

**December 20, 2024 Special Board Meeting Written Comments
Received between Wednesday, December 18th and Monday, December 23rd
Submitted via Written Comments Form**

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When CPS made the bold and admirable decision to fight for the 7 at-risk Acero schools, our students, families and staff were able to let out a long sigh of relief. But after seeing option 4, the “hybrid model” that eliminates Paz Elementary in both scenarios, we are once again holding our breath.

We consider these comments to be the beginning of a dialogue. We are eager to be flexible in building a solution with you. We have ideas. We just need a chance.

For 26 years, Octavio Paz Elementary has been a staple of the Little Village community and has served thousands of students. We are not shy about the fact that we are a small school, but our low enrollment was not an accident. This year alone, we have had to turn away multiple families that have attempted to enroll in our school simply because Acero made the decision to end kindergarten recruitment at Paz.

Our school community is small but mighty. Our staff, students, and families are fighters and we are prepared to do whatever it takes to continue providing a quality education and a safe environment to our students and families in an educational system that has inadvertently told us that we do not deserve to be here.

The day after the October 9 announcement – an announcement that came in an email as if it were nothing more than an update to the school lunch menu – was the hardest. Our once vibrant school was unusually quiet, as our students and staff contemplated our future, mulled over what we could have done, and most importantly what we did that got us here. The truth, though, is that this decision was made by and is a direct result of the poor decision-making and lackluster leadership of 4 people, and 4 people alone. By now, we all know their names, so we will save you the time.

Some things you may not know about Paz is that our students and families represent the most vulnerable populations that our diverse city has to offer. 96% of our students receive free and reduced lunch; 20% of our students receive special education services; 89% of our students are English language learners; and 13% of our students are newcomers to the United States. On average, Paz students attend school more than CPS students and students in Illinois in general. Paz students nearly doubled their reading and math proficiency scores in one school year. Our students had the highest scores on the Illinois Science Assessment in the Acero Network and we surpassed nationwide benchmark goals in reading and math on the iReady assessment in 2023. Half of our teachers spend their afternoons coaching sports and attending professional learning communities to overcome the deficit in leadership. Our staff took recruiting efforts into our own hands after Paz recruiters were instructed to stop recruitment for Paz and Paz alone.

So again, we have to ask: what did we do? What more could we have done as a school community? Why do our students, families, and staff not deserve a chance to rebuild?

Paz has been at the forefront of the resistance to the proposed closures. Our community organized and marched alongside the 6 other at-risk schools. Our parents canvassed the neighborhood. Implementing option 4 would render that resistance pointless. For Paz, option 4 would be as cruel and unjust as if the city were to take no action at all.

Our first and most ideal solution is to be adopted under CPS, alongside the 6 other at risk Acero schools. Second, we propose a merger with another at-risk school to assist in overcoming low enrollment. Third, we propose a new building so that our students may

	<p>finally have the proper facilities and playground that an elementary school deserves. Paz teachers have explained the city's proposals to students. Our kids have responded with questions such as, "Why would they save other schools but not us?" We have struggled to answer, as these are reasonable questions that simply do not have a clear answer. We ask for your guidance. What should we, as their teachers, tell them? What is next?</p>
2	<p>Keep Pedro Martinez. He has provided the leadership and direction we have needed for CPS. Terminating his contract mid-academic year is disruptive and defies sound management standards and practice. CPS has suffered from the effects of discontinuity in its leadership. Terminating Mr. Martinez will woefully add to this crippling legacy within our school system.</p>
3	<p>I believe it's good that Acero is unionized. I do believe it is necessary to focus on CPS schools and let the poorly managed ACERO schools close and let the students & teachers get priority placement at a CPS school. If the teachers from the said ACERO schools fail to meet the residency requirements, give them a 5 year waiver to obtain a preexisting waiver eligible area of need.</p>
4	<p>The rights of Chicago students will always be more important than the "rights" of charter school companies and their investors.</p>
5	<p>I would like Stacy Gates to drop dead and Pedro Martinez to stay on. I would like to see underutilized schools closed and resources used elsewhere. I would like the CTU audit published.</p>
6	<p>Keep Acero schools open! Closing will destabilize those communities and staff at those schools.</p>
7	<p>First, thanks for supporting hundreds of Acero families and educators. As a CPS teacher and union member, I'm glad to know that the Board understands the urgent need for action. I urge you to please continue pushing to keep Acero schools open. The rights of Chicago students will always be more important than the "rights" of charter school companies and their investors. Please urge CPS to make a plan to stop Acero's closings or prepare to absorb the schools, allowing them to stay open, managed by the district. This is very important to all of the students, staff, and communities that are a part of these schools. Thank you again for your support, I hope to see that CPS steps up and protects students and staff of Acero's schools.</p>
8	<p>Please save the acero schools. The students need to have a diverse and community based education.</p>
9	<p>Please prioritize the needs of Acero students over property investments. Many students at Acero have special needs, and maintaining consistency within their school community is essential for their development and well-being. Disrupting this stability could have a deeply harmful impact on their education and emotional growth. Investing in our students' futures should always come first.</p>
10	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am a CPS graduate, parent, and employee. I see so many underutilized schools because our students are spread all across the city from distinct managed to charter schools. I think the closing of Acero schools puts the district in a unique position to start refilling some of the underutilized neighborhood schools. Board of education, I urge you to NOT absorb the charter schools, but rather redirect those students into their underutilized neighborhood schools. I attended CPS at a time when students attended their neighborhood schools and the schools were full and thriving! Let's get back to that. We should absorb the Acero charter students back into the district. I acknowledge that we will need many of the staff. Please consider hiring them as employees in the</p>

	neighborhood schools that the students would attend. I think this would be the best use of our tax dollars.
11	Education is a Right not a Privilege. Politics has no place in schools
12	As a CTU member, I believe that the enrollment in CPS being down completely and having lost many students to charters schools is an issue. If the Acero schools were to close, there would be plenty of room for CPS schools in the surrounding areas to absorb those 2,000 plus students as well as hire the staff in our CPS schools. I do not agree that bargaining for Acero charter schools to remain open is a part of the what we need to agree to a contract for CPS staff and students. More staff for schools for the general and special education population, smaller class sizes, safer schools, proper funding for our schools to thrive successfully, transparency with the budget, more resources for services to be provided to our students with special education needs, raise in pay, funding of the necessary programs during school as well as extra-curricular activities, increase in clinician staffing, better insurance plans and healthcare, pouring into the schools that we already have to begin to see more success in Black and Brown neighborhoods, and such things should be our focus for negotiations for our contract!
13	As an individual who believes in the Acero Charter Schools educational philosophy, I would like to see no closures of schools within the Acero Charter network. Instead of cutting educational programs that are important to our children and future generations, I believe there are other resources that can be used to help keep these schools open. No parent wants to have their child/children in over-crowded classrooms where teachers are burned-out and over worked.
14	Parents Voice needs to be heard. Chicago students are what is most important. Charter School companies and investors are only concerned about their pockets. Make them responsible of there administration and obligate them to give a detail of their budget and expenses. I have been fortunate to have bright daughters that with the little that their school offers have been able to excel. However, Acero's excuse about everything has always been \$\$\$. Once again that's the case regarding the future of the students of this school as risk. They never shared a plan or asked for help. All these students and families are now affected emotionally. Please please take action now! Make a decision and force acero to speak up!
15	Hola! Mi nombre es viviana! Eh seguido de muy sercas este proceso por que directamente me afecta tanto economica como moralmente una decision demasida abrupta que sicologicamente esta afectando ami hija puesto que la escuela carlos fuentes a sido su casa desde kinder garden , la decision la toman sin el consentimiento de los niños por que solo aun no tienen voz ni voto como.madre de Familia pido que Hagan valer sus pequeños derechos de los niños
16	Good morning CPS board members, foremost I thank you for your time and effort in helping our Acero school communities in our fight to keep them open. Nonetheless, I urge you to please make a final decision on the matter. Our families can't wait any longer, we have waited for far to long and our families deserve to have peace and the security of our children's home schools must remain open for the sake of their future and the piece of mind of us -the parents- knowing that our children are were they belong in their respective schools were there teachers truly care about them. I implore that you take that final step and gift us our schools back; you can surely become our hero's and heroines and save us from a treacherous betrayal by the Acero board members and president of said board. Again thank you and may God feel you with compassion and courage to make the decision now.

17	<p>I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my gratitude on behalf of the parents, teachers, and community members affected by Acero's recent decision regarding the seven schools. Your unwavering support during this challenging time has not gone unnoticed, and we deeply appreciate the CPS board members for standing by us.</p> <p>As we approach tomorrow, a day of significant importance, I want to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of listening to the voices of the parents. Our community is passionate about ensuring the best possible outcomes for our children, their educators, and the neighborhoods we serve. It is essential that our concerns and aspirations are heard and considered as decisions are made.</p> <p>We believe that collaboration and open dialogue are key in fostering a supportive educational environment. Thank you once again for your commitment to our schools and for your dedication to advocating for the needs of our community.</p>
18	<p>This mayor and this school board may have won their short-term battle to oust Pedro Martinez despite strong public support, but they will each seal their long-term fates if they move to usurp the voice of the voters and fire the CEO before a newly elected board is sworn in. The new 21-member board should be allowed to take this vote, not the maleable puppets that Brandon Johnson appointed for version 2 of his handpicked board. And, now that Pedro's reasonable voice will be removed from bargaining with the CTU, I imagine another puppet will be put in place to ratify whatever the CTU demands. While this may benefit certain students in the short term, this type of short-sighted fiscal mismanagement is exactly why CPS is in the financial position it is today, with a lack of resources to fall back on. Approving an unreasonable contract will saddle future generations of CPS students with debt that will eat into their classroom resources. You all should try critical thinking out.</p>
19	<p>Mr Martinez has the support of Chicago parents. He is being responsible to the children and tax payors of this city. Also, under enrolled schools need to close. That is the unfortunate reality of the times.</p>
20	<p>CPS CEO Pedro Martinez appears to be the only person not to have his head in the sand and understands that we need to help students succeed, while also being realistic and understanding that the current and future taxpayers expect financially sound decisions to be made. The Chicago Board of Education would be wise to follow suit. Students will suffer tremendously when CPS goes bankrupt from poor financial decisions and the State has to come in and take over.</p> <p>As a resident of Chicago, I do not support removing Pedro Martinez from his role as CEO of CPS. In fact, I would congratulate him on doing the right thing by standing up to the Board and the CTU and the extremely unrealistic expectations that taxpayers are a piggybank that they can raid again and again without consequence.</p>
21	<p>Regretfully, I can't be there, but I know you are going to do the right thing, you are going to keep our schools open, and that makes me very happy, because I can celebrate this holidays with my kids without worries,. Thank you for give me this chance to express how I am going to feel if you do the right thing. Thank you again and I hope all of us let's have a Merry Christsmas and a Happy New Year.</p>
22	<p>Dear members of the board, my 2 children are from Paz and have been going since kindergarten. One is in 4th grade and the other in 2nd grade. Since attending school they have been thriving in social and emotional situations. They have made incredible friendships and are always eager to learn with their amazingly kind teachers. It'll break their heart to leave the school that has helped them grow so much. It is not fair to want to close Paz, when so many kids and parents rely and trust them to be transparent about</p>

