data over the past ten-year period and discussed options provided by district administration for balancing K-5 enrollments. This past January, the administrative team recommended that the Board move forward with moving the area noted above as the least disruptive, most efficient redistricting plan. Implementation of this plan will affect 20 families and 24 students currently attending Highland School.

In March, 2011, the Board reviewed the proposed transition plan, in which students affected by the change in boundaries who will enter Grade 5 for the 2011-2012 school year will be given the choice to remain at Highland School or move to Devonshire School. Siblings of these students, including incoming Kindergarten students, will also have the choice to remain at Highland School for the 2011-2012 school year and move to Devonshire School for the 2012-2013 school year. Students entering Grade 4 or lower in 2011-2012 will move to Devonshire School this coming August.

The administrative team hosted an evening meeting on February 28, 2011 for affected families which was attended by seven parents. We will provide affected students and parents from Highland School an opportunity to visit Devonshire School during the school day this spring.

The ELL Kindergarten class, currently housed at Jane Stenson School, will be moved to Devonshire School, if necessary, to better balance enrollment among the elementary schools.

This change in boundaries and corresponding transition plan will allow us to efficiently approach our goal of maintaining a more balanced enrollment across the three elementary schools for the foreseeable future and deploy co-curricular staff in a more cost-effective manner.