

For Immediate Release

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Board Approves District Realignment Plan for 2012-13 School Year

PITTSBURGH November 22, 2011 – Pittsburgh Public Schools for the 2012-13 school year will be a much leaner and focused organization based on the Board’s approval tonight of the District Realignment Plan. Focused on continuing its progress in student achievement with far fewer resources, the District Realignment Plan addresses the District’s under-enrolled classrooms that result in unnecessary costs to taxpayers. Approval of this plan means the District will move forward with the three strategies of the plan: School Closings, Feeder Pattern Changes, and Adjustments to the Educational Delivery Model. The District Realignment Plan is an integral part of the District 2012 Preliminary Budget.

This evening, the Board approved the opening of one new K-8 school in the Langley facility, as well as the closure of seven schools and seven facilities for the start of the 2012-13 school year. The Board additionally approved the expansion of Pittsburgh Morrow from a PreK-5 to a PreK-8 school, the reconfiguration of Pittsburgh Westwood from a K-8 to a K-5 school. Also approved was the relocation of McCleary Early Childhood Center into Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5, and Pittsburgh McNaugher into the Oliver facility.

“No one is ever happy about closing schools. These are very difficult decisions to make, but while difficult, they are necessary as we remain committed to building a strong, sustainable public school district in Pittsburgh,” said Superintendent Lane. “This School Board has demonstrated their commitment to making the difficult decisions necessary to solidify Pittsburgh’s future as one of America’s premier school districts, student-focused, well-managed, and innovative.”

Faced with a projected \$100 million deficit by 2015, the preliminary 2012 budget relies on the implementation of all three strategies in order to decrease the District’s funding gap. The preliminary budget of \$ 529.8 million represents a 2.1% decrease from the 2011 adopted budget of \$540.9 million. The preliminary budget includes an operating deficit of \$21.7 million in 2012 and adheres to the Board’s minimum five percent Fund Balance policy through 2013. The Board will vote on the 2012 Budget at its Special Legislative Meeting on December 7, 2011.

The District Realignment Plan is detailed in the chart below.

Close 7 Schools	Close 7 Buildings	Open 1 New School
Pittsburgh Fort Pitt PreK-5	Fort Pitt	
Pittsburgh Langley High School		New K-8 in Langley Building
	McNaugher	
Pittsburgh Murray K-8	Murray	
Pittsburgh Northview PreK-8	Northview	
Pittsburgh Oliver High School		
Pittsburgh Schaeffer K-8	Schaeffer Primary	
	Sheraden (Schaeffer Intermediate)	
Pittsburgh Stevens K-8	Stevens	

New K-8 School in Langley Facility

The Board approved the closures of Pittsburgh Schaeffer K-8, Pittsburgh Stevens K-8, and Pittsburgh Langley High School in order to open a new K-8 school in the Langley facility. Students from Pittsburgh Schaeffer K-8 and designated feeder patterns from Pittsburgh Stevens K-8 will move into the new school in the Langley building. Students from Pittsburgh Langley will attend school at Pittsburgh Brashear High School. The Early Childhood Center at Chartiers will remain open in its current location. The Teaching Academy magnet, located at Langley, will move to Pittsburgh Brashear, one of the District’s two Teaching Institute sites. Additionally, the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program Machine Operations will relocate to Pittsburgh Brashear beginning with the 2012-13 school year.

Closure of Pittsburgh Oliver High School

The Board approved the closure of Pittsburgh Oliver at the end of the 2011-12 school year. All students on the Northside who currently attend Oliver will be assigned to Pittsburgh Perry High School as their feeder school. Pittsburgh Perry will change from a full magnet program to a partial magnet program.

Magnet students currently attending Perry will remain in the magnet program. District students, outside of the Northside feeder pattern, can continue to apply to enter Pittsburgh Perry through the magnet application process. All students enrolled in Pittsburgh Perry will be in the Traditional Academy Program. Additional Perry Magnet Programs include Science and Math and the newly added JROTC Program (housed in the Oliver facility). Pittsburgh McNaugher, along with the District’s special education offices at Overbrook, will relocate into the Oliver facility.

Morrow Expands to a PreK-8

The Board approved the expansion of Pittsburgh Morrow from a PreK-5 school to a PreK-8 school, with grades PreK-4 in the Morrow building and grades 5-8 in the Rooney facility. The school will grow to accommodate grades PreK-8 – adding 6th grade in the 2012-13 school year, 7th grade in 2013-14, and 8th grade in 2014-15. Any students in the grades 6-8 in the new Morrow feeder pattern will be offered a choice between Pittsburgh Allegheny and Pittsburgh Schiller until the grade becomes available at Pittsburgh Morrow. The school would expand to the Rooney facility at the start of the 2013-14 school year.

Student Assignments based on the approved District Realignment Plan for 2012-13 are detailed on the chart below.

Current Assignment	New Student Assignments
Pittsburgh Fort Pitt PreK-5	Arsenal PreK-5, Woolslair K-5, and Fulton PreK-5
Pittsburgh Langley High School	Pittsburgh Brashear High School
Pittsburgh McNaugher	Pittsburgh McNaugher at Oliver Building
Pittsburgh Murray K-8	Pittsburgh Arlington PreK-8
Pittsburgh Northview PreK-8	Pittsburgh King PreK-8, Pittsburgh Morrow PreK-8
Pittsburgh Oliver High School	Pittsburgh Perry High School
Pittsburgh Schaeffer K-8	New K-8 at Langley
Pittsburgh Stevens K-8	New K-8 at Langley, Pittsburgh Westwood K-5, Pittsburgh South Hills 6-8
Pittsburgh Morrow PreK-5	PreK-5 expands to a PreK-8, PreK-4 in Morrow 5-8 in Rooney
Pittsburgh Westwood K-8	Changes from a K-8 to K-5, 6-8 to South Hills Middle
McCleary Early Childhood	Pittsburgh Arsenal PreK-5

New Feeder Patterns

Families who choose to attend the Pittsburgh Public Schools have many different offerings and options, from feeder pattern schools, which are assigned based on a child’s address, to Career and Technical Programs and Magnet options that allow students to pursue their passions.

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This evening, the Board additionally approved changes to District feeder patterns, the second strategy of the District Realignment Plan. These new feeder patterns adjust the District in a way that makes it easy for families to know their child’s pathway for school assignments grades K-12.

The chart below details K-12 feeder patterns for all students approved this evening. To see maps detailing the new District feeder patterns by region please visit the District’s website at www.pps.k12.pa.us/CitySchoolsFiscalChallenges or www.pps.k12.pa.us and click the City Schools Fiscal Challenges slide on the home page.

East		
Minadeo PK-5	Sterrett 6-8	Allderdice High School
Mifflin PK-8	Mifflin PK-8	Allderdice High School
Greenfield PK-8	Greenfield PK-8	Allderdice High School
Colfax K-8	Colfax K-8	Allderdice High School
Faison K-5	Westinghouse 6-12	Westinghouse 6-12
Lincoln PK-5	Westinghouse 6-12	Westinghouse 6-12
Fulton PK-5	Westinghouse 6-12	Westinghouse 6-12
Arsenal PK-5	Arsenal 6-8	Milliones 6-12
Woolslair K-5	Arsenal 6-8	Milliones 6-12
Sunnyside K-8	Sunnyside K-8	Milliones 6-12
Weil PK-5	Milliones 6-12	Milliones 6-12
Miller PK-5	Milliones 6-12	Milliones 6-12
North		
Morrow PK-8	Morrow PK-8	Perry High School
King PK-8	King PK-8	Perry High School
Spring Hill K-5	Schiller 6-8	Perry High School
Manchester PK-8	Manchester PK-8	Perry High School
South/West		
Langley K-8	Langley K-8	Brashear High School
Whittier K-5	South Hills 6-8	Brashear High School
Westwood K-5	South Hills 6-8	Brashear High School
Banksville PK-5	South Hills 6-8	Brashear High School
Beechwood PK-5	South Hills 6-8	Brashear High School
Phillips K-5	South Hills 6-8	Brashear High School
Brookline K-8	Brookline K-8	Brashear High School
Grandview K-5	South Hills 6-8	Carrick High School
Arlington PK-8	Arlington PK-8	Carrick High School
Roosevelt PK-5	South Brook 6-8	Carrick High School
Concord K-5	South Brook 6-8	Carrick High School
West Liberty K-5	South Brook 6-8	Carrick High School

In Other Business

Board Sets Superintendent Year Two Performance Goals

Tonight, the Board of Education approved Year Two Performance Goals for Pittsburgh Public Schools Superintendent Linda S. Lane. The Superintendent’s Year Two Performance Goals are designed to support the District’s *Excellence for All* plan and align with the Board’s five major goals for the District:

1. Maximum academic achievement for all students;
2. Safe and orderly environment for all students and employees;
3. Efficient and effective support operations for all students, families, teachers and administrators;
4. Efficient and equitable distribution of resources to address the needs of all students, to the maximum extent feasible;
5. Improved public confidence and strong parent/community engagement.

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The Superintendent's Year Two Performance Goals are as follows:

- 1. Continue Implementation of Empowering Effective Teacher Plan:** Assure effective teachers are placed in Career Ladder roles for 2012-13. Rollout Value-Added Measures and develop and communicate VAMs usage, and report on how STAR (Students and Teachers Achieving Results) program has been utilized as a means to motivate staff to increase school performance. For details about the plan please visit <http://empoweringpittsburghteachers.com>.
- 2. Continue Emphasis on High School Reform:** Focus on the transition of Pittsburgh Langley students into Pittsburgh Brashear, the transition of Pittsburgh Oliver students into Pittsburgh Perry, and the restart of Pittsburgh Westinghouse 6-12.
- 3. Programming:** Reevaluate and refine the Career and technology Education plan in light of the District Realignment Plan as adopted by the Board
- 4. Fiscal Planning:** Oversee effective fiscal planning and implementation of a process that results in a budget for 2012, which meets the minimum reserve levels per the Board's policy. .
- 5. Continue Pittsburgh Public Schools progress on PSSA Exams:** Show progress on a majority of the 42 testing points.
- 6. Improve support for and communication with principals.**

At its October 26, 2011, Legislative Meeting the Board confirmed Superintendent Lane met her Year One performance priorities. Given the District's fiscal challenges, Superintendent Lane declined to accept the increase of \$15,000, which would have been effective September 1, 2011, for an annual compensation of \$215,000 citing, "I am voluntarily freezing my own salary, and even though it isn't going to help much, it is just a statement of the fact that I think there needs to be shared sacrifice."

Building Sales

This evening the Board approved the sale of both the Reizenstein and Ridge facilities. The Board approved the sale of the Reizenstein facility to RGC Longview/Walnut Capital for approximately \$5.4 million. The developer plans to create 20 new homes, 70 townhomes, and office space that the location. The Board additionally approved the sale of the Ridge facility to Light of Life Ministries for close to \$1.1 million to create residential property.

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