	the issues they have been facing. I hope the board reconsiders their decision and keeps Paz open to continue being the amazing school our children need.
23	Necesitamos que Tamayo permanezca abierta por el bienestar de nuestros hijos en esa escuela los ayuda, apoya, les da la seguridad y educación para que aprendan y se desenvuelvan siendo unos estudiantes inteligentes y capaces aprender y poner de su parte para que el día de mañana ellos puedan triunfar en la vida
24	<p>As parents of a CPS student (Philip Rogers Fine Arts Academy-5th grade), we are dismayed that our elected and appointed school board would hold an open meeting at a time which precludes our attendance for religious reasons. The "Jewish Sabbath" and its known restrictions are not unknown to those who schedule this meeting; rather they are ignored.</p> <p>At no time would the Board of Education choose to hold a meeting on a Sunday, knowing that a significant number of parents and other stakeholders hold of Sunday as their "Sabbath Day" and spend the day as such. Similarly, and rightfully so, the Board of Education would not schedule a meeting on another religious holy day such as Ramadan or Diwali.</p> <p>Why should Sabbath observant Jews, who are also citizens of this City and parents of CPS students, be afforded any less accommodation?</p> <p>We understand that there is a convenience factor of a Friday late afternoon meeting. However, this "convenience factor" simply does not outweigh the religious observance of an entire community. In December, when sunset is early and many families move their entire schedules around to avoid desecration of the Sabbath, having to fight with an elected body for such an accommodation is simply unjust and discriminatory.</p> <p>Mayor Johnson constantly states his vision for a school system which provides equal access and opportunity for all voices in the City of Chicago. If this is his goal, why start by holding a crucial meeting at a time he knows that a portion of his own population cannot attend?</p> <p>We ask that the Chicago Board of Education either reschedule this meeting or otherwise move to adjourn to a weekday meeting time it once gaveled into session. These are the only remedies which will allow this representative body to meet in a manner which allows all voices to be represented.</p>
25	Board of Education, I know that you are going to do the right thing, keep our schools open, thank you, because if that happens I am going to have the best holidays with my kids, I do not need to be worry and We are going to enjoy, that's what all families need, "ENJOY." Thank you again and let's have all a good holidays.
26	I am writing to express my gratitude to the CPS board members, thank you for supporting us during this time. I really appreciate the CPS members for standing on our side.
27	Hola mi nombre es Adriana Coria soy mamá de Zoe Gómez una de las alumnas de Octavio Paz sólo pido que tengan consideración con la salud mental de los niños mi hija sufre de ansiedad social y ahí en la escuela le han ayudado muchísimo tanto los maestros como todo el personal ya tengo asistiendo a esa escuela con mis otros hijos más de 10 años espero que escuche nuestras palabras de súplica porque NO cierran la escuela Octavio Paz para mi hija el cambio va a ser devastador tanto físicamente como emocionalmente por favor tengan consideración de todos los niños que van a enfrentar nuevos cambios de maestros, compañeros y más. Sobre todo por la mía les suplico

	que tengan conciencia de todo el daño emocional que van a ser hacia ellos espero y escuchen mis palabras de una madre desesperada preocupada por el futuro de su Hija.
28	I support Tamayo awesome school.
29	Congratulations on the continual formation of the Chicago Public School board. It's important to keep the process rolling forward as the administration act to improve public education. Congratulations on the selection of Sean Harden as board member and eventual elevation to Board President. We encourage board members to support this appointment. Sean Harden is a committed public servant and would add value to the public body and play a significant role in a host of intergovernmental settings. Going forward, we hope to expand a dialogue with the administration relative to Green Schools, clean drinking water, indoor air quality and the school utilization plan.
30	Hello, I am a mother from Tamayo School. My two children attend this school, which is like our second home. All the staff is very kind and together with the families we form a great team for the benefit of the education of our children. I believe that the greatest gift that you could give us is to give us the certainty that our schools will remain open. Thank you very much for listening to us and happy holidays to you and your families.
31	This whole process of trying to get rid of CPS CEO Pedro Martinez has caused me to lose trust in the mayor. I know everything in the process is technically allowed, but it all feels very underhanded. Perhaps it's the case that it truly would be the best decision for the city and its students, but I have not been able to find any explanations directly from the mayor on why this is happening. And why not wait one more month until the elected board members are seated as well? The lack of organization and transparency in my own city's government is embarrassing.
32	Mis hijos no se pueden quedar sin su escuela Paz son 4 students de Acero queremos que salven su escuela de nuestros niños
33	Buenas tardes soy mamá de 3 estudiantes de Tamayo una de 3 grado , 5 grado y 7 grado ya se graduaron 4 más de mis hijos de Tamayo para mí es muy difícil por qué más que una escuela es como mi segunda casa como para mí y mi familia estoy muy triste y me duele tanto mi niña la menos tiene autismo severo y gracias a la escuela e visto y la gente a visto grande cambios dmen ella no sé qué aria si la cierran no sé si mi hija se acoplaría a otra y si recibiría la misma ayuda con el corazón en la mano le pido a Dios y a ustedes q nos ayuden a mantenerla abierta es de gran ayuda para nuestros hijos
34	Good Evening. I am a 24-year veteran educator and for the past 10 years, I have had the privilege of teaching ELA to the 7th and 8th graders of Rufino Tamayo Elementary School in Gage Park. I want to thank this board for hearing the outcry from parents, students, staff and community leaders who have opposed the closure of Tamayo and the six other schools Acero has placed on the chopping block – a decision made with zero input, care, or regard of the very Latine families and communities for which it was entrusted by CPS to care for and serve some 20 plus years ago. To this board, I want to say THANK YOU for demonstrating leadership and concern for the academic well-being of our predominantly 2,000 Latine students by bringing forth a resolution to save our schools. Quickly, I want to share the difference a school like Tamayo has made in the lives of our students and families. In 2015, when I joined Tamayo, the neighborhood was not considered “safe”. In fact, one of my 8th graders had just lost a sibling to gun violence near the school. In the years that followed, Tamayo improved to a 1+ school and student test scores began to soar. As the school improved, so too did the neighborhood. Today, in 2024, Gage Park depends on Tamayo as a stabilizing partner and good neighbor

where the positive presence of students and families rule the block from 7:30 a.m. to well past 6 p.m. 5 days a week.

According to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency, 54% of Gage Park's predominantly Spanish-speaking families proudly own their own homes. Latine families have invested in the neighborhood because Tamayo has provided them not only a safe school, but also a school where their children can achieve. In fact, last year 76% of our 8th graders, over half of whom were English Learners, met or exceeded Illinois State reading standards. Having previously taught in Naperville for 11 years, I can proudly tell you that our Tamayo 8th graders exceeded the 8th graders at my former, affluent, suburban school. If CPS wants to ensure that the Latine community continues to live, work, and send their children to school in Chicago, then it has not only an obligation but also a duty of care to pass the proposed resolution before it tonight. Thank you.

35 Hola me gustaría darles las gracias por salvar a la escuela tamayo para mi familia y para mi la escuela a sido de mucha ayuda ,el director es un gran ejemplo el cambio la vida de mi hijo para bien ya que siempre esta esperando a los niños en la entrada de la escuela y los saluda por su nombre, mi hijo lo admira mucho y todo lo que el director hace por los niños a logrado que mi hijo me digiera que va a cambiar su comportamiento para bien y va a dar lo mejor de el ,al entrar a esta nueva escuela y que el director era su modelo para seguir en la vida , mi hijo lo ve como su heroe, que es muy amable , y que nunca habia tenido un director como el tan activo que esta al pendiente de todo ,también la escuela tiene uno de los niveles educativos mas altos a nivel estatal ,distrito y de la ciudad . La escuela y incluyendo todo el personal siempre esta al pendiente de las necesidades de los niños y familias tratando de ayudar en todo lo necesario y fue un regalo de Dios para nuestra familia y una bendición muy grande fue un cambio muy grande de ambiente escolar para mi hijo , nosotros estamos dispuestos a manejar por 1 hora diaria en la mañana y 1 hora en la tarde por tal de que mi hijo venga a clases a esta escuela y mis hijos están dispuestos a levantarse incluso mucho más temprano por tal de venir a esta escuela . Por favor piensen en las vidas de las generaciones futuras ya que escuelas como esta no hay muchas que les interese el futuro de los niños y las gráficas estatales de los exámenes lo pueden motrar mas que mil palabras al mostrar el rendimiento y los logros que han logrado en los niños y el progreso que logran en un niño cuando entra en esta escuela es asombroso ya que nosotros venimos de varias escuelas y ninguna nos había dado la seguridad y estabilidad emocional y física y educativa que hemos encontrado en esta escuela y estamos en espera de un lugar para poder registrar a mi hija para el año que entra escolar . y otra vez agradecerles la oportunidad de tener esta escuela abierta y darnos la oportunidad de tener un mejor futuro para nuestros hijos y un mejor mañana para nuestra comunidad y así crear mejores futuros ciudadanos para juntos lograr un mejor futuro para nuestra gran nación

36 Buenas noches soy padre de familia de la escuela octavio paz .mi nombre es viviana carreno por medio de este comentario quiero pedirle que la escuela de mis hijas siga abierta yo e estado por 14 años en la escuela octavio paz con mis 4 hijas yo apolle a las escuelas uno siendo la 1 en abrir las puertas como octavio paz no se me ase justo que le den la espalda a nuestra escuela emos trabajado mucho y pido se nos apolle para mantener abierta nuestra escuela contamos con excelente personal de trabajo directora maestros secretaria servicio de mantenimiento cosina y seguridad en nuestra escuela encontrará seguridad para nuestros estudiantes y sobre todo la amabilidad de todo el personal porfavor piensen que vamos aser con nuestros estudiantes y como padre necesitamos a nuestra escuela abierta y con la oportunidad de seguir adelante en la educación de nuestros hijos NECESITAMOS

SALVAR A NUESTRA ESCUELA OCTAVIO PAZ Y SIGA ABIERTA PARA NUESTROS ESTUDIANTES GRACIAS

37 | I believe that it is a travesty and breach of each and every Board member's fiduciary responsibilities to a) fire the current CEO without cause, which will undoubtedly create instability across the district , b) fire the current CEO without cause in order to install a CEO who will approve an ill-advised loan, which will undoubtedly create long-term financial problems for the district, and c) fire the current CEO without cause in order to install a CEO who will approve an ill-advised loan in order to meet the imprudent and unaffordable demands of the Chicago Teachers' Union. The Board members who have been installed by the Mayor have fiduciary responsibility, which means that each and every one of them are wholly responsible for the decisions that they make. To those fully accountable as fiduciary stewards, your decisions will have longstanding consequences for the students and parents who rely upon the district for a high-quality education. To fire a competent CEO, without cause, creates unjustifiable instability in the district, which is detrimental to students and parents. The district is where it is today because we had years of stable leadership under Dr. Jackson. If there is no true cause to fire CEO Martinez, other than that he will not take out an ill-advised loan, then to fire him would be a mistake that students will pay for 1000 times over. CEO Martinez has unprecedented support from the district's administrators. Removing him indicates that you hold no regard for the opinions of the people who lead our schools. Furthermore, firing him amid all of the gains that CPS has made after experiencing a global pandemic is a sign to any other COMPETENT educational leader that our district does not value competence, leadership, and results. Who would choose to lead our district after the Board decides to fire a competent and nationally respected educational leader? The answer is - not anyone who is highly competent and worth their salt; they would not want to risk dealing with a group of Board members who, on a whim or at the Mayor's bidding, will get rid of them if they take a stand on behalf of the district and its students. Finally, this is a recipe for the state to take over the district. Bad decisions are being made at the behest of a Mayor who is still on the employee rolls at Chicago Teachers' Union, and therefore has a blaring conflict of interest. The malfeasance and fiscal mismanagement can be seen from 2 yards away. These ethical and moral missteps are going to make a great case for the State to take over the district, especially since a) the district will be virtually bankrupt, due to the increased costs of borrowing money because the Mayor's next CEO pick is going to do his bidding regarding taking out the loan and b) student achievement will undoubtedly stall or decrease due to the brain drain of principals who will leave after CEO Martinez is fired and a weak (and likely under-qualified) CEO is installed. So, ultimately, this single action that the Board may or may not be taking will have longstanding outcomes. And again, no one is talking about student achievement and the gains that were achieved under CEO Martinez's leadership DURING COVID, because we all know that this is not about students at all. It's about finding a way to pay for a 9% pay raise for teachers who are at the top, in terms of national pay, and for whom CPS agreed to a 5% pay increase (higher than my COLA increase this year and probably higher than most working people's increases). And it's about a Mayor thinking about his adult allegiances instead of the children and parents whom he claims to champion. And after learning that CPS teachers have a 40% truancy rate, I don't even know why the 9% blanket raise is still on the table. I hope that the newly installed Board members will do the right thing and wait for the elected members to join the group and do their homework before making a fatal decision.

38 | To whom it may concern.
I am a mother of seven kids. Three of my youngest kids attended Octavio Paz charter school. My youngest daughter attended kindergarten while my son was attending 4th

grade 4 years later my youngest son started kindergarten. Also, the three of my youngest kids graduated from Octavio Paz charter School. What can I say about the school is a lot. All the teachers were understanding and kind, The principal was an awesome principle at that time the principal was Mr. Masterson. He was a strict and understanding principle. He teach the kids to use their words and to understand each other and respect each other. One of my older daughters told me that she wanted to send my grandson to the school. This was already 14 years later. I was so happy and so excited because my grandson was going to go to Octavio Paz! And then another year later she signed up my other grandson for kindergarten. So now I had two grandkids going to Octavio Paz and I couldn't be more happier knowing that they were going to get the right education and the right understanding from teachers that they deserve. Like I said, three of my younger kids attended Octavio Paz and they graduated and they loved that school and I knew that my grandkids were going to love the school also and the day my daughter told me that they were closing the school broke my heart. How can they close a school with such awesome teachers and staff! I didn't understand and I'm still trying to understand.

The only thing I can say is that keep this school open. It deserves to stay open. The community needs this school. Our kids need this school. Like I said, the school teaches the kids understanding and kindness and respect and they teach them in a way that the kids want to learn.

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- 39 Hello, I would like to voice my concerns over the sudden nature of this meeting relating to significant changes in school personnel, including the potential removal of the current CEO on the agenda. With the new hybrid school board set to start this January, I believe this should be one of the first collective items to decide on together. Not only does the decision fall during the holidays and thus comes at a time when constituents may have limited availability to participate and tune into the meeting, the timing of this meeting and lack of advance notice is not transparent, which this very public comment form states the Board is committed to increasing.

As a CPS alum who saw the constant change in leadership personally, switching CEOs doesn't make the problems go away for students. It does make it harder for school staff and admin to pick back up where things left off. To us now as working adults, it might be a year or two to stabilize again and maybe that feels quick, but those years mean so much more to a student: that's a sophomore in high school graduating before they can see the impact, for example. There is power in navigating conflict and finding compromise. There is power in pausing and waiting; teachers use a three second pause in classroom discussions because there's always more that comes out when we are able to sit with our thoughts for a moment. What values does this model for our students when the leaders in their city are unable to have civil disagreement and work towards resolution together? That our communities are left out of these major decisions that impact our daily lives?

I am personally impressed with the most recent 5 year strategic plan issued by the previous Board members, especially the values of a rigorous, joyful, and equitable learning experience. It would weaken the impact of this plan if the current Board makes a rash decision before the incoming elected members are part of the discussion. I urge you to not make changes to personnel at this meeting and to allow the hybrid Board to model collective decision-making together in the new year. Think of the tone that would set for our entire city - and the perception of the entire country - on our school district and our students.

40	<p>Hello. I have my daughter in the school called Tamayo and my daughter has been there since kindergarten. I would like to talked about all the schools in my community. We are people that came from Mexico or south America and we never seen that in our countries wanted to close schools specifically elementary schools. In the USA where is supposed to be a first word country planning to close a school? I think this is ridiculous . Our children don't deserve to close their school instead of that we need more school in our community. We need to open more school because our community is growing up. You can change the name of the school or whatever you want to do but don't close our schools. Our people really need these school. Please think about our children future and don't think in your own benefit. Remember that our children are the future of this country. Thanks</p>
41	<p>Dear Board Members,</p> <p>Over the last year I have been truly dismay by the actions of our Mayor and the CTU leadership that have injected chaos and uncertainty into our public school system. Their goals are obviously fiscally irresponsible in an already challenging budget environment and their divisive political approach has only undermined public confidence in our government and its ability to serve the most vulnerable in our community. Your role as board members is to take an independent view of these issues and determine whether these goals are truly in the best interest of the residents of the City of Chicago. As an example, this effort to remove the current CEO of the CPS does not make sense and will clearly have significant short and long term negative consequences. In the short run, removing the CEO in the middle of the school year and at the end of union negotiation will obviously cause confusion and turmoil among central management, teachers, and most importantly - parents. In the longer run, would a well qualified and experienced Education leader want to take this job knowing that the Mayor will constantly undermine them in a negotiation with the Union?</p> <p>We are entering a challenging time where our City will have to step up in smart and strategic ways to counteract the incoming Federal administration. We cannot afford to cause self-inflicted wounds. I urge you to be an independent voice of reason on behalf of City residents who need our city government to be smart not idealistic.</p>
42	<p>CPS Board members,</p> <p>I am a CPS parent to three enrolled students at two CPS schools and also serve as an LSC Parent Representative. As a patently deeply invested and committed to CPS, I request that you please consider not making any radical changes to CPS. Chicagoans have fought tirelessly to achieve an elected School Board, and we have voted into office members we feel have CPS's best interests at heart. We are hopeful and confident in the elected School Board members coming into power. Please allow these newly elected officials to represent us and our wishes and allow them to make the big decisions regarding leadership that we elected them to make. Please do not undermine the power of the voters and our democratic system. Please trust the incoming Board to make the best decisions for their constituents.</p> <p>Please don't think that hiding a late-Friday decision behind holiday break will save you from answering to Chicagoans who are begging you to instead empower the incoming elected School Board members and the citizens who voted for them.</p>
43	<p>Dear Members of the Board of Education, I do not support the removal of Mr. Martinez. This appears to be nothing more than politics, and his removal at this point in his tenure is not in the best interest of the schools. Mr. Martinez has the support of building leaders and that is an important indication of his leadership and the trust he is building. It would</p>

be highly irresponsible to take a loan when the district is already facing a deficit. I respect his stance on this and the stance he is taking in negotiations. I feel that this will be a large blemish on the mayor's record and the members who support him. A Friday evening meeting on December 20 reeks of stale Chicago politics that we need to put behind us.

44 Thank you for providing me the opportunity to share my thoughts.

As a parent of a Senn Arts freshman at Senn High School, I am grateful my daughter's class is being grandfathered into the Senn Arts program as it was advertised to students and parents. I am glad cuts will not be made to the respected and diverse fine arts magnet program for her class.

However, I still do not like that these cuts will impact the Senn Arts class entering next year and in future classes. This should not be occurring. Attacks on the arts and humanities have taken place since the Ronald Regan administration especially on the arts in public schools. While Senn Arts is a specialized magnet program, arts in CPS overall also should not be reduced or eliminated in favor of increasing and promoting STEM and career-ready education. Supporting and emboldening arts education is especially important now because of the incoming Presidential administration that wants to fulfill Project 2025's goal of eliminating the Department of Education. CPS not only needs to but must fight for the arts in its schools. Art education promotes empathy; helps students process trauma; increases confidence; and develops critical, creative, and independent thinking skills.

I grew up in a conservative rural town, and the arts and humanities were devaluated and cut by my school district. By the time I reached high school, the dance extracurricular had been cut and the literary journal reduced. Only two issues were produced in the four years I attended high school. My love for art and creative writing did not diminish though because my father, a CPS graduate, instilled, encouraged, and nurtured in me a love of reading, art, and writing. Other students often do not have the familial benefit I had.

I graduated from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago with a Master of Fine Arts in Writing. Studying for my MFA in creative writing at an arts college made a huge impact. Several of my past college students when I taught part-time at DePaul, Loyola, and Wilbur Wright College won departmental awards for the writing they produced in my class. One even secured a fellowship in the undergraduate seminar program at The Newberry Library. In addition to critical thinking exercises and assignments in my college writing classes, I also incorporate active creative thinking and creative writing activities during class time. It makes a massive difference.

Since earning my MFA in Writing, higher education itself has become corporatized and neoliberal. The same is happening in public high schools nationwide and in CPS. The focus now is centered on career ready and STEM education at the expense of the arts. I see a lot of college students going into those tracks not because they love those fields but because of pressure from their parents, society and high schools. More than one of my students have told me they wanted to focus on a subject in the arts or humanities, but they have been discouraged to what the late mythologist Joseph Campbell called "follow their bliss" by their parents and high schools.

