

# Academic Opportunities and Facilities Utilization

Pittsburgh Rooney ALA 6-8

Pittsburgh Morrow K-5

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Education Committee

December 2, 2009



# The Objectives

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- ❑ To provide the opportunity for continuity of program and better academic outcomes for students in North side communities
- ❑ To effectively utilize the recommendations of the facilities study commissioned by the Board of Education in 2008-09.



The DeJong study recommended the closure of the Morrow School and Building.

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- ❑ Close Pittsburgh Morrow K-5
  - The Morrow Building is a poorly rated facility and requires a significant expenditure of resources
- ❑ Merge the students in Pittsburgh Morrow K-5 into Pittsburgh Rooney 6-8 and develop another K-8 school on the north-side



## The DeJong recommendation must be coupled with an educational model of academic continuity

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- ❑ Pittsburgh Morrow absorbed the students from the closed Mann school during Right-sizing in 2003.
- ❑ The K-8 Model seeks to limit the transitions for students for purposes of academic continuity.
- ❑ Educational model would recommend growing K-8 schools rather than creating them.



## Portrait of Morrow K-5: Enrollment

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- The 2009-2010 student population Pittsburgh Morrow K-5 is 390
  - Exceeded projection by 25
- During Right-Sizing, Mann School was closed and merged into the Morrow building.
  - The first grade students at Mann in 2005-06 are now fifth graders.
  - In 2010-11, they will be sixth graders moving into another school building.



# Portrait of Pittsburgh Morrow K-5: Achievement

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- Pittsburgh Morrow K-5 did not make AYP in 2009-10.
- The school did improve making 20 of 21 data points
  - The subgroups that did not make AYP include:
    - Special Education-Reading



# Portrait of Pittsburgh Rooney ALA: Enrollment

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- 2009-2010 enrollment 165 students
  - 42 students less than the January 2009 membership
  - 26 students less than projected
- This is the only remaining feeder pattern middle school on the Northside receiving students from
  - Pittsburgh Northview ALA
  - Pittsburgh Morrow
  - Pittsburgh Spring Hill



## Portrait of Rooney ALA 6-8: Achievement

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- As the sole remaining feeder pattern middle school on the north side, it seeks to serve a high concentration of the most vulnerable student population.
- While making some academic gains, the school is School Improvement II.
  - The school met 16 of 17 data points.





## Pittsburgh Rooney's Enrollment projection continues to decline for 2010-11.

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- Total projection-128 students
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade-35 students
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade- 39 students
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - 54 students
- Building Capacity- 450 students
  - Projected enrollment is less than 1/3 of the building capacity



# Comprehensive Recommendation:

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- ❑ Close Pittsburgh Rooney ALA 6-8 and provide enhanced educational options for the existing population in 2010-11.
- ❑ Move Pittsburgh Morrow K-5 into the Rooney building in tact as a school in 2010-11 or 2011-12.



## **Existing Rooney students will have enhanced educational options.**

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- ❑ Current Pittsburgh Rooney students will choose to attend one of three magnet middle schools on the north side and west end.
  - Pittsburgh Allegheny 6-8
  - Pittsburgh Schiller 6-8
  - Pittsburgh Classical Academy 6-8
- ❑ Transition support and additional academic counseling will be given to each of the families impacted and the receiving schools.



## Pittsburgh Northview ALA K-5 would grow to a K-8 over the next three years.

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- The majority of the students in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grades are from Pittsburgh Northview ALA.
  - (See attached data from 2007-08 and 2008-09.)
- The ALA model has grown our most vulnerable student population at a rate that is faster than the district on the whole.
- Fewer transitions for students likely to result in better academic outcomes for students.



## **The feeder pattern school for Pittsburgh Morrow K-5 and Pittsburgh Spring Hill would become Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8.**

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- The majority of students in Pittsburgh Spring Hill K-5 and Pittsburgh Morrow K-5 exercise choice. (See attached data for 2008-09 and 2009-10.)
  - Choose a PPS school other than AJ Rooney through the magnet process
  - Attend a non-PPS School
- The feeder pattern for those students who do not make a choice will be Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8.

# Pittsburgh Morrow K-5 would move into the Rooney building

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- ❑ Close the Pittsburgh Morrow building in 2010-11
- ❑ Convene a committee of Morrow parents to determine the issues that need to be resolved prior to the move.
  - Issues that must be considered
    - ❑ Early Childhood Education needs
    - ❑ Special Education service needs for the transition.



# Board Action Required

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- Close Pittsburgh Rooney ALA 6-8 in 2010-11.
  - The Board would grant a one-time choice option for current Rooney 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders to Pittsburgh Allegheny 6-8, Pittsburgh Classical Academy 6-8 and/or Pittsburgh Schiller 6-8
- Change the feeder pattern for Rooney to Pittsburgh Arsenal 6-8.
- Reconfigure Pittsburgh Northview ALA K-5 to a K-8, growing the school one grade each year.
- Move Pittsburgh Morrow K-5, in tact, into the Rooney building on a timeline TBD



# Timeline Proposed

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- Education Committee Presentation
  - Wednesday, December 2, 2009
- Public Notice
  - Friday, December 4, 2009
- Special Public Hearing
  - Monday, December 21, 2009
- Board of Education Vote
  - Wednesday, March 24, 2010





# Questions and Comments

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