

RESOLUTION NO. 7752 – September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Consolidation of IPS High Schools

WHEREAS, the Board of School Commissioners is committed to providing high quality academic instruction to every student while demonstrating financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, Indianapolis Public Schools currently operates seven high schools to serve nearly 5,300 students, creating a utilization rate at high school facilities of just 37% ; and

WHEREAS, Indianapolis Public Schools experienced a peak enrollment of nearly 109,000 student in 1967, with over 26,000 high school students attending eleven high schools with an average of 2,373 students per building; and

WHEREAS, from 1950 to 2010, the population of Center Township declined from 337,211 to 142,787, corresponding to an enrollment decline in Indianapolis Public Schools of nearly 80,000 students from peak to present enrollment; and

WHEREAS, Indianapolis Public Schools has not proportionally reduced the number of high school facilities in relation to enrollment declines, with only two fewer IPS-operated high schools in 2017-18 than in 1968-69, despite a nearly 80% decline in high school enrollment – from 26,107 to 5,352 – over the past fifty years; and

WHEREAS, maintaining underutilized facilities creates inefficient allocation of district resources and reduces the amount of funding available to support academic instruction, provide extra-curricular student opportunities, and increase compensation to attract and retain talented teachers and administrators; and

WHEREAS, consolidating secondary enrollment to four high school facilities beginning in the 2018-19 school year is projected to result in over \$7 million in annual savings as a result of reductions in utility and operations costs and through greater efficiency in the use of classroom resources; and

WHEREAS, consolidating high school enrollment to four high schools will benefit students by redirecting resources towards expanding the number and enhancing the rigor of academic course offerings, supporting access and participation for extracurricular activities, athletics, and clubs, and creating robust college and career academies that support student achievement; and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Commissioners and administration are committed to ensuring that every student currently enrolled in an IPS high school - or planning to attend an IPS high school in the 2018-19 academic year - is actively engaged in the development of an academic plan to ensure that the student is enrolled in a program that aligns with their interests,

supports their academic development and post-secondary plans, and facilitates a smooth transition into a high school community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of School Commissioners of the City of Indianapolis, as follows:

- Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, Indianapolis Public Schools will operate only four high schools, such schools being:
  - Arsenal Technical High School;
  - Crispus Attucks High School;
  - George Washington High School;
  - Shortridge High School.
  
- Broad Ripple High School will no longer operate as a high school beginning in the 2018-19 school year;
- Arlington High School will no longer operate as a traditional high school beginning in the 2018-19 school year;
- Northwest High School will no longer operate as a traditional high school beginning in the 2018-19 school year;
- Manual High School and Howe High School, currently operated by state turnaround partners, will not be operated as high schools upon their return to Indianapolis Public Schools.

The foregoing Resolution No. 7752 was passed by the Board of School Commissioners of the City of Indianapolis this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Ann Sullivan, President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Bentley, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael O'Connor, Vice President

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dorene Hoops, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Gore, Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Venita Moore, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Diane Arnold, Commissioner