With this new Presidential administration, I know the arts and humanities will be under greater attack. Donald Trump tried to eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts in

	<p>his first term. I wrote about his desire to do so in my Huffington Post commentary published in 2017 that can be read here: https://www.huffpost.com/entry/who-really-loses-if-trump-and-congress-eliminate-the_b_58d2baf6e4b062043ad4af32</p> <p>CPS and its students can grow stronger with arts education. The United States significantly lags behind European countries in education and supporting and valuing the arts. It is artists and writers who talk truth to power and add zest and seasoning to life. CPS can flip the script on U.S. public education by valuing arts education in not only Senn Arts but CPS entirely. We need students who are independent and critical thinkers now more than ever.</p>
45	As the parent of a CPS student, I have been tremendously impressed with Pedrp Martinez' clear-eyed, visionary leadership. That his job should be threatened because he has the good judgment to reject a fiscally unsound approach-- a loan that can never be repaid--is appalling. I urge the board not to bend to the will of impulsive and irresponsible voices, and affirm Mr. Martinez as the leader CPS needs. Chicago's children will pay the price if you fail to do so.
46	Since Pedro became CEO, parents like myself have always received news letters from CPS, CPS Facebook page have daily updates as well. I am very please with him work so far. I don't know why mayor wants to get him fired so bad, but whatever reason it is, it won't benefit CPS if Pedro gets fired.
47	Proud graduate of CPS who attended from K-12 at Mark Sheridan Math and Science Academy and Whitney Young H.S.. What we are seeing is an absolute joke and you all should be ashamed of yourselves. Thanks for making CPS political, when financial and educational equity should be the focus, not the mayor ensuring his friends get everything they want - ironic that I am the union guy saying this too. I hope the state steps in and takes over because we clearly an inept to run our own schools. Mayor Johnson, please go back to Elgin.
48	Why does the CTU seem to run the school board and the mayor?
49	The current CTU contract is a power grab without accountability. CTU and it's leadership fear mongering tactics is not in the best interests of the students, families and district. The election of an independent school board is being made a sham by the Mayor, CTU and the handpicked Board members.
50	Dismissing the CEO days before Christmas for doing his job all while misleading the public in your representation of the what he did trying to serve this city. Shameful. This is the equivalent of the politics we saw in 2013 coming from our current city leader and union leaders doing bad business that I thought we were opposed to. Shameful. The people have spoken and were not in agreement with your decision to terminate the CEO but our voices have been silenced. Shameful . Our City leaders appointed board members in 2023/2024 as wise council and to have an appointed board tell the city leader that they are making a mistake only to ignore the expertise that you appointed them to lend to the families of Chicago. Shameful. We the people asked the board to wait and allow the elected school board to be a part of the decision making and you have chosen to silence our advocacy. Shameful! You have turned a deaf ear to the voices of reason & the people. Shameful. We voted for hope and you have left us feeling hopeless closing out this year and that is truly a shame.
51	Education is a Right not a Privilege. Politics has no place in schools

ATTACHMENTS

8/28/24 (Updated 12/2/24)

Dear Chicago Board of Education Members,

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for everyone. We are all dedicated to ensuring that our students, families, and staff are supported and prepared for a successful year of learning and growth. However, this year feels different for many of us. The ongoing contract negotiations with the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) and news reports of a potential leadership change involving CEO Pedro Martinez have created an atmosphere of uncertainty. While our primary focus remains on our school communities, we feel it is important to share our concerns as principals and assistant principals as the school year begins.

We, the Principals and Assistant Principals from across the City of Chicago write to emphasize the importance of stability within an institution. Every school administrator knows that significant changes at the beginning of the school year can be detrimental to the students, staff, and families we serve. That is why we ask you to carefully consider the potential impact that a change in leadership could have on the Chicago Public Schools community.

We understand the political dynamics at play—the Board of Education hires the CEO, and the Mayor appoints the Board members. It is also widely recognized that there is a connection between Mayor Johnson and the Chicago Teachers Union. Nevertheless, decisions about CPS leadership should not be driven by political affiliations or interests. We urge the Board to focus on the long-term success of the district and the needs of all stakeholders by acknowledging the impact the current CPS leadership team has had on our district.

No leadership structure will ever satisfy everyone completely. Just as teachers may raise concerns with principals, and principals may raise issues with Network Chiefs, disagreements are a natural part of the organizational process. That said, it is important to recognize the inclusive and collaborative culture that CEO Martinez and Chief Education Officer Bogdana Chkoumbova have cultivated. This shift has been acknowledged by both seasoned leaders and those new to the role. Principals across the district have developed a professional rapport and a trusting relationship with the current CPS leadership which has allowed us to work collaboratively to create the best schools for all students in Chicago.

Under the current leadership, the district has prioritized several key initiatives, including early literacy, career and technical education (CTE) programming, a needs-based budgeting process that provided a transparent way on how schools are funded and why,

enhanced school safety, and improved student outcomes through a high-quality curriculum. These initiatives demonstrate a commitment to collaboration between district leaders and administrators to better support teachers, staff, and students.

Leadership transitions inevitably bring change. However, this letter is not driven by fear of change, but rather by the belief that such a change is unnecessary at this time. We strongly urge the Board of Education to allow CEO Martinez to continue leading the district as he has for the past two plus years. We need to maintain the momentum behind the initiatives already underway that have been successful due to the support CEO Martinez has gained by listening to and trusting school leaders to give guidance on what is best for schools.

While we are represented by the Chicago Principals and Administrators Association (CPAA), this letter is written independently of CPAA due to ongoing negotiations between CPAA and CPS. Our intent is to ensure that the voices of school leaders, who are deeply invested in the success of our students and schools, are heard.

We trust that the Chicago Board of Education will make decisions that are in the best interest of all CPS stakeholders. This includes the school leaders who are charged with fostering the academic and social-emotional growth of our students. We respectfully ask that you allow CEO Martinez to continue his leadership and the important work that is positively impacting our district.

Sincerely,

Tara Shelton	Principal	South Loop School
Jeremy Feiwell	Principal	Cardenas Elementary
Raul Magdaleno	Principal	Kelly College Prep
Jeff Finelli	Principal	Edison Park Elementary
Adrian S. Dobbins	Principal	Eugene Field Elementary

Otis Dunson	Principal	George B. Armstrong
Amit Thaker	Assistant Principal	George B. Armstrong
Cory Overstreet	Principal	Kellogg
Ernest D. Williams	Principal	Ellington Elementary
Marla Elitzer	Principal	Ruiz Elementary
Abigail George	Principal	McCormick Elementary
Althea Hammond	Principal	Plamondon STEM ES
Cindy Castaneda	Assistant Principal	Cardenas Elementary
Wayne Bevis	Principal	Virtual Academy
Lillian Lazu	Principal	Little Village Elementary
Alberto Juárez	Principal	Gary Elementary
Katherine Cheng	Principal	Armour Elementary
Esmeralda Zapata	Assistant Principal	Armour Elementary
Maureen Delgado	Principal	Clinton School

Eileen Considine	Principal	Columbia Explorers
Barton Dassinger	Principal	Chávez ES
Lisa Epstein	Principal	Lee Elementary
Lauren Albani	Principal	LaSalle II Magnet School
Kelly Whitters	Assistant Principal	LaSalle II Magnet School
Catherine Reidy	Principal	Mt. Greenwood
Joan Garey-Rogers	Assistant Principal	Mt. Greenwood
Patricia Barrera Brekke	Principal	Back of the Yards College Prep HS
Nicole Mulcrone	Assistant Principal	Lee Elementary
Angelica Altamirano	Principal	Hubbard HS
Marisela Ramirez	Assistant Principal	Cardenas Elementary
Mitchell Zoelzer	Assistant Principal	Haugan Elementary
Mary Kay Richardson	Principal	Thomas Early Childhood
Lourdes Jimenez	Principal	Salazar Bilingual Center

Konstantinos Patsiopoulos	Principal	Holden Elementary
Charlette Broxton	Principal	Frazier International Magnet
Ekaterini Panagakis	Principal	Wacker Elementary
Alba Morales	Assistant Principal	Kelly College Prep
Mary Rose Varveris	Assistant Principal	South Loop Elementary
Lorianne Zaimi	Principal	Peirce
Wendy Oleksy	Principal	Ginsburg Elementary
Michael Biela	Principal	Rickover Naval Academy
Katie Welsh	Principal	Mitchell Elementary School
LaWanda Bishop	Principal	Kipling Elementary
Chor Ng	Assistant Principal	Clinton Elementary School
Dawn Caetta	Principal	Kinzie Elementary
Stephen Laslo	Assistant Principal	Clinton Elementary School
Latoya Lyons	Principal	WBrown STEM

Vauncia Allen	Principal	Dvorak School
Ronald Berdell	Assistant Principal	McNair School
John Fitzpatrick	Principal	Locke School
Donald R. Morris	AIC	Jane Addams
Casey Fuess	Assistant Principal	Virtual Academy
Ku-San Thomas	Principal	Ray Graham
Anamaria Orbe	Principal	Hammond Elementary
Charles Malek	Assistant Principal	Phoenix STEM Military Academy
Manuel Adrianzen	Principal	Alfred Nobel Dual Language School
Clariza Dominicci	Principal	Marvin Camras
Evelia Diaz	Principal	Eli Whitney Elementary
Erika Padilla	Assistant Principal	Lyon Elementary School
Claudia Guerrero	Principal	Schubert Elementary
Edward Collins	Principal	Burbank Elementary

Marcie A Byrd	Principal	
Raquel Davis	Principal	Mount Vernon
Mary Carmen Moreno	Assistant Principal	Back of the Yards College Prep HS
Barbara Manjarrez	Assistant Principal	Back of the Yards College Prep HS
Samuel Lee	Assistant Principal	Peirce Elementary School
Daysi Mojica	Assistant Principal	Alfred Nobel Dual Language School
Suzanne Luzzi	Principal	Jungman STEM Magnet
Jennifer Narbert	Assistant Principal	Rickover Naval Academy
Candace J. Anderson-Matchem	Assistant Principal	Virtual Academy
Taiesha Ford	Assistant Principal	
Yadira Bernadac	Principal	Pilsen Community Academy
Cecilia Bartel	Assistant Principal	Falconer Elementary
Heather Yutzy	Principal	Haugan Elementary

Griselda Esparza	Assistant Principal	Kelly College Prep
Natasha Anders	Assistant Principal	South Loop School
Julie Trejo	Assistant Principal	Northwest
Giselle Sanchez Santiago	Assistant Principal	Velma Thomas ECC
Pam De La Cruz	Principal	Hanson Park Elementary
Niambi Riggins-Thomas	Principal	DePriest Elementary
Sabrina Walker	Assistant Principal	Back of the Yards College Preparatory High School
Julio Alvarez	Assistant Principal	Jungman Elementary
William Hook	Principal	Chicago Agriculture
Philip Iem	Principal	Ortiz de Dominguez ES
Maureen Komperda	Assistant Principal	Locke Elementary
Michelle Quinton Garcia	Assistant Principal	Lloyd ES
Eileen Scanlan Peterson	Principal	Cassell

Mandi Durkin	Principal	Belding Elementary
Erica Pacheco	Assistant Principal	Bridge Elementary School
Melissa Resh	Principal	Wildwood IB
Robert Guercio Jr	Principal	Bridge Elementary School
Celeste Rodriguez	Assistant Principal	Portage Park Elementary
Camille Unger	Principal	Edgebrook Elementary School
Sean Kennedy	Assistant Principal	Sauganash
Terrie Rayburn	Assistant Principal	Casals School of Excellence
Maureen Wood	Principal	Portage Park Elementary
Joyce Pae	Principal	Chicago Academy Elementary
Daniel Micallef	Assistant Principal	Oriole Park Elementary
Yalil Nieves	Principal	Mary Gage Peterson
Andrea Gordon	Assistant Principal	Edgebrook Elementary School
Kathleen Hurley	Assistant Principal	Mary Gage Peterson

Lindsi Lara	Principal	Hitch Elementary
Ryan Coors	Principal	Norwood Park
Marianne Patten	Principal	Onahan Elementary
Sarah DeJulio	Assistant Principal	Onahan Elementary
Angela Rogers	Assistant Principal	Johnson STEAM Elementary
Jimmy A. Lugo	Principal	Stowe Elementary
Chris Gamble	Principal	Solomon Elementary
Kat Henry	Assistant Principal	Solomon Elementary
Stephanie Bester	Principal	Garvy School
Georgia Davos-Vetas	Principal	Bateman Elementary
Marlon Henriquez	Principal	Gunsaulus Scholastic Academy
Joseph Lazio	Assistant Principal	Gunsaulus Scholastic Academy
Yadira Guzman	Principal	Whittier
Nikita Horn	Principal	Howe

Consuelo Gaines	Assistant Principal	L Ward STEM E S
Sandra Carlson	AIC	Prussing Elementary
Amber Whitfield	Assistant Principal	Edison Park Elementary
Jennifer Madden	Principal	Scammon Elementary
Jacqueline Grimaldo	Assistant Principal	Scammon Elementary
Claudia Lopez	Principal	Fairfield Academy
Dr. Marlena Little	Principal	King Academy of Social Justice
Karla Garcia	Assistant Principal	Washington Smyser Elementary
Rosa Hernandez	Assistant Principal	Kinzie Elementary
Okab Hassan	Principal	Peck Elementary
Regina Latimer-Lake	Principal	Earle STEM Elementary
Lashan Rockett	Assistant Principal	Cuffe STEM Academy
Janel Armstrong	Assistant Principal	Earle STEM Elementary
Katherine Gallagher	Principal	Christopher

Edwin Loch	Principal	Reinberg
Kimberly Davis	Assistant Principal	Reinberg
Michael Pacourek	Principal	Shields Elementary
Dr. David J Young	Principal	Bouchet International
Adriana Arias	Principal	Nightingale Elementary
Brennen Humphrey	Principal	Coonley Elementary Schools
Brenda Pantoja	Assistant Principal	Hedges Elementary
Marquita Jones	Assistant Principal	Phoenix STEM Military Academy
Kelly Thigpen	Principal	Burnside Scholastic Academy
Rodolfo Rojas	Principal	Everett STEM
Sara Haas	Principal	Brighton Park Elementary
Debra Polak	Assistant Principal	Evergreen Academy MS
Thanh Nguyen	Assistant Principal	Hayt Elementary
Claudia Munoz	Assistant Principal	Ginsburg Elementary

Dr. Kamilah Hampton	Principal	Daley Academy
Marvis B. Jackson-Ivy	Principal	Henderson Academy
Clarisa Bravo-Ruiz	Assistant Principal	Sawyer Elementary School
La Shawndra Pointer	Assistant Principal	Chicago High School for Sciences
Kate Ramos	Assistant Principal	Edgebrook Elementary School
Gerardo Arriaga	Principal	Monarcas Academy
Mary Ann Reynolds	Principal	Patrick Henry Elementary School
Jami Tillis	Assistant Principal	Jordan Community School
Jennifer Clayton	Principal	Kershaw Magnet an IB World School
Clyde King Jr.	Principal	Arthur Ashe ES
Jennifer Wynne	Assistant Principal	Stone ES
Ferdinand Wipachit	Principal	Phoenix STEM Military
Arthurine Beaugard	Principal	Countee Cullen

Shelley Lugo	Principal	Greene School
Rosalyn E. Lewis	Assistant Principal	Bouchet International School
Margaret Alhasoon	Principal	Swift Elementary School
Michael Krzysztofiak	Assistant Principal	Hubbard High School
Stacy Gray	Principal	McDade Classical Elementary School
Towanna Butler	Assistant Principal	Chicago High School Agricultural Sciences
Michelle Ludford	Principal	Beaubien Elementary
Dr. Gerardo Trujillo	Principal	Louis Pasteur School
Christine Hurley	Principal	Grissom ES
Bill Yeh	Principal	Goudy Technology Academy
Tabitha White	Principal	O’Keeffe ES
Chris Twomey	Principal	Stephen K. Hayt Elementary
Myrna Villafuerte	Assistant Principal	Greene School

Nicholas Guerrero	Principal	Ravenswood ES
Charnette Marshall	Principal	Higgins Comm Academy
Victoria Perry	Assistant Principal	Higgins Comm Academy
Shannon Puckett	Assistant Principal	
Monique Whittington-Hampton	Assistant Principal	Evers School
Robert Staszczak	Assistant Principal	Cleveland
Brittany Tidwell-Bailey	Assistant Principal	Wendell Smith ES
Victor Williamson	Assistant Principal	R Brown Comm. Aca.
Victor Iturralde	Principal	Solorio Academy HS
Katherine Patton Mizak	Assistant Principal	Solorio Academy HS
Erin Walker	Principal	Infinity High School
Cynthia Leung	Principal	Chicago World Language Academy
Raul Bermejo	Principal	Richard Edwards

Efren Toledo	Principal	OA Thorp Scholastic Academy
Verneisha Gair	Assistant Principal	Jones College Prep
Eboni Dixon	Assistant Principal	Jones College Prep
Natalie Rodriguez	Principal	Kilmer Elementary School
Katie Magnuson	Principal	Skinner North
Mattea Walsh	Assistant Principal	Skinner North
Elvia Rincon	Assistant Principal	Pasteur
Alexander Zalar	Assistant Principal	Eliza Chappell Elementary School
Julie N Lyons	Assistant Principal	Benito Juarez Community Academy
Sandra Shimon	Principal	Prosser Career Academy
Leslie Weems-Hannah	Assistant Principal	Clay Elementary
Alexander Kmicikewycz	Assistant Principal	Curie High School
Homero Penuelas	Principal	Curie High School
Tenesha Hatter	Principal	Schmid ES

Cesar Balcazar	Assistant Principal	Solorio Academy HS
Cha’Ron Bradley	Assistant Principal	Schmid ES
Tamarah Ellis	Principal	Simeon
Onome Omovie	Assistant Principal	Carver Military Academy
Sarah Roche	Assistant Principal	Mayer
Sarah Trevino-Terronez	Principal	Funston
Giovani Toledo	Assistant Principal	Funston
Richard McMillan	Principal	Dunbar High School
Winnie Stevenson	Assistant Principal	Reilly Elementary School
July Cyrwus	Principal	Lorca Elementary School
Nicholas Cartagena	Assistant Principal	Lorca Elementary School
Dashe Rowland	Principal	LaSalle Language Academy
Michael Orosa	Assistant Principal	LaSalle Language Academy
Diana Gomez Rodriguez	Principal	Nixon Elementary

Rachel Mota	Principal	Mozart School
Joyce Sumter-Anderson	Assistant Principal	Burnside Scholastic Academy
Craig Lichtenberg	Assistant Principal	Nixon Elementary
Kristin Blathras	Principal	Hamilton
Gabriel Parra	Principal	Von Linne
Kimbreana Taylor-Goode	Principal	Langston Hughes
Daniel De Los Reyes	Principal	Darwin Elementary
Aida Flores	Assistant Principal	Darwin Elementary
Bryan Quinlan	Principal	Dr. Fisher Early Learning Center
Kyle Schulte	Principal	Logan Square Elementary
Nancy Quintana	Principal	Finkl Academy
Vanessa Gonzalez	Assistant Principal	Curie High School
Jose Alvarado	Assistant Principal	Shields Elementary School
Tim Riff	Principal	Oriole Park

Marcelo Costilla	Principal	Reilly Elementary
Fareeda Shabazz	Principal	Payton College Prep
Claudia Avila	Assistant Principal	Avondale-Logandale School
Jasmine Vasquez	Assistant Principal	Curie Metro High School
Juan Carlos Ocon	Principal	Benito Juarez Community Academy
Devon Morales	Principal	Clemente HS
Cecilia Mendoza	Assistant Principal	Brighton Park Elementary
Jesus Guerrero	Assistant Principal	Finkl Academy
Katherine Michau	Assistant Principal	Kilmer Elementary
Gavin Lamb	Assistant Principal	Mitchell Elementary
Elizabeth Martino	Assistant Principal	Decatur Classical
Matthew Fasana	Assistant Principal	Wildwood ES
Marisol Negrón	Principal	Decatur Classical
Paulette T. Williams	Principal	Johnnie Colemon Academy

Faren D'Abell	Principal	Horace Greeley Elementary
Kevin Coppage	Principal	Corliss Early College STEM HS
Yvette Torres	Assistant Principal	Greeley Elementary
Shirley Roberson	Principal	Carnegie Elementary School
Leonetta Sanders	Principal	Williams Prep School of Medicine
Jesus Antonio Laurel	Assistant Principal	Curie High School
Dr. Tiffanie N McLeary	Assistant Principal	Augustus H Burley Elementary
Harrison A. Baker Jr.	Principal	Murray Language Academy
Jennifer N Crall	Principal	Augustus H Burley Elementary
Turan C Crockett	Principal	Wendell Smith ES
Trinidad Lopez	Assistant Principal	Logan Square Elementary
Nader Elmasri	Principal	Goethe Elementary
Brian Kelly	Principal	King College Prep
Eric Fay	Principal	Lincoln Elementary

Nelly Robles	Principal	Sawyer Elementary
Therese Plunkett	Assistant Principal	Lincoln Elementary
Juan Cardona	Assistant Principal	Lowell ES
LoWanda C. Bell	Principal	Woodlawn Community ES
Brad Rossi	Principal	Wells High School
Sonja Spiller	Assistant Principal	Langston Hughes ES
Maria G. Gamboa	Principal	Multicultural Arts HS
Javier Arriola-Lopez	Principal	Rachel Carson Elementary
Rosalinda Avila-Vega	Assistant Principal	Multicultural Arts HS
Emily Feltes	Principal	North-Grand High School
Ashley Reyes	Principal	Bell Elementary
Rosa M. Jimenez	Assistant Principal	Solorio Academy H.S.
Karen M. Carpenter	Principal	Orr Academy HS
Alberta Colesio	Assistant Principal	Edwards Elementary

Jaime Jaramillo Jr	Assistant Principal	Edwards Elementary
Rafael Jimenez	Principal	Sadlowski Elementary
Marie Garza	Principal	Albany Park Multicultural Academy
Hanna Kapica	Assistant Principal	Prussing
Martha Haro	Assistant Principal	Bell Elementary
Sheila Coleman	Assistant Principal	King College Prep
Sarah Garr	Assistant Principal	Ogden HS
Sharee Onyezia	Assistant Principal	Wells High School
Erin Neidt	Assistant Principal	Ogden ES and HS
LaShonda Hicks-Curry	Assistant Principal	Aldridge Elementary
Joshua Dresser	Assistant Principal	Lane Tech High School
Rochelle Bryant	Assistant Principal	Marshall High School
Barbara Brodsky	Assistant Principal	Garvy Elementary School
Carrie Cole	Principal	Minnie Miñoso Academy

Terri Kelly	Assistant Principal	Drummond Montessori
Amy Klimowski	Principal	Jonathan Burr Elementary
Mollie Hart	Assistant Principal	Lane Tech
Erin Kamradt	Principal	Healy Elementary
Lorraine Nunez	Assistant Principal	James Otis Elementary
Ann McNally	Principal	Stock School
Jessica Spangler	Assistant Principal	Stock School
Tyrese Graham	Principal	Uplift High School
Michelle Suttmeier	Principal	Kelvyn Park
Sarah Hanly	Assistant Principal	Lane Tech
Catherine Amy Moy Davis	Principal	John C. Haines School
Lupe Perez	Principal	James Ward School
Yanina Nevarez	Assistant Principal	Grissom ES
Tonya Hammaker	Principal	Tubman ES

Jessie Carrasco	Principal	Lozano
Dr. Chris Neely	Assistant Principal	Bouchet International School ES
Latasha Carter	Resident Principal	
Nikole Lewis Dickens	Assistant Principal	William H Brown
Erica Kittle	Principal	Drummond
Bosede Bada	Principal	Suder Montessori Magnet School
Paul J. Karafiol	Principal	Lake View High School
Joyce Orellana	Assistant Principal	
Dawn Iles-Gomez	Principal	Nathan Hale School
Katherine Engelhardt	Principal	Grimes School
Robert Gomez	Assistant Principal	Richardson Middle School
Patrina Singleton	Principal	Brennemann Elementary
Megan Kehr	Principal	Sor Juana Elementary
Candice Cafarelli	Assistant Principal	Sor Juana Elementary

Jason Roberts	Assistant Principal	Lake View High School
Daisy Lopez	Assistant Principal	Luther Burbank Elementary
Marian Strok	Principal	Evergreen Academy MS
Matthew Moline	Principal	Mark Twain Elementary
Ken Cuellar	Principal	Dr. Jorge Prieto, Math and Science Academy
Patrycja Mach	Assistant Principal	Hitch Elementary
Sarah McNamara	Assistant Principal	Graham Elementary
Carolina Paredes	Assistant Principal	Ravenswood Elementary
Danielle Porch	Principal	Daisy Bates Academy
Ana Rodriguez	Assistant Principal	Salazar
Matthew Baker	Principal	Sabin Dual Language Magnet School
Jennifer Sutton	Principal	Von Steuben High School
Katie Hallberg	Assistant Principal	Von Steuben High School

Sam Rasch	Assistant Principal	Von Steuben High School
Frances Barnett Evins	Assistant Principal	Hirsch High School
Deivi Aguilar	Principal	Graham ES
Denise Scott	Assistant Principal	Grimes ES
Matthew Jones-McCann	Assistant Principal	McPherson IB World School
Megan Clendening	Principal	Newberry Academy
Amy O'Connor	Principal	Vick ECE Centers
Katie Shanovich	Assistant Principal	
Charlene Reynolds	Principal	
Lauren Wilkie	Assistant Principal	Suder Montessori Magnet School
Latisha Dillard	Assistant Principal	Marsh Elementary
Carla Frangella	Principal	Dawes School
Meredith Bawden	Principal	Galileo Scholastic Academy
Dana Galati	Principal	Catalpa

Charessa Maiden-McNeal	Assistant Principal	Chicago Military Academy
Karon Purkett	Principal	Horace Mann Elementary
Alison Hildebrandt	Assistant Principal	Lane Tech
Natasha Jones	Principal	Lawndale Community Academy
Elva Bahena	Principal	Talcott Fine Arts and Museum Academy
Dr. Rosette Edinburg	Principal	Hyde Park Academy
Rachel Mann	Principal	James Otis Elementary School
Virag Nanavati	Principal	Farragut Career Academy
Kayla McCabe	Assistant Principal	Burr Elementary
Kelly Barth	Assistant Principal	
Juanita Adeoye	Assistant Principal	Sadlowski
Victoria Tomko	Assistant Principal	Gray Elementary
Damir Ara	Assistant Principal	Lane Tech College Prep

Peter Rutkowski	Principal	Waters Elementary School
Tinishi Davis	Principal	Manierre Elementary
Kathy Carter	Principal	Park Manor ES
Elpidio Pintor	Assistant Principal	Mark Twain Elementary
Edwina Thompson	Principal	Lane Tech College Prep
Michelle Nash	Principal	Ebinger School
Claudinetta Swartz	Assistant Principal	Galileo Scholastic Academy
Shante Ivory	Assistant Principal	
Carmen Medina	Principal	Hedges
Laura Jack	Assistant Principal	Vick
Sergio Ramirez	Principal	G.Washington
Francisco Oliva Gonzalez	Principal	Nathan S. Davis Dual Language School
Kimberly Simon	Assistant Principal	Miles Davis Academy

Takeshi James	Principal	Avalon Park
Jacqueline Medina	Principal	Talman
Maricela Sanchez	Assistant Principal	Talman
Edna Melgar	Assistant Principal	Little Village Elementary
Anjanette Lipsett	Assistant Principal	Mount Vernon Elementary
Jeanine Rogers	Assistant Principal	Sherman School of Excellence
Kaita Haynes	Assistant Principal	Curtis Elementary
Joseph Rosen	Assistant Principal	Chavez
Romel Coleman	Assistant Principal	Fulton Elementary
Paula E. Rice-Irvin	Assistant Principal	McDade Classical
Marla Broy	Principal	Revere
Rosa Rodriguez	Assistant Principal	Chavez
Jason Major	Principal	Dever
Tamesha Carter	Principal	Libby

Natasha Buckner	Principal	George Rogers Clark ES
Tonia Turner	Assistant Principal	George Rogers Clark ES
Cherice Ramey	Assistant Principal	Avalon Park
Katrena Washington	Assistant Principal	Shoop
Carmen Jenkins	Principal	Irving School
Mike Hinton	Principal	Hoyne
Stephanie Armstead	Assistant Principal	Hoyne
Nora A. Cadenas	Principal	Seward
Pebble C. Jackson	Assistant Principal	Seward
Sharrone Caridine	Principal	JN Thorp
Kelly Heineke	Assistant Principal	Ebinger Elementary
Julie Kortz	Assistant Principal	JN Thorp
Teresa Zuniga	Assistant Principal	Jane Addams
Jennifer Rath	Principal	Canty

Sylvia Orozco-Garcia	Principal	Calmecca Academy
Elizabeth Gallo	Principal	Byrne Elementary
Melody Murphy	Assistant Principal	Byrne Elementary
Regina M. Roberts	Principal	Sherman
Armando Rodriguez	Assistant Principal	Tarkington
Katrina Cabrera	Assistant Principal	Mozart Elementary
Karen Valentine	Principal	Edison Regional Gifted Center
Terri Thomas	Principal	Medgar Evers
Nicholas Kotis	Principal	Gray Elementary
Alicia Lewis	Principal	Bright Elementary
Tonya Weatherly	Principal	Ruggles S.T.E.A.M. School
Shanee Childs-Beavers	Assistant Principal	Ruggles S.T.E.A.M. School
Shontell Smith	Principal	Warren
Christopher Robbins	Principal	John B. Drake

Stephen Fabiyi	Principal	Metcalfe
Jessica Fitzgerald	Assistant Principal	Metcalfe Community Academy
Allison Dinella	Principal	Smyser Elementary
Chery Belt	Principal	M. Davis
Natasha Topps	Principal	Shoop
Meghan Fido	Assistant Principal	Alcott Elementary
Shonnika Henry	Principal	Lionel Hampton Fine & Performing Arts School
Conrey Callahan	Principal	New Field Elementary
Christine Munns	Principal	Sauganash
Kristen Meyer	Assistant Principal	Alcott Elementary
Barbara Karrel	Principal	Alcott Elementary School
Arman Cortes	Assistant Principal	Belding Elementary
Minh Nguyen	Assistant Principal	Amundsen H.S.

Sherita Carter King	Principal	Simpson Academy
Kate Kloepper-James	Assistant Principal	Bateman
Chase James	Assistant Principal	Audubon
Nicole Spicer	Principal	Bronzeville Classical School
Frances Thibodeaux-Fox	Principal	Spencer Technology Academy
Ryan Glowacz	Principal	Taft High School
Patrick Levins	Assistant Principal	Taft High School
Cybill Ortiz	Assistant Principal	Amundsen High School
Elizabeth Mourtokokis	Principal	Northside Learning Center
Gary Tesinsky	Principal	Mather High School
Raven Patterson-Talley	Principal	Till Elementary School
Rashad Talley	Principal	Phillips High School
Iliana R zodkiewicz	Principal	Disney II Magnet
Stephanie Anderson	Principal	Vaughn Occupational High School

Ryan Leonard	Principal	Chicago Academy HS
Timothy Faust	Assistant Principal	Chicago Academy HS
Shirley Maldonado	Assistant Principal	Disney II Magnet
Carlepha Kyser	Principal	Pirie Fine Arts
Holly Dacres	Principal	Senn High School
Steven Brewer	Assistant Principal	Senn High School
Verona Portis	Principal	New Sullivan
Kevin Russell	Assistant Principal	Senn HS
Tracy Jesse	Assistant Principal	Vaughn Occupational HS
Matthew Rosenberg	Assistant Principal	Uplift Community High School
Maricela Torres	Principal	Cooper
Teresa Chavez	Principal	Casals School of Excellence
Connie Lee	Assistant Principal	Haines
Sergio Rojas	Assistant Principal	Cooper

Corrine Ulmer	Assistant Principal	Nettelhorst Elementary
Demetrius Mundy II	Principal	Dixon
Faith Fields	Assistant Principal	Dixon
Judith Martin	Assistant Principal	Waters
Zarree Walker	Principal	Crown
Paul Riskus	Principal	Disney
James Cosme	Principal	Falconer
Eric Steinmiller	Principal	Lincoln Park High School
Steve Biegel	Assistant Principal	Hubbard High School
Kimberly Denton-Hatcher	Principal	Ninos Heroes
Afua Agyeman-Badu	Principal	Aldridge
Maryann Tamrazi	Assistant Principal	Volta Elementary
Thomas Peri	Principal	Chappell Elementary
Tara Bailey	Assistant Principal	Southside Occupational Academy

Alexandra Dakessian	Assistant Principal	McCutcheon Elementary
Trista Harper	Principal	John Hancock College Prep
Christina Sanchez	Principal	Dore Elementary
Chalese Conley Dunbar	Principal	Keller Regional Gifted Center
Fanny Medina	Assistant Principal	McCormick Elementary
Charles Bright	Principal	Bret Harte Elementary
John D Rosebom	Assistant Principal	Sullivan High School
Dr. Ashley Hegwood	Principal	Ashburn Elementary School
Melissa Rosa	Assistant Principal	Haugan Elementary
Megan J. McKay	Assistant Principal	Ashburn Community Elementary School
Vincent Izuegbu	Principal	Wells Elementary School
Heidy Moran	Principal	Schurz High School
Jewel Diaz	AIC	Principal Quality

