



**Agenda IV.B.4.
February 20, 2020**

To: Board of Education, Members
From: Dr. Theresa Battle, Superintendent
Date: February 13, 2020
Re: Establishing K-8 Pathways Schools

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Education approve establishing Pathways Schools at all District 191 elementary and middle school sites.

The ISD 191 Board is committed to providing equitable access to rigorous programming to all students. The K-8 Pathways Schools will ensure that students will be able to participate in programs for advanced learners, STEM, literacy, visual and performing arts, social-emotional learning, and college and career readiness, and will replace the currently existing magnet schools.

Discussion:

In the spring of 2019, the district reviewed the three magnet school sites established in 2008 and 2010. The conclusion of review was that the current sites were not meeting the original objectives aligned to the Minnesota Achievement & Integration Plan, nor did they result in a significant increase in enrollment in sites with available capacity. In the years since the establishment of the magnet sites, budget reductions have eliminated support of the unique learning opportunities at each site.

The adoption of common schedules, including a required WIN time and specialist schedule, along with the adoption of district-wide core curriculum created an even greater alignment amongst the buildings. With the facilities realignment comes the opportunity to bring the support for advanced learners, STEM, and other rigorous curriculum in literacy and math to all buildings with the three-year implementation of the K-8 Pathways Schools aligned with the High School Pathways Program, creating full access to a unified K-12 matriculation for each and every student at all sites. With this change and the discontinuation of magnet schools in District 191, transportation will no longer be provided to students who attend schools other than their assigned schools. Under the Pathways Schools model, students will no longer require transportation to access programming at a site other than their assigned school since all programs will be available at every site.