



Frequently Asked Questions

April 15, 2010

What is the budget deficit?

The district is projecting a \$57.5 million deficit for the 2010-2011 school year.

Why does SLPS have the deficit?

The budget deficit was due to declining revenues, declining enrollment, and deficit spending due to an increase in expenditures such as academic initiatives, special education, PTO payout, and benefits.

How many schools are recommended to close/consolidate?

During Dr. Adams presentation to the Special Administrative Board on April 15th, six schools were recommended for closure/consolidation.

- Gallaudet Hearing Impaired- Special Education Site
- Bunche International Studies Middle School- Middle School Site
- Cleveland NJROTC@ Pruitt- High School Site
- Alternative Education South @ Lyon- Alternative Education Site
- Fresh Start Academy @ Turner- Alternative Education Site
- Ford Branch- After School Program Site

Where are the displaced students going to go?

- Students from Gallaudet Hearing Impaired will be offered seats at Mullanphy Investigative Learning Center; Ames Visual and Performing Arts; McKinley Classical Junior Academy; and Gateway Institute of Technology.
- Students from Bunche International Studies Middle School will be relocated to Soldan International Studies High School. Soldan will now serve grades 7-12.
- Students from Cleveland NJROTC @ Pruitt will be relocated to the International Welcome School site at Central Visual and Performing Arts High School.
- Students from Alternative Education South @ Lyon will be relocated to Stevens Middle School.
- Ford Branch will be closed as this site currently houses after school programs only. Students will continue to attend Ford Elementary School.
- Students from Fresh Start Academy @ Turner will be relocated to Sumner High School.
- Students from the International Welcome School site will be relocated to a new site to be announced at a later date.

How many students will be displaced?

Current enrollment numbers at the six buildings indicate that approximately 990 students will be reassigned to a new building. The programs offered at these sites will be maintained at the new location.

What will be the savings to the District?

The district anticipates the school closures will save approximately \$0.8 million.



Frequently Asked Questions-Continued

April 15, 2010

How will this affect class size?

The teacher to student ratio will remain below the state ratio.

- Present Teacher /Student Ratio is 13.5 to 1
- Proposed Teacher /Student Ratio is 16.2 to 1
- State Teacher / Student is 17 to 1

How many employees will be affected by the proposed reductions?

District layoffs will be considered only after exhausting all options, including: Early Retirement (632 are eligible for retirement), Releasing Non-Highly Qualified Staff (144 employees fall into this category), Attrition, etc.

Proposed Position Reductions

• Classroom Teacher Positions	226
• Substitute Teachers Positions	80
• School –Site Support Positions	130
• Administrative Positions	24
• Central Office Positions	30
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<i>TOTAL COUNT</i>	<i>490</i>
<i>TOTAL SAVINGS ANTICIPATED</i>	<i>\$33.8M</i>

When will the board make their decision on the recommendations?

The Special Administrative Board will review the recommendations by Dr. Adams and will vote after appropriate consideration has been given to all proposed. Please note that the next Special Administrative Board meeting is scheduled for April 29th.