

For Immediate Release

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Board Action Maintains Positive Alternative Education Program for Students *Board Extends Contract with Clayton Academy Management Services*

PITTSBURGH, February 22, 2012 – To ensure all students have access to the positive learning environments they need, the Board extended its contract with Clayton Academy Management Services (CAMS), formerly Community Education Partners (CEP), for a period of two years. CAMS, through Success Schools, provides a personalized program for students in grades 6-12 with chronic behavioral challenges. The CAMA program is one of the strategies the District is using to enhance its system of supports for students and families to get and keep students on track for a scholarship from the Pittsburgh Promise.

“We are very pleased with the environment Clayton Academy Management is providing our students through Success Schools. We are seeing that students, who struggled to succeed in their home school, are finding success at Clayton,” said Superintendent Linda Lane. “We look forward to learning from Success Schools as we use their structure as a model and training site for positive teaching and learning environments for the District.”

Students in the CAMS will continue to receive individualized academic and behavioral plans along with access to a team of on-site professionals who will provide intensive support services for students and their families. Students will continue to use the curriculum currently used in the District’s middle and high school grades. Students typically stay in the CAMS program for a semester, but may stay as long as they need the program before returning to their home school.

For \$11,200 per student, well below the District average of \$19,000, the CAMS program provides a cost-effective solution that meets the District goal to provide safe and welcoming learning environments for all students. At a maximum of 250 students the contract with CAMS will cost the District approximately \$2.8 million a year.

In Other News

Board Appoints Principal for New K-8 West End School

To ensure a smooth transition and strong start for the 2012-13 school year, the Board appointed leadership for the District’s new K-8 West End school, effective July 2012. Rodney Necciai has been appointed Principal of the new school scheduled to open at the start of the 2012-13 school year. Currently Principal of Pittsburgh Phillips K-5, Mr. Necciai will remain in his current role while providing oversight of the staffing and transition of students and families to the new school.

Mr. Necciai joined the Pittsburgh Public Schools in 1996 as a Health and Physical Education teacher at Pittsburgh Weil. In 1997 Mr. Necciai was appointed the Acting Assistant Principal at the now closed Prospect Middle School, where he additionally served as the school’s Activities and Transportation Director. He served as an Assistant Principal with the District until being appointed Principal of Knoxville Elementary (2002-2006). In 2006 he was appointed Principal of Pittsburgh Phillips. Prior to coming to Pittsburgh Mr. Necciai worked as a physical education teacher for the Hillsborough County School District, Tampa, Florida.