

## **Board Seeks Community Input on Elementary Closure Scenarios**

The Cleveland Heights – University Heights City School District will host a second Community Dialogue Session on Monday, May 15, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Cleveland Heights High School Social Room (13263 Cedar Road). Child care will be provided. After opening remarks and a background presentation on school closing and redistricting scenarios, attendees will provide input individually and in small groups. A draft of the scenarios being presented on May 15 will be available for viewing on the District's website beginning Thursday, May 11. As the scenarios and data are comprehensive, the Board of Education wants residents to have sufficient time to review the information prior to the formal presentation on May 15.

The scenarios were developed, in part, from feedback on criteria collected at the Board's first Community Dialogue Session in March. The District is undertaking the process of Elementary Reorganization that will redraw elementary school boundaries and close one elementary school. The District presently operates eight elementary schools. It has been 20 years since the District has adjusted its elementary school boundaries, and the data gathered from this session will be valuable for the Board as it works to make a decision based on the best interests of the District as a whole.

Since 1986, the CH-UH District elementary enrollment has declined by 800 students, half of which has occurred in the last three years. This situation has created wide differences in class sizes and support services from school to school, and some elementary schools are underutilized, creating an inequity which is inefficient and costly. The District has the same number of elementary schools now as when it had a much higher enrollment.

The Board will identify the elementary building to be closed in June 2006. The seven-school configuration will be implemented the following school year, in August 2007.