



Board of Education

CITY OF CHICAGO

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December 4, 2024 Agenda Review Committee Follow-Ups

Agenda Review Committee (ARC) follow-ups are shared publicly so that members of the public can view responses to issues that directly impact the CPS community in advance of the Board's consideration at regular Board meetings. Follow-ups are unanswered questions asked by Board Members during a public meeting. See the December 2024 ARC follow-ups and responses below.

Item Description	Follow-Up Question	District Response	Responding Department
Acero	What are the phone calls parents have been receiving?	<p>As part of the District's standard procedure for handling charter closures, CPS is proactively making phone calls to inform Acero families about their options for next year. These phone calls reference the District's GoCPS platform and application deadlines.</p> <p>It is the District's understanding that Acero is also making calls to families with information regarding transferring from one Acero campus to another. The District's understanding is that Acero has given families the option to transfer immediately to available seats at other campuses as long as these other campuses do not have any other students on the waiting list. The District's understanding is that families are not required to take this offer, however, if they do not take this offer within a certain time, then they will not be guaranteed a seat at another Acero campus, and will instead be subject to Acero's normal yearly lottery process. While CPS is not responsible for the content of these calls, The District has spoken with the Acero leadership about them. Acero's leadership has told CPS that they are not intimidating or misinforming families regarding transfers.</p>	Office of Innovation and Incubation

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<p>Protecting Vulnerable Student Populations</p>	<p>Please share the District's plan for protecting students and families from potential discrimination or violence in the aftermath of the election and during the Trump administration. What are the tools and processes, how can students report incidents?</p>	<p>Protecting the safety and privacy of students is the top priority of Chicago Public Schools. CPS has many policies to protect students currently on the books that were passed by previous Boards; please view a list of these policies here. Please note that this list is not exhaustive. The current Board reaffirmed CPS' commitment to protecting students via a resolution which can be viewed here.</p> <p>Beyond these policies already on the books, CPS will provide additional guidance to schools in line with the City of Chicago's Welcoming City Ordinance and the Board's resolution. The District will provide guidance on protocols for schools to use if a student is stranded, or if an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent requests student records or entry into a school. In addition, CPS will provide available resources and trainings by sister city agencies and partner organizations. This guidance will be in alignment with the City of Chicago and the Mayor's Office.</p> <p>CPS' Department of Family And Community Engagement (FACE) will be providing a Know Your Rights Training for FACE staff (through Illinois Coalition Immigrant and Refugee Rights) in the coming weeks, and will host trainings at Parent Universities at CPS prior to January 20. FACE is also updating the District's network-level partnership list to reflect immigrant services and legal services by network so that families can be connected with services in their local area. FACE's immigrant rights committee will be meeting weekly to determine what additional resources are needed to meet student and family needs, and assess feedback from Parent Universities, Local School Councils, Parent Advisory Councils, and other sources to inform the District's response.</p>	<p>Chief Executive Office</p>
<p>Agenda Item 2 - Enrollment and Transfer of Students Policy</p>	<p>Please provide more information regarding disciplinary transfers.</p>	<p>Disciplinary transfers governed by the enrollment/transfer policy are determined by network leadership. Network chiefs consult directly with School Law, the Office of Students with Disabilities, and the Office of Social and Emotional Learning as they interpret the specific policy language in the Enrollment and Transfer policy when completing these decisions.</p> <p>Safety transfers are considered when it is believed a student is in a harmful or dangerous situation at a school. Once the request is received by the network chief, he/she reviews the information, and if warranted, collaborates with other network chiefs and school leaders to offer the parents two options. If the student is not enrolled at the neighborhood school, that school is the first option.</p> <p>Best interest transfers occur on a very limited basis, and are granted on a case-by-case decision after the network chief has reviewed all facts regarding a student and matters surrounding their enrollment at a particular school.</p>	<p>Office of Social Emotional Learning</p> <p>Office of Network Support</p>

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Agenda Item 3 - Culturally Responsive Education and Diversity Policy	Please share the complete list of policies and timeline for review.	All of our policies and rules are posted publicly on our website at www.cps.edu/sites/cps-policy-rules . Every single policy that was adopted before September 2019 will be reviewed before April 2026. After that, all policies and Board rules will be reviewed on a biennial basis.	Department of Policy, Records, and Ethics
Agenda Item 4 - Accommodations for Student Religious Practices Policy	Have you worked with food service departments in terms of providing food that is acceptable?	CPS recognizes the importance of meeting the needs of our diverse student population. While CPS is only required to accommodate medical needs when it comes to food service, CPS is proud to offer a variety of options to accommodate students' religious beliefs. For starters, CPS menus are pork free. The District offers Halal meal options at nine schools and kosher meals at several schools based on request. CPS also offers daily hot vegetarian options and vegan options as needed based on request.	Department of Nutrition Support Services
Agenda Item 5 - Amend Authorize Payments for Special Education Services for Students with Disabilities Placed by CPS	With the [SPED teacher] vacancies, how many students are not receiving services and how are we trying to solve that?	We have several recruitment and teacher pipeline efforts that are directed towards filling vacancies for special education positions, including expansions of our teacher residency programs, student teacher programs, international teacher programs, and recruitment partnerships. As a result, the district has added more than 1100 more special education teachers since 2019 -- an average of more than two additional special education teachers per school. The district has a number of strategies to mitigate the effects of special education teacher vacancies -- including compensatory education services -- to ensure that all students receive the services they are entitled to. There are currently 45,734 students with IEPs in district managed schools.	Talent Office Office of Students with Disabilities
Agenda Item 13 - Bureau Veritas Technical Assessments, LLC	Please provide information regarding environmental reports.	Please view several examples of the District's environmental reporting here: 6-Month Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) Report Example 3-Year Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) Report Example Annual Asbestos Notification Example Water Quality Report Example	Department of Facilities Operations
Agenda Item 14 - Catholic Bishop of Chicago dba Archdiocese of Chicago for Continued Use of Various School Sites	Please provide a report on the condition of the Velma Thomas building.	Please view the 2021 Velma Thomas environmental report here .	Department of Facilities Operations