Judith Franco	Assistant Principal	Eberhart Elementary
Jillian Theus	Assistant Principal	Lincoln Park High School
Rebeca Shick	Principal	Murphy Elementary
Noemi Ramos	Assistant Principal	Locke Elementary
Jeffery Cooks	Principal	Sullivan High School
Qiana Wiley-Ruffin	Assistant Principal	Tubman Elementary
Phillip Yasenak	Principal	Pickard Elementary
Stephanie Cohen	Assistant Principal	Dr. Fisher Early Learning Center
Jennifer Mangayao (Dixon)	Principal	Palmer Elementary
Yolanda Ayala-Santna	Assistant Principal	Moos Elementary
Dawn Ruff	Assistant Principal	Nathan Hale Elementary
Norma I Cortez	AIC	Principal Quality
Melissa Hess	Assistant Principal	Taft High School
Terry Batey	Assistant Principal	Prosser Career Academy

Hanan Matari	Assistant Principal	Mariano Azuela
Kahinde Longmire	Principal	McCutcheon STEAM School
Paul Arabie	Assistant Principal	Payton College Prep
Melody Littlefair	Assistant Principal	Nicholas Senn HS
Linda Montes	Assistant Principal	
Eric Flores	Assistant Principal	Taft High School
Rosalba Porte	Assistant Principal	Cameron
Jannet Vega	Assistant Principal	Dawes
Beverly Patton Jordan	Principal	Jensen Academy
Virginia Hiltz	Principal	Saucedo
Jacqueline Davis	Assistant Principal	Jensen Academy
Jennifer Bollinger	Principal	Southside Occupational
Ilysha Jones	Principal	Doolittle
Francisco Torres	Assistant Principal	Spry

Patricia Stuber	Principal	Northside College Prep
Cesar Munoz	Assistant Principal	Daley Academy
Dana Schwarz	Assistant Principal	Rogers Fine Arts
Guadalupe Galan	Assistant Principal	Saucedo
Adrienne Head	Assistant Principal	Drake Elementary
Oswaldo De Santiago	Assistant Principal	Pilsen Community Academy
Nancy Mays	Assistant Principal	McKay Elementary School
Alfredo Lopez	Assistant Principal	New Field Elementary
Julie Walsh	Principal	Farnsworth Elementary School
Gladys Cortes-Duewel	Assistant Principal	Gray Elementary
Erik Olson	Principal	McPherson Elementary
Julie Kujawa	Assistant Principal	Blair
Natasha Ortega	Principal	Hamline Elementary
Michael Richie	Principal	Reavis Math and Science

Marla Reid	Principal	Farmer Elementary
Moneka Reynolds	Assistant Principal	Farmer Elementary
Lydia Danyluk	Assistant Principal	Perez Elementary
Donieshia Johnson	Assistant Principal	Roberto Clemente HS
Angela Hanrahan	Assistant Principal	Schubert ES
Fakhira Huma Bukhari	Assistant Principal	Taft High School
Bridgett Earls	Principal	Joplin Elementary
Scott Scherquist	Principal	Ariel Community Academy
Christine Altstiel	Assistant Principal	Disney II High School
Angel Aguirre	Principal	Hurley Elementary School
Venus DeLoach	Principal	Carver Elementary
Heather Pusatcioglu	Principal	Piccolo School of Excellence
Laurel Salgado	Principal	Henry D. Lloyd Elementary
Keviyona Smith- Ray	Principal	Philip Randolph Elementary School

Aisha K. McCarthy	Principal	John Harvard
Alexander Phillips	Principal	William Penn Elementary School
Roxana Del Real	Assistant Principal	Morrill Elementary
Rebecca McNally	Assistant Principal	O.A. Thorp Academy
Daniel Kuzma	Principal	Morgan Park High School
Anne Donatelli	Assistant Principal	Sayre Language Academy
Patricia Haas	Assistant Principal	J Ward Elementary
Fabiola Padilla	Assistant Principal	Dore Elementary
Sabrina Anderson	Principal	Marcus Garvey
Mary Willis-McNeely	Principal	Leif Ericson Scholastic Academy
Sepia Adams	Assistant Principal	Marcus Garvey
Rosa Arostegui	Assistant Principal	Edward N Hurley
Mescha Lammy	Principal	Fenger High School
Corey Moore	Assistant Principal	WEB Dubois Elementary

Kristin Novy	Principal	Citywide
Claudia Ortiz	Principal	Tarkington
Kia Isom	Assistant Principal	Turner-Drew Language Academy
Katherine Dube	Assistant Principal	Disney II ES
Marquette L. McClinton	Assistant Principal	Esmond ES
Ingrid E. Boyd	Principal	Curtis School
Lynn McGinnis-Garner	AIC	Ryder Elementary
Heather Morrison	Assistant Principal	Disney II HS
Jessica Johnson	Principal	Perez
Erica Muñoz	Assistant Principal	Bridge Elementary School
Margaret Loranger	Principal	World Language HS
Emely Perez-Garcia	Assistant Principal	Saucedo STEAM Magnet Academy
Chelsea Williams	Assistant Principal	Morgan Park High School
Shantel Askew	Assistant Principal	Morgan Park HS

Sarah McLinden	Assistant Principal	Coonley Elementary School
Bertha Arredondo	Assistant Principal	Joseph E. Gary Elem
Salvador Velasco	Principal	Zapata Academy
Emilio Zavala	Assistant Principal	Zapata Academy
Eduardo Yáñez	Principal	Volta ES
Anne Breen	Assistant Principal	Norwood Park
Manda Lukic	Principal	Beard School
Docilla Pollard	Principal (retired)	Carnegie School
Manuel Ferreras	Assistant Principal	Jahn School of Fine Arts
Cristina Romo	Assistant Principal	Stevenson ES
Cristina Gonzalez	Assistant Principal	DeVry HS
Jorge Melgar	Principal	Belmont-Cragin
Michael Wilkinson	Assistant Principal	Chicago Academy Elementary

Nicole Hernandez-Spielman	Assistant Principal	Belmont-Cragin
Meghan Sovell	Principal	Orozco
Tanya Roldan	Assistant Principal	Sabin Dual Language Magnet School
Leonel Gallegos	Assistant Principal	Sullivan High School
Yvette Bazan	Assistant Principal	Telpochcalli Dual Language
Lisa Waltmire	Assistant Principal	Pulaski International School of Chicago
Joshua Marburger	Principal	Nettelhorst Fine & Performing Arts School
Cussandra Gillespie	Assistant Principal	Carroll-Rosenwald Elementary School
Marie Clouston	Principal	Richardson Middle School
Michelle Ingram- Holmon	Assistant Principal	Spencer Technology Academy
Danielle Sanderson	Assistant Principal	Westcott Elementary
Yolanda White	Assistant Principal	Minnie Minoso Academy

William Hozian	Principal	Stevenson School
Juliet Lauro-Geruso	Assistant Principal	Roosevelt High School
Sakinah Kushmi-Harris	Assistant Principal	Bennett Elementary
Kelly Martinez	Assistant Principal	Dever Elementary
Humberto Andrade	Assistant Principal	McKay Elementary
Rebecca Kijek	Principal	Peace & Education Coalition High School
Andrea F Kulas	Assistant Principal	Peace & Education Coalition High School
Kamau Hester	Assistant Principal	Richardson Middle School
Michael Meadows	Assistant Principal	Lindblom Math and Science Academy
Cliff Gabor	Principal	
Nicole Shere	Assistant Principal	Locke School
Michael Gross	Assistant Principal	Goode STEM Academy
Marchanelle Flowers	Assistant Principal	Stagg Elementary School

Israel Urbina	Assistant Principal	Benito Juarez Community Academy
Tawanda Miller Brown	Assistant Principal	Henderson School
Jonathan Burton	Assistant Principal	Murphy Elementary
Nneka Gunn	Principal	Eberhart School
Laura-Elizabeth McCabe	Assistant Principal	Hawthorne Scholastic Academy
Melanie V. Beatty	Principal	Manley Career Academy HS
Anne Marie Gulley	Assistant Principal	Sutherland
Salvador Venegas	Assistant Principal	Infinity High School
Naomi Nakayama	Principal	Budlong Elementary
Lee McLaurin	Assistant Principal	Mason School
MaryBeth Padezanin	AIC	Principal Quality
Wanda Hart	Assistant Principal	Faraday School
Ishshah Phillips	Assistant Principal	Hubbard High School
Cesar Lopez	Assistant Principal	Rachel Carson Elementary

Mark Carson	Principal	Nicholson Elementary
Angela R. Tucker	Principal	Esmond Elementary
Marci Haynes	Assistant Principal	Sumner Academy
Keisha Wheat	Assistant Principal	Randolph Elementary
Gretta Ellis	Principal	Robinson Elementary
Shekela Hollins	Assistant Principal	Robinson Elementary
Eric Mitchell	Assistant Principal	Taft High School
Leonard Harris	Principal	Jefferson High School
Starlet Banks	Principal	Lindblom Math & Science Academy
Diedre Coleman	Principal	Holmes ES
Brenda Scott	Assistant Principal	Owen Scholastic Academy
Quishun Elrod	Principal	Tilton Stem Elementary
Rachel Peralta	Assistant Principal	Kennedy High School
Mallory Bachmeier	Assistant Principal	Budlong Elementary

Nicholas Cybulski	Assistant Principal	Kennedy High School
Michelle Kopke	Assistant Principal	Northside Learning Center
Trish Davlantes	Principal	Hawthorne Scholastic Academy
Kelli Stanley	Assistant Principal	Ariel Community Academy
William Johnson	Assistant Principal	Dulles Elementary
Jaime Sanchez	Principal	North River Elem.
Ursula Hoskins	Principal	Jacob Beidler
Talisa Marin	Principal	Madison Fine Arts
Kerrin Quezada	Principal	Moos Elementary
Karen Stevens	Assistant Principal	Farnsworth School
Rozetta R. Toney	Assistant Principal	Ida B. Wells Preparatory Academy ES
Sharnette Sims	Principal	York HS
Cheryl Moore	Assistant Principal	Williams

Kimberly R. Bradley	Assistant Principal	York HS
Alison Ortony	Principal	Social Justice High School
Tawana Williams	Principal	Faraday
Alexis Gonzales	Principal	Corkery
Frank Morris	Assistant Principal	O'Toole
Keia Thompson	Assistant Principal	Tilton
Alicia Marsh	Principal	Marquette
Sonia C. Rodriguez	Assistant Principal	Sandoval Elementary
Titia Kipp	Principal	Barry Elementary
Taylor Adams	Principal	Lenart Regional Gifted Center
Theone Haralampopoulos	Assistant Principal	Taft High School
Ana Torres-Romero	Principal	Marsh Elementary
Hiliana León	Principal	Hibbard
Mary Nikoo	Assistant Principal	Hibbard

Ana Rodriguez	Principal	Lowell Elementary
Tashena Chumrley	Assistant Principal	SSFAA
Steven Rouse	Principal	Carver Military Academy
Elizabeth Nessner	Principal	Mark Sheridan Academy
Diana Racasi	Principal	Pulaski
Adriana Ortiz	Assistant Principal	Kennedy High School
Tamika L. Romaine	Assistant Principal	Horace Mann Elementary
Kai Murray	Principal	Beulah Shoemith Elementary
Latrese Mathis	Principal	John Hay Community Academy
Frank De Carlo	Assistant Principal	Mather High School
Marcella Sims	Assistant Principal	Madison Fine Arts Elementary
Jennifer White	Assistant Principal	Morgan Park High School
Jennifer Laurincik	Principal	Henry Clay Elementary
George Szkapiak	Principal	Kennedy HS

David Jaramillo	Assistant Principal	Social Justice HS
Gloria Taylor	Principal	Azuela
Shreya Baxi	Assistant Principal	Audubon
Melissa Carlon	Assistant Principal	George Washington Elementary
Liz Wontor-Leach	Principal	Franklin Fine Arts Center
Libra Duncan	Principal	Al Raby HS
Steven Askew	Principal	R. Brown Academy
Lizbeth Ramirez	Assistant Principal	Dr. Jorge Prieto
Toya Benson	Principal	Crane Medical Prep High School
Chris Graves	Principal	Jordan Community Elementary School
Benetrice Whitfield	Principal	McNair School of Excellence
Romian Crockett	Principal	Chalmers STEAM Elementary School
Folasade Adekunle	Principal	Sayre Language Academy

LaTacia Morgan-Greene	Principal	Austin College and Career Academy High School
Maria J. McManus	Principal	STEM Magnet
Helen Kantzioris	Assistant Principal	Gallistel Language Academy
Khalid Oluewu	Principal	Webster
Grant Varveris	Principal	Burroughs Elementary
Danielle Calhoun	Assistant Principal	Gale Elementary
Nora Arroyo	Assistant Principal	Whittier School
Greta Mitchell	Assistant Principal	King College Prep
Krissandra Taylor	Assistant Principal	Webster Elementary
Michelle Soto	Assistant Principal	Nightingale Elementary
Herald Watson	Principal	Lavizzo IB MYP Elementary
Toyia Pullum	Principal	Dulles Elementary
Franci Nimpson-Boateng	Assistant Principal	Andrew Carnegie School

Christopher Shelton

Principal

Englewood STEM High School



STATEMENT FROM ILLINOIS LATINO AGENDA:

Actions Against Pedro Martinez are an Affront to Latino Leaders and Our Community

media interviews available

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda](#) in response to the cancelation by the Chicago Board of Education of CEO Pedro Martinez' contract:

"The Illinois Latino Agenda is dismayed at the [treatment](#) of Chicago Public Schools (CPS) CEO Pedro Martinez. Under Martinez' steadfast leadership, CPS has consistently achieved proficiency gains in reading, graduation rates, scholarships, college credits and certifications earned.

As a CPS graduate and a parent of two CPS students, Martinez brought a personal commitment to the success of Chicago's diverse student body, 47% of whom identify as Latino. Martinez fostered stability and equity in a district long challenged by leadership turnover. Nearly [700 principals and assistant principals](#), representing 80% of district campuses, expressed confidence in Martinez citing his capable and collaborative leadership. In less than a year, Martinez oversaw the development of a seminal [strategic plan](#) and a complete shift from student-based budgeting to a needs-based approach which centers equity and expands opportunities for all students.

"At this critical moment, the Illinois Latino Agenda calls on the city and the newly elected Board of Education members to place the interests of students above political agendas. We urge the administration to reconsider this action and maintain stability for our schools. We remain committed to a school system that serves every child, the largest constituency of which is Latino."

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The Illinois Latino Agenda (ILA) is a coalition that advocates for the representation of Latinos across all sectors and works to advance the economic, political and social prosperity of Latino communities throughout Illinois.

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my gratitude on behalf of the parents, teachers, and community members affected by Acero's recent decision regarding the seven schools. Your unwavering support during this challenging time has not gone unnoticed, and we deeply appreciate the CPS board members for standing by us.

As we approach tomorrow, a day of significant importance, I want to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of listening to the voices of the parents. Our community is passionate about ensuring the best possible outcomes for our children, their educators, and the neighborhoods we serve. It is essential that our concerns and aspirations are heard and considered as decisions are made.

We believe that collaboration and open dialogue are key in fostering a supportive educational environment. Thank you once again for your commitment to our schools and for your dedication to advocating for the needs of our community.

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For Immediate Release:
August 16, 2024

**STATEMENT FROM ILLINOIS LATINO AGENDA:
Latino Leaders Urge Mayor Johnson to Stop Any Efforts to Oust CPS CEO Pedro
Martinez**

media interviews available

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda](#) in response to the [potential dismissal of CPS CEO Pedro Martinez](#):

“The Illinois Latino Agenda is deeply concerned by reports that Mayor Johnson is working to oust Pedro Martinez, CEO of Chicago Public Schools (CPS). As a CPS graduate and a parent of two CPS students, Martinez has a personal and deeply-rooted commitment to the success of Chicago’s diverse student body, embodying exactly what CPS educators strive to cultivate in their students.

“The reality is that Martinez’s tenure as CPS’s CEO has been positive for our students and educators, bringing stability to a school district that’s had nine Superintendents since 2009. Martinez has strategically allocated resources to ensure these schools are funded appropriately, giving students access to extracurricular activities and ensuring schools have the resources they need. His approach has been fiscally responsible while prioritizing equity and the empowerment of all students, regardless of their zip code.

“Under his leadership, CPS has navigated the challenges of the pandemic to help students recover academically, achieved top reading gains among the largest urban districts in the nation, and expanded opportunities for students through early college credit programs. Importantly, Martinez has championed the needs of CPS’s nearly 50 percent Latinx student population, ensuring increased funding for multilingual and multicultural education and growing support for English Learners.

“We strongly urge Mayor Johnson to reconsider any efforts to remove a qualified Superintendent who is bringing much-needed stability to our city’s public schools and delivering tangible, positive outcomes for students. The Illinois Latino Agenda stands in strong support of Pedro Martinez for his track record and commitment to Chicago’s students.”

###

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For Immediate Release:
September 20, 2024

STATEMENT FROM ILLINOIS LATINO AGENDA:
Illinois Latino Agenda Urges Focus on Students Amid CPS CEO Uncertainty
media interviews available

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda](#) in response to the ongoing reports that [Mayor Johnson continues on his quest to oust CPS CEO Pedro Martinez](#):

“Latino leaders are deeply concerned by the ongoing speculation and political distractions surrounding the future of CPS CEO Pedro Martinez, who has been a stabilizing force for CPS. Just this week, under his leadership, the Chicago Board of Education [unanimously approved](#) the passage of a five-year strategic plan aimed at improving the quality of education for all students and getting more kids into our neighborhood schools.

“Now, more than ever, the focus must remain on students, their educational achievements and the continued success of CPS. Under Martinez’s leadership, students’ reading scores have increased, and more high school students are graduating with college credits, providing them with a head start toward higher education.

“Mr. Martinez's leadership has delivered measurable results. Ultimately the CPS board is officially responsible for any decision to remove a leader who has demonstrated a commitment to improving educational outcomes for all CPS students.”

###



For Immediate Release:

August 16, 2024

STATEMENT FROM ILLINOIS LATINO AGENDA:

Latino Leaders Urge Mayor Johnson to Stop Any Efforts to Oust CPS CEO Pedro Martinez

media interviews available

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda](#) in response to the [potential dismissal of CPS CEO Pedro Martinez](#):

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“We strongly urge Mayor Johnson to reconsider any efforts to remove a qualified Superintendent who is bringing much-needed stability to our city’s public schools and delivering tangible, positive outcomes for students. The Illinois Latino Agenda stands in strong support of Pedro Martinez for his track record and commitment to Chicago’s students.”

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September 20, 2024

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media interviews available

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“Mr. Martinez's leadership has delivered measurable results. Ultimately the CPS board is officially responsible for any decision to remove a leader who has demonstrated a commitment to improving educational outcomes for all CPS students.”

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December 20, 2024

To the Chicago Board of Education:

Imagine a world where our children, already struggling to catch up after pandemic-induced learning disruptions, are asked to do more with less. That's the reality we face if we embrace a proposal to cut 100 hours of instructional time from elementary school schedules to accommodate additional teacher preparation time—without a plan to replace the lost time.

As a former principal of Prieto Math and Science Academy, I have seen firsthand the importance of maximizing every minute in the classroom. Now, I work with school leaders charged with ensuring 320,000 students across the city learn every day. These leaders are acutely aware of the stakes. Pandemic learning loss has created an urgency to accelerate academic progress for all students, especially those who were already underserved.

It's undeniable that teachers need adequate preparation time to deliver high-quality instruction. The planning that takes place outside the classroom is crucial to what happens inside it. Thoughtfully designed lessons, aligned curricula, and culturally responsive materials are the cornerstones of effective teaching. But equally undeniable is the fact that students need more learning time, not less, to recover from the significant setbacks they've endured over the past few years. Sacrificing instructional time for additional preparation time is a shortsighted solution that ultimately undermines student success.

To put the proposal in perspective, 100 hours of instructional time is equivalent to cutting five full school days from the calendar. That's five fewer days for students to engage in rigorous academic work, five fewer days for them to practice critical thinking, and five fewer days for teachers to close the gaps exacerbated by the pandemic. For students in Chicago—many of whom face systemic inequities in access to educational resources—those five days are not expendable.

Proponents of the additional prep time argue that it will empower teachers to better serve their students. But what does it mean to serve students better if the cost is less time spent engaging with them? We must reject the false choice between supporting teachers and supporting students. A balanced approach is possible, one that meets the needs of educators without sacrificing critical instructional time.

We've seen the consequences of reduced learning time before. Research consistently shows that time spent in the classroom is one of the strongest predictors of student achievement. Schools with longer instructional days or years often see higher academic outcomes, particularly for low-income students. By cutting instructional hours, we risk widening the very gaps we're working so hard to close.

The current contract negotiations present an opportunity to prioritize what matters most: the students and families who depend on our public schools. We can and should find ways to provide teachers with the preparation time they need without compromising instructional time.

This might mean rethinking the school schedule, investing in nonprofit partners to share the workload, or exploring other creative solutions that don't come at the expense of students.

As decision-makers consider these proposals, they must listen to the voices of school leaders who understand the day-to-day realities of running schools and serving students. The Chicago Principals and Administrators Association (CPAA) has already conducted a review of the contract proposals and provided valuable insights. These perspectives should not be dismissed or ignored. Principals and assistant principals are the backbone of our schools, and their expertise is essential to crafting policies that truly meet the needs of all stakeholders.

Ultimately, our schools are about students. They are about the 320,000 young people in Chicago who walk through school doors every day, eager to learn and grow. They deserve our unwavering commitment to providing them with the time, resources, and support they need to succeed. Cutting instructional hours at a time when they need every advantage is not just unwise—it's unfair.

Let's commit to solutions that don't force us to choose between supporting teachers and serving students. Both deserve our full attention. And as we navigate these tough decisions, let's keep one question at the forefront: What's best for our kids?

Mariel Laureano
Former CPS Principal
Director of Educator Supports, The Chicago Public Education Fund