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OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS & MEDIA CONTENT

341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

For Immediate Release

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CTE to Expand Offerings with Emerging Educators Program for the Start of 2024-2025 School Year

Brashear Teaching Academy Magnet to Transition to Career and Technical Education Program to Provide Students Access to Dual Enrollment Credits, Industry-recognized Certifications, and Work-based Learning Opportunities

PITTSBURGH, PA April 26, 2024- Pittsburgh Public Schools is proud to announce the launch of the new Emerging Educators Career and Technical Education (CTE) program for students interested in exploring teaching as a profession. Approved at the Board's April 24th Legislative Meeting, Emerging Educators will provide students access to dual enrollment credits, industry-recognized certifications, and work-based learning opportunities. The Pennsylvania Department of Education approved program of study will strengthen the educational framework at Pittsburgh Brashear High School by aligning curriculum and standards for teacher training programs to federal guidelines, ensuring sustainable funding and fostering formal partnerships with post-secondary institutions.

“By taking a ‘Grow Our Own’ approach, through the Emerging Educators program we aim to proactively address the teacher shortage facing Pittsburgh Public Schools,” said Superintendent Wayne N. Walters, EdD. “We recognize the importance of tapping into our students now to ensure that future students will have access to educators who reflect their identities and experiences.”

The existing Teaching Academy magnet at Pittsburgh Brashear will conclude at the end of the current school year. The new Emerging Educators CTE program will open at the start of the 2024-2025 school year for students in grades 10-12 and continue to be housed at Pittsburgh Brashear. Students currently enrolled in the magnet program will have the opportunity to transition to the CTE program of study.

“We are confident that the Emerging Educators program will empower students interested in education careers through a blend of hands-on learning and rigorous academic coursework, characteristic of career and technical education,” said Angela Mike, Executive Director of Career and Technical Education. “We are excited to expand our CTE offerings and contribute to creating a robust teacher pipeline to meet the future needs of Pittsburgh Public Schools.

A meeting will be held for current families in the Brashear Teaching Academy at the school on May 8th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. Students and families interested in joining the Emerging Educators CTE program may apply at <https://www.pghschools.org/emergingeducators>.



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In Other Business

Board Action Approves Contract with Consulting Firm for Facilities Utilization Plan Services

In other business, the Board approved a contract with Education Resource Strategies, Inc. (ERS) to support District leadership in maximizing the use of every educational space within PPS to ensure Equity, Excellence, and Efficiency. ERS will undertake a comprehensive analysis, engage with the community for feedback and guidance, and provide recommendations based on the proposed Facilities Utilization Plan, which was presented to the Board at its April 3, Education Committee Meeting.

The proposed facilities utilization plan, developed as directed by the Board, represents a strategic initiative aimed at optimizing the use of educational facilities district-wide. ERS will utilize data analysis and community feedback to develop final recommendations for the Superintendent's consideration by August 2024. Any potential changes to the District's footprint, subject to a Board vote, would not be considered earlier than December 2024.

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