



Board of Education

City of Chicago

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street, Suite 950, Chicago, Illinois 60602
Telephone (773) 553-1600 Fax (773) 553-1601

Susan J. Narrajos
Secretary

Myra Rivera
Assistant Secretary

December 18, 2024

Members of the Board of Education

Olga Bautista
Michilla Blaise
Mary Gardner
Sean B. Harden
Debby Pope
Frank Niles Thomas
Dr. Rafael Yáñez

NOTICE OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING FOR DECEMBER 20, 2024 AT 11:00 A.M.
IS BEING RESCHEDULED FOR 5:45 P.M.

Enclosed is a copy of the **Agenda** for the **Special Board Meeting** to be held on **Friday, December 20, 2024, at 5:45 p.m.** The meeting will be held at Colman CPS Administrative Office, 4655 South Dearborn, in the auditorium. Public will enter through door #3. The Board and the Chief Executive Officer have determined that registered speakers who wish to present during Public Participation may have the option to participate in person at the location of the Board meeting or virtually via an electronic platform. The public will have access to the meeting via live stream at cpsboe.org.

Public Participation Guidelines are available on www.cpsboe.org.

For the December 20, 2024 Special Board Meeting, advance registration to speak will be available beginning Wednesday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m. and will close on Thursday, December 19th at 6:00 p.m. Anyone interested in speaking can sign up. After the 24-hour registration period, a lottery will randomly select a set number of speakers from those who registered. For example, if 100 people register, the lottery will select 5 of them to speak. This process gives everyone a fair chance to address the Board. Advance registration during this period is available by the following methods:

- Online: www.cpsboe.org (recommended)
- Phone: (773) 553-1600

To ensure equity of access to address the Board, an individual may not speak at back-to-back meetings and more than one meeting per month. If you register for back-to-back meetings and more than one meeting per month, you will not be included for that meeting lottery. In the event an individual registers to speak at a consecutive meeting, the individual will not be called to address the Board.

Advance registration to observe will also be available beginning Wednesday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m. and will close on Thursday, December 19th at 6:00 p.m. or until all slots are filled. Advance registration during this period is available by the following methods:

- Online: www.cpsboe.org (recommended)
- Phone: (773) 553-1600

Although Advance Registration is recommended, you can also register to observe a meeting on the day of a Board Meeting via:

- Same Day in Person Observer Registration: Colman CPS Administrative Office, 4655 South Dearborn
- Registration Time: Opens at 5:30 p.m. and will remain open for the duration of the Board Meeting

Same Day, In-Person Observer Registrations are taken on a first come, first serve basis as seats become available.

The Public Participation segment of the meeting will begin following the opening roll call and proceed for no more than 5 speakers for 10 minutes. Speakers selected through the lottery will receive instructions for Public Participation.

Members of the public may submit written comments for Board of Education meetings via the Written Comments Form on the Board's website at www.cpsboe.org or mailed to 1 N. Dearborn, Suite 950. Written comments received between the day the public agenda is posted through 5 p.m. the day after the Board of Education meeting will be submitted to the Board and posted within five (5) business days on our website at www.cpsboe.org.

Sincerely,



Susan J. Narrajos
Secretary

SJN
Enclosures

Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950



Special Board Meeting Agenda

Friday, December 20, 2024

5:45 PM

**Colman Office
4655 S Dearborn St. Chicago,
IL 60609 Auditorium**

Board of Education



CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

AGENDA

December 20, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

NON-DELEGABLE BOARD REPORT THAT REQUIRES MEMBER ACTION

MOTION

24-1220-MO1 Motion RE: Elect Sean B. Harden President of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION VIA IN-PERSON OR ELECTRONIC FORMAT

DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC AGENDA ITEMS

VOTE ON PUBLIC AGENDA ITEMS

NON-DELEGABLE BOARD REPORTS THAT REQUIRE MEMBER ACTION

RESOLUTIONS

24-1220-RS1 Rescind Board Report 24-1101-RS1 and Adopt a New Resolution Authorizing Signature Proxy for Board President Sean B. Harden

24-1220-RS2 Resolution to Maintain Acero Attendance Centers

MOTION

24-1220-MO2 Motion to Hold a Closed Session

CLOSED SESSION

- Discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act.

REPORTS FROM THE OUTSIDE COUNSEL

**24-1220-AR1 Approve Settlement with Chief Officer
(Note: this matter may be moved forward for final action or deferred for final action at a future Board meeting).**

**24-1220-AR2 Approve Termination of Chief Officer
(Note: this matter may be moved forward for final action or deferred for final action at a future Board meeting).**

RECONVENE

ADJOURN



Guidelines for Public Participation at Chicago Board of Education Meetings

These Guidelines are designed to ensure a fair and organized process for public participation at Board of Education meetings. Below you'll find details on how to register to speak, observe meetings, and other important information. The following Guidelines for Public Participation are issued by the President of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board President" and "Board") in accordance with Board Rule 2-4.1 and replace the Guidelines that were in effect October 2023.

General Information

Observing the Meeting

Watching Online

- Members of the public, employees of the District, Local School Council members and members of other groups may view the meeting live by selecting "Watch live" on the Board's website at www.cpsboe.org.

In-Person Observer Attendance

- To attend in person, you must register in advance to assure your seat. Registration opens 48 hours before a meeting.
- There are 100 observer slots available for advance observer registration.
- If advance registration is full or has closed, same-day, in-person observer registration is also available. You can still register on the day of the meeting in person, starting at 10:15 a.m. on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Same-day, in-person registration begins at 10:15 a.m. the day of the Committee meeting and Board meeting in the lobby at 42 W. Madison (unless the location or time is otherwise indicated). Please be aware that same-day, in-person observer registration is taken on a first-come, first-serve basis, and registrations will be taken as open seats are available.

How to Register

- Online: Visit www.cpsboe.org (recommended)
- Phone: Call (773) 553-1600

Accommodations - Accessibility

All meeting locations are ADA and generally accessible in consideration of those with disabilities:

Individuals with a physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity who require an accommodation, auxiliary aid and/or other services to participate in a Board meeting must notify the Board Office at (773) 553-1600 at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting to request the accommodation, auxiliary aid and/or other service.

Sign language interpretation is available upon request without prior notice.

Restrictions

Current or prospective vendors wishing to present products or services for purchase should not use the public participation portion of a Board meeting for this purpose. Hand-held posters and placards are not allowed in the Board Room.

Speaker Registration and Participation



Advanced Speaker Registration Open Period

- Unless otherwise noted in the notice for the Board meeting, Advance Speaker Registration Open Period opens 48 hours before the meeting. This usually means registration opens at 10:30 a.m. on the Monday before a Wednesday Committee meeting and on the Tuesday before a Thursday Regular Board meeting.
- The Advance Registration Open Period will remain open for a 24 hour period.

How to Register

- Online: Visit www.cpsboe.org (recommended)
- Phone: Call (773) 553-1600

Randomized Lottery for Speaker Selection

In order to provide more equity of voice during the public participation segment, a randomized lottery will be conducted to select speakers for any meeting where the number of registered speakers exceeds the number of slots available.

- **Randomized Selection:** During a 24 hour registration period, anyone interested in speaking can sign up. After this time, a lottery will randomly select a set number of speakers from those who registered. For example, if 100 people register, the lottery might select 30 of them to speak. This process gives everyone a fair chance to address the Board.
- **Number of Speakers:** The Board will allocate no more than 30 speaking slots to members of the general public to speak to the Board.
- **Notifications:** After the lottery, you'll receive an email confirming whether or not you've been selected to speak. Instructions for participating in the meeting will also be provided.
- **Applicability:** The Randomized Lottery applies to all Board Meetings where advanced registration is available. This system will not only apply to Board Meetings but also to other meetings where advanced registration is available, such as Committee meetings and Hearings.

Participation

Speakers who registered via the Advance Registration process will have the option to attend in person at the location of the Board meeting or via electronic/telephonic means.

Limitations on Speaking

To maintain a fair chance for speakers to address the Board, you may not speak at back-to-back meetings and you may not speak at more than one meeting per month.

- If you register for back-to-back meetings and more than one meeting per month, you will not be included for that meeting lottery. This ensures more opportunities for the public to address the Board.
- Speakers may not cede their time to another person.

Speaker Remarks and Submissions

- Each speaker is given .two (2) minutes to present their remarks and materials to the Board. Speakers must end their presentation upon the request of the Board Secretary when their time is up to allow the next speaker to begin.
- All public presentations must be limited to issues of concern before the Board and/or related to the Chicago Public Schools.
- Comments of a personal nature, unrelated to the operations of Board or CPS, directed towards individual Board members, employees of the Board or any other individual are not permitted.
- It is the meeting chair's prerogative to limit the discussion of any speaker to allow for broad and diverse public participation.
- All speakers must adhere to the Behavior Expectations in the following section.

Order of Speakers

The Board Secretary may group speakers according to a particular topic and may call certain speakers out of numerical order so that all comments regarding a particular topic may be heard together.

Special Considerations



Union Representatives and Public Officials

- Union representatives that are elected officers may address the Board.
- City, state, and federal officials may request to speak by contacting the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs at IGA@cps.edu.
- Each union representative or public official is given five (5) minutes to present their remarks.
- Union representatives and public officials may not cede their time to another person.
- The Board Secretary at the discretion of the President may call city, state, and federal officials to speak at any time, as appropriate.

Interpreters

- An interpreter will be provided for those speakers who wish to make their remarks in Spanish, and Spanish-language interpreters are available. If you need an interpreter for a different language, please notify the Board Office at least two (2) business days before the meeting.
- While speakers may choose to address the Board in Spanish, they will need to provide a written version of their statement the day prior to the meeting if they wish to have it translated into English during the meeting. Speakers who do not provide their statement in advance may still address the Board, but their statement will be translated and shared with Board Members at a later time.

Behavior Expectations

- The Board values and welcomes courteous, respectful, and civil behavior from all speakers and all persons attending a Board meeting. The Board expects speakers to limit statements to those relating to the operations of the Board or CPS, and refrain from comments of a personal nature, unrelated to the operations of the Board and CPS. It is the meeting chair's prerogative to limit the discussion of any speaker to allow for broad and diverse public participation.
- Profane language, unsolicited comments, and disruptive behavior are prohibited. Individuals who are disruptive may be given a warning and may also be removed from the meeting, if necessary. If any individual is removed from a meeting as a result of disruptive behavior, the individual may forfeit their right of reentry to future Board meetings.

Written Comments and Other Participation

Submitting Written Comments

- Even if you are not selected to speak during Public Participation, you can submit written comments. Complete the Written Comments Form on the Board's website or send your comments by mail to 1 N. Dearborn, Suite 950, Chicago, IL 60602. Unless otherwise noted in the public notice for the Board meeting, written comments must be submitted between the posting of the Board meeting agenda and 5 p.m. the day after the Board meeting for consideration by Board members and inclusion in the meeting proceedings.

Media and Recordings

- The Board records the public participation portion of each Board meeting. The Board reserves the right to edit any and all portions of the recording from each monthly meeting. These recordings are aired on local cable channels for the convenience of the public. Members of the public can copy any portion of the public participation or business portion of the meeting from the televised broadcast or from www.cpsboe.org.
- An area of the Board Room will be designated for members of the media who wish to cover the Board meeting. This number may be limited in order to accommodate as many public participants as possible. Guidelines and requirements for media access to Board meetings are issued by the Office of Communications.

These guidelines have been developed to ensure that everyone has a fair chance to participate in Board meetings. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to fostering a respectful and inclusive environment.



Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Board Report

24-1220-MO1

Agenda Date: 12/20/2024

**MOTION RE: ELECT SEAN B. HARDEN PRESIDENT
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**

MOTION ADOPTED/FAILED that the Board elect Sean B. Harden to the Office of President of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago.



Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Board Report

24-1220-RS1

Agenda Date: 12/20/2024

**RESCIND BOARD REPORT 24-1101-RS1
AND ADOPT A NEW RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE PROXY
FOR BOARD PRESIDENT SEAN B. HARDEN**

WHEREAS, the Board is authorized to designate one or more persons to sign any bond, warrant, certificate, contract or other written instrument on behalf of the Board President in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 34-82 of the Illinois School Code [105 ILCS 5/34-82];

WHEREAS, Chapter VII of the Board's Rules enumerate requirements for the signature of contracts and leases on behalf of the Board by the Board President or by other designated officers when a delegation of signature authority is specified therein;

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board that contracts requiring signature of the Board President be executed within the time period specified in the Board Reports authorizing the particular transactions, especially since no work can commence nor services provided until a contract is executed;

WHEREAS, Board Rule 7-12 specifies that the Board President, with the approval of the Board, may designate one or more persons who shall have proxy authority to affix the signature of the President to such contracts or leases;


WHEREAS, designation of a signature proxy for the Board President will facilitate the timely execution of contract and lease documents; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to authorize a signature proxy in accordance with the requirements set out in 105 ILCS 5/34-82 and Board Rule 7-12.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO THAT:

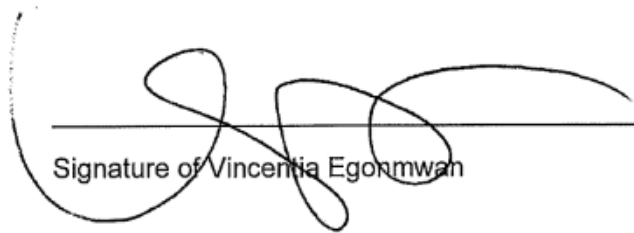
1. Vincenia Egonmwan is hereby designated as the person authorized to serve as a signature proxy for Board President, Sean B. Harden
2. As a signature proxy for Board President, Sean B. Harden, Vincenia Egonmwan shall be authorized to sign contracts, contract amendments, contract extensions and leases for Board President, Sean B. Harden.
3. The signature of Vincenia Egonmwan as it will appear for Board President, Sean B. Harden is appended hereto as Exhibit A.
4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until rescinded by further Board action.
5. The previous signature proxy Resolution authorized under Board Report 24-1101-RS1 is hereby rescinded.

EXHIBIT A



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean B. Harden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Signature of Sean B. Harden, as executed by
Vincenia Egonmwan



A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to be "Vincenia Egonmwan". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with a large initial 'V'.

Signature of Vincenia Egonmwan



Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Board Report

24-1220-RS2

Agenda Date: 12/20/2024

RESOLUTION TO MAINTAIN ACERO ATTENDANCE CENTERS

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois enacted the Charter Schools Law as Public Act 89-450, effective April 10, 1996, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Board's mission is to provide a high-quality public education for every child in every neighborhood, and the Board has laid out a vision for the future of Chicago's students, parents, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Board's charter selection process seeks to charter schools that share its mission, vision, and aspirations for students by creating new and innovative educational techniques and programs within the public school system; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Board of Education entered into a Charter School Agreement with Acero Charter Schools, Inc. ("Acero") on February 19, 1998, and has renewed the Charter Agreement thereafter, with the current Agreement effective for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its current Charter Agreement, Acero has operated fifteen Campuses and Attendance Centers predominantly serving Latinx students; and

WHEREAS, by notice dated October 9, 2024, Acero notified the Board of the "closure of as many as seven (7) Attendance Centers," which identifies seven campuses only as "subject to" closure; and

WHEREAS, Acero asserted in its notice that closures are "in the best interests" of Acero's continued operations and financial security; and

WHEREAS, if permitted to close seven (7) Attendance Centers at the end of the 2024-2025 school year, approximately 2,000 students will be displaced from their public school, and approximately 270 educational staff will be laid off of work; and

WHEREAS, closing seven Attendance Centers could cause substantial disruption and harm to the education of Acero's students and employment of its staff; and

WHEREAS, Acero's announced closures are inconsistent with the educational mission of the Board and call into question whether the Board should renew Acero's Charter School Agreement in 2026;

WHEREAS, Acero has not met with the Board of Education to discuss the future of Acero students and their schools;

WHEREAS, Acero parents, teachers, and staff have come before the Board on several occasions to express their desire to keep their schools open and continue their childrens' education at these campuses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO THAT:

1. The CEO and Chief Portfolio Officer are directed to create a detailed plan to transition the following Acero Schools into District run schools beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. Such plans should involve District support for parents and staff to maximize retention of teachers, staff, and students as these schools transition.

1. Cisneros
 2. Casas
 3. Fuentes
 4. Tamayo
 5. Santiago
2. The District's Chief Portfolio Officer and staff will meet with Acero leadership in a timely fashion to ensure that the needed steps are taken to maintain the seven (7) campuses listed above as Acero schools for the 2025-2026 school year. The Board directs the District staff to work on any needed Memorandum of Understanding with Acero to cover the deficit to operate the seven (7) campuses for the 2025-2026 school year. The Board and District will take into account operational savings, other potential revenue, and Acero's unspent reserves.
 3. Acero's closure of Paz and Cruz must include the provision of any and all support and information necessary to ease the transition for the two (2) schools which Acero will be closing at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. Additionally, the Paz and Cruz campuses will be evaluated by CPS for viability to become District-run schools. The District will provide regular and timely updates to the Board regarding their evaluation.
 4. Acero's cooperation in these matters may be considered in whether to renew Acero's Charter Agreement for another term.



Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Board Report

24-1220-MO2

Agenda Date: 12/20/2024

MOTION TO HOLD A CLOSED SESSION

MOