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The Plan for High School Excellence

Recommendation for Year Two Agenda

Rethinking the Instructional Paradigm
to Achieve *Excellence for All*

Pittsburgh Public Schools
Office of High School Reform
October 31, 2007

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Core Principles Guide Our Work

SAFE & WELCOMING SCHOOLS *School is a physically and emotionally safe place that supports learning.*

RELATIONSHIPS *Personalized learning environment with meaningful connections to teachers, peers, and the school.*

STUDENT SUPPORT *Consistent and ongoing help to ensure student progress towards goals.*

RIGOR *High academic expectations for all students; engaging and demanding content and teaching.*

RELEVANCE *Prepare and connect students to the real world.*

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Year One Focus (2007-08)

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- Strategies to improve discipline, order, and personalization in our schools
- A Key Focus: Implementation of Ninth Grade Nation
- Establishment of the Office of High School Reform

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Office of High School Reform

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- Researched best practices in similar urban school districts
- Aligns recommendations with previous district reform initiative
- Identified middle years as crucial to academic success in high school and beyond

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Advantages to 6-12 Model

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- One transition for students
- Deeper relationships with faculty/staff
- More accountability for schools/teachers
- Resource sharing between middle and high schools
- Continuity of programming over a period of years

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New Circumstances Impacted Our Planning

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- Initially, a Science and Technology High School was planned for 2008-09
- Plans have been adjusted because of deteriorating condition of Pittsburgh Schenley facility

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Schenley Facility Deterioration Adjusted Reform Agenda

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- Remediation of facility at Pittsburgh Schenley would cost District \$64.3 million
- The District cannot afford to remediate the facility at Pittsburgh Schenley
- Not responsible to save building at expense of addressing deep academic difficulties district-wide
- Must find a better way to meet academic needs of all Pittsburgh Schenley students
- Recommendation to close facility and reassign students

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Delivering Four New 6-12 Schools at Half the Capital Cost

High School Reform Initiatives		Schenley Remediation	
Reizenstein for IB World	14.2	Reizenstein For interim move during Schenley remediation	7.0
Milliones for University Partnership	11.0	Milliones For Rogers CAPA	16.4
Pittsburgh Peabody for High Tech Program	3.0	Pittsburgh Miller For new middle grades gym	7.1
Pittsburgh CAPA For 6-8 expansion	7.2	Pittsburgh Schenley For remediation	64.3
Pittsburgh Frick For Science and Tech	13.9	Science and Tech For renovation	?
Total Cost: \$ 49.3 million		Total Cost: \$ 94.8+ million	

Savings compared to remediation scenario: **\$45.5 million**

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New IB World 6-12 Opens in 2008-09

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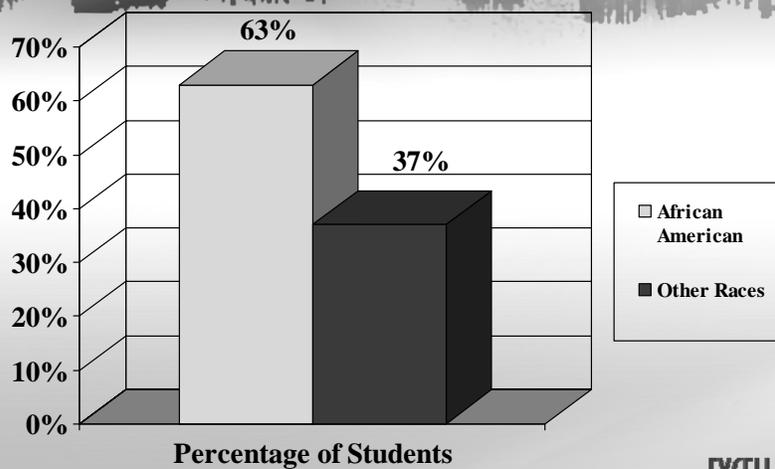
- One of America's first 6-12 comprehensive IB programs in an urban community opens at Reizenstein facility
- Approx. 550 IB, IS, and ESL students from Pittsburgh Schenley
- Approx. Pittsburgh Frick 440 students
- Many students in these programs come from neighborhoods near the facility

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Pittsburgh IB World 6-12 Population Reflects District as a Whole

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Benefits of IB Programmes Merger *excel9-12* for Pittsburgh Students and Families

- Middle Years Programme (6-10th grade) application from Schenley (9,10) and Frick (6-8) is being submitted to IB organization
- Existing IB Diploma Programme (11-12) will merge with the Middle Years Programme
- This school can open in 2008 due to the existence of a structured IB curriculum
- 6-12 model will improve alignment and enhance an already successful program

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Pittsburgh's First University Partnership *excel9-12* 6-12 School Opens in 2008-09

- Engaged in deep discussions with University of Pittsburgh's School of Education regarding creation of a partnership demonstration school at Milliones
- Models key aspects of University Park Campus School in Worcester, MA, one of America's most successful 7-12 school
- Provides intensive academic focus and commitment:
 - Location of the endowed Helen Faison Chair for Urban Education at Milliones
 - Relocation of the Office of High School Reform at Milliones

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Pittsburgh's First University Partnership School Meets Students' Academic Needs

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- Meets needs of students who were historically underserved
- Provides an exciting secondary educational opportunity in Hill District for students in Schenley feeder pattern

Overall Scores Mask Low Achievement of Pittsburgh Schenley Feeder Pattern Students

	Overall School	IS/IB	Robotics Tech	Spartan Classics*
Proficient/Advanced Math	44%	65%	33%	17%
Proficient/Advanced Reading	57%	80%	33%	35%

* General Education Coursework for feeder pattern students

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Other Changes that Support Year Two Plan

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- Pittsburgh Vann PreK-8 will close as planned in 2008-09, but students will be reassigned
 - PreK-5 students will go to either Pittsburgh Weil PreK-8 or to Miller PreK-5
 - 6-8 students will go to either Weil PreK-8 or University Partnership 6-12 at Milliones
- Pittsburgh Miller PreK-8 becomes a PreK-5
 - 6-8 students will go to University Partnership 6-12 School at Milliones

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Pittsburgh Robotics Technology Magnet Moves in 2008-09 to Pittsburgh Peabody

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- Moves from Pittsburgh Schenley to Pittsburgh Peabody as a school-within-a-school operating in one wing
- Begins with approx. 174 students and expands under the leadership of a new program director and Pittsburgh Peabody administration
- Pittsburgh Peabody offers the infrastructure required to support and improve the program
- Exploring possible industry partnerships that would support the growth and development of this program

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Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12 Opens Downtown in 2009-10

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- Pittsburgh Rogers CAPA 6-8 students will move in 2009-10 as expected, but not to Milliones
- Opportunity to purchase and renovate three additional floors at Pittsburgh CAPA
- Provides a full year to plan, renovate and transition
- Full 6-12 CAPA program will be located in the world class downtown facility in cultural district

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Pittsburgh Science and Technology *excel9-12* 6-12 School Opens in 2009-10

- Located in Frick facility
- Postponed until 2009
- Opportunity to fully develop curriculum and partnerships
- Extra year provides time to implement a completely new model for secondary science and technology education

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Career and Technical Education *excel9-12*

- CTE Director has begun developing the comprehensive long term plan for Career and Technical Education
- Dr. Johnson Martin's 2004 plan and Chartwell report recommendations inform the plan
- Final recommendation to Board will be made by May of 2008

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Important Considerations Being Addressed

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- Transportation and food service
- Sports and extracurricular activities
- Facilities use - Structuring small learning communities within a facility and sharing amenities
- Location of Special programs including English as a Second Language (ESL), Early Childhood Education, Special Education, and Professional Development

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Excel.9-12 Year Two Agenda Recap

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- Exciting new 6-12 opportunities are created
 - Foundation for two programs already exists: IB World (2008-09) and CAPA (2009-10)
 - Two programs are brand new:
 - University Partnership (2008-09)
 - Science and Technology (2009-10)
- The University Partnership 6-12 School is the focal point of our Year Two agenda

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Year Two Agenda

- Making new history
- Honoring the tradition that is Schenley
- Ensuring *Excellence for All*