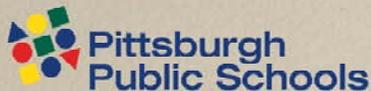


The Academies *at* **Westinghouse**

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

Pittsburgh Public Schools Board of Directors
Education Committee Update
January 4, 2011

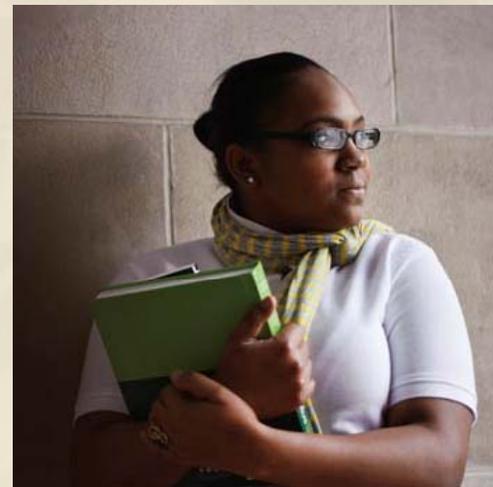


The Pathway to the Promise.™

Note: This Presentation contains
Attachments A, B, and C.

Contents of the Update

- Review of Board Action to Date
- Update on the Implementation Process
- Presentation by Student Ambassadors of both the Young Men's Academy and Young Women's Academy
- Update on the Outreach and Marketing Campaign



2

The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

Board Actions have occurred to facilitate the opening of the Academies at Westinghouse in the Fall of 2011.

- On August 25, 2010, the Board approved the establishment of the Academies at Westinghouse.
 - The closure of Pittsburgh Peabody 9-12
 - The closure of Pittsburgh Westinghouse and the opening of two schools at the Westinghouse facility
 - The Young Men's Academy 6-12
 - The Young Women's Academy 6-12
- On November 23, 2010, the Board approved the magnet designation for the Academies at Westinghouse

Following Board Action, planning has proceeded.

- A Project Manager was hired to facilitate a community process.
- The Principals of Pittsburgh Peabody and Pittsburgh Westinghouse meet with the Assistant Superintendent weekly to plan the opening of the Academies.
- Student Ambassadors have been engaged in the planning process since September.



4

The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

Working Groups led by community members have identified four areas for planning and action.

- Parent and Community Engagement
- Transition Planning
- Full-Service School Construct
- Culturally Relevant Education



- **See Attachment A.**

- **January 11, 2011 Meeting at Westinghouse to share with community at large**



The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

A “trimester” calendar change is recommended for the Academies.

- Original recommendation of the East Region Advisory Committee sought an extended day and year.
 - Extended Day of 45 minutes for all students grades 6-12.
 - Extended Year of 20 days for students in grades 6-10.
- Within the five-year period, a student will receive approximately one year of additional schooling.
- **See Attachment B for Trimester Calendar**
 - **Note: 12th Grade Students at the Academies will conclude their academic year with other seniors within PPS.**
 - **Note: 11th Grade Students at the Academies will participate in the Voluntary Internship Program (i.e. Junior V.I.P.) during the six-week period in the summer of 2012.**

Many advantages to the flexible calendar exist.

- The trimester calendar embeds the opportunity to remediate challenges of students while accelerating learning for others
- Fewer classes per trimester permits a student to focus upon the core academic subjects and is more representative of a college or university schedule.
 - Typically, students have 8 classes in each of two semesters.
 - The Trimester schedule focuses students on three core and two electives every 12 weeks.
- Full weeks for intensive learning and experiential learning off-site are scheduled to allow students to utilize “the world” as our classroom.

The Administration is working with PFT leadership regarding collective bargaining issues.

- Working conditions
 - Trimester Calendar
 - Alternate use of Time
 - Class load
 - Use of collaborative planning for curriculum and lesson design.

The Trimester Schedule does result in an increased budget allocation for the Academies.

- The increase in cost is due largely to the extended day and extended year for students and teachers.
- The cost is approximately \$300,000/academy per year.
- **See Attachment C.**

The Young Women's Academy



The Vision: *A Place to Succeed*

The Mission: *Where young men and young women develop their IDENTITY, cultivate their INTELLECT, and INSPIRE the transformation of the communities in which they learn and live.*

The Young Men's Academy



The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

10

The Academies at Westinghouse: “Identity”



- The Young Men and Young Women will develop a strong sense of self and will define themselves in the context of the world as their classrooms
- The Academies, the Parents and the Community will work together, partnering to build up and to educate the “whole” student.
- Teachers work closely with students, not simply focusing upon academic subjects, but also advising and helping them to assess their individual strengths and areas for growth; to identify their passions and dislikes; and to set goals and objectives for their success.

The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

11

The Academies at Westinghouse: “Intellect”

- Teachers will challenge our Young Men and Young Women to engage in habits of mind to not simply master the tasks in front of them, but to also become life-long learners.
- Students at the Academies will be challenged to master the essential literacies: active “listening”; the “spoken” word; the “written” word, which includes “reading,” “analyzing,” and “writing about” complex texts; and “cultural literacy,” which includes the impact of dress, attitude and behavior on individual success.



The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

12

The Academies at Westinghouse: “Inspire”

- Leadership and Social Justice are interwoven into the fabric of the school.
 - Morning Meetings with the entire student body to set the tone for the day to establish and reinforce the culture and climate for the Academies.
 - Leadership classes will be taught in collaboration with the CORO Center for Civic Leadership and those skills will be fostered by teachers from whom they learn everyday.
 - Service Learning Opportunities, Internships and Externships with community partners transform their worldview and serve as motivation for others.



The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

Many partnerships have arisen as a result of our efforts to engage our community in the work of the Academies.

Formalized or Formalizing Partnerships with:

- Homewood Children's Village
- The Ellis School
- Community College of Allegheny County



Exploring Partnerships with:

- CORO Center for Civic Leadership
- The Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board



Outreach to community and student recruitment will continue throughout the winter months.

- Participation in PSCC meetings at Peabody, Westinghouse, Faison, Lincoln, Arsenal
- Door-to-door canvassing of neighborhoods will occur in the East Region
 - Working with the Homewood Children’s Village, Operation Better Block, the East End Collaborative and other community organizations
- Engagement of organizations that work with youth
 - Community Athletic Leagues
- Meetings with Neighborhood Groups



Student Ambassadors are a major part of this work.

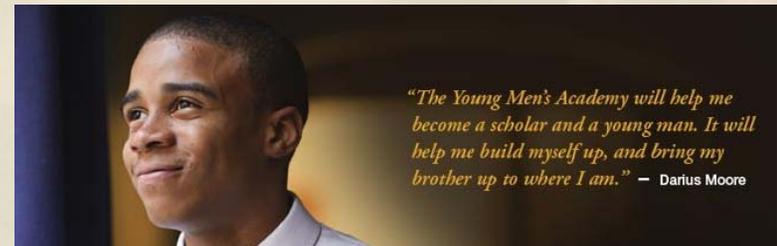
- Student Ambassadors traveled to visit single gender schools in October:
 - Young Men Ambassadors traveled to New York to visit Eagle Academy and Urban Assembly for History and Culture and to Philadelphia to visit Boys Latin.
 - Young Women traveled to Chicago to visit the Young Women's Leadership Academy.
- Ambassadors will travel with teachers selected for the Academies at Westinghouse in late April and early May to schools in those locations.
 - Young Women Ambassadors to New York and Philadelphia
 - Young Men Ambassadors to Chicago

The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

Ambassadors have joined us here this evening for a short presentation.

- We have asked them to
 - Talk about the experience of coming together as ambassadors
 - Talk about the visits to the single gender schools in Chicago, New York and Philadelphia.
 - Talk about their presentations to the students at PPS schools over the last two months.



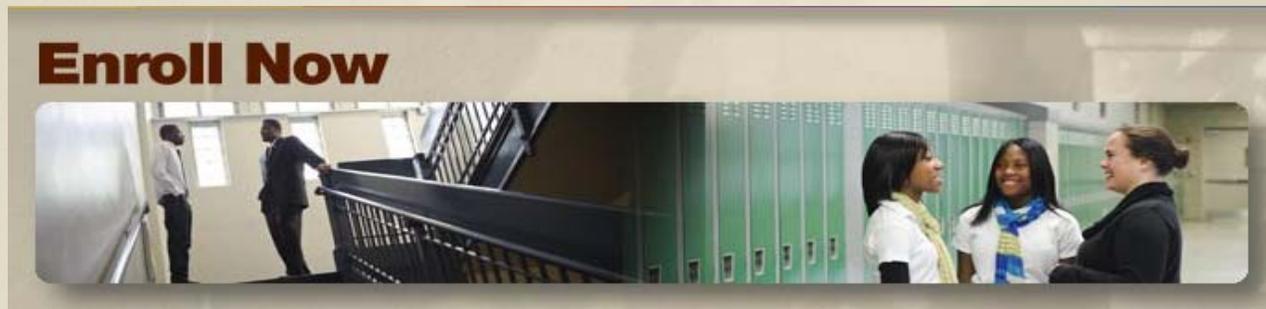
The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

17

The formal marketing campaign is underway.

- Letters have gone home to parents explaining the process for enrollment into the Academies at Westinghouse
- Dr. Lane has sent out an ALERT NOW message to the schools in the East Region of the City of Pittsburgh.
- Our Ambassadors participated in a photo shoot, and our marketing campaign will utilize our students, the faces of the young men and young women we seek to educate.
- The Profile of the Academies can be accessed through the PPS website at www.pps.k12.pa.us.



18

The Academies at Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy

Board Action requested for the month of January for the Academies at Westinghouse.

- Adopting the trimester calendar
- Formalizing Partnerships with
 - The Ellis School
 - The Community College of Allegheny County
- Authorizing Ambassador Excursions
 - The October 2010 Excursion- Retroactively
 - The April and May 2011 Excursion- Prospectively



The Academies *at* Westinghouse

A Place *to* Succeed.



The Young Women's Academy



The Young Men's Academy

The Academies *at* Westinghouse

Young Men's Academy
Young Women's Academy