

Option #1 recommendation to close Wilson Middle School, which does not have sufficient enrollment to sustain a high quality program.

Dr. Harvey talked about the importance of engaging the community and obtaining their input on the 2004-05 recommended budget. Public meetings have been scheduled, and the first community forum is scheduled for Thursday, February 19. She commented the Citizens Budget and Finance Advisory Committee (CBFAC) would have the opportunity to review this report and provide advice to the administration.

Discussion: Committee members discussed the four (4) pages of the 2004-05 budget reduction option recommendations, and directed staff to provide additional information on specific issues.

The following motions were made:

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Carroll and seconded by Mr. Conlon that the Committee of the Board recommends the Board of Education direct staff to prepare a community meeting of the families affected by the closing of Wilson Middle School in order to proceed on this item as quickly as possible.

Motion Passed.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Ms. Carter that the Committee of the Board recommends the Board of Education accept the administration's recommendation, and the report of options for further consideration, with the understanding that community input could shape the final budget recommendation. Further, direct staff to bring this forward for community discussion and input.

Motion Passed.

Ms. Street Stewart and Ms. Carter will meet to discuss details of the upcoming public forums.

III. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m. by Ms. Street Stewart, Committee Chair.

Respectfully submitted by
Diana J. Sanders
Recorder
Saint Paul Board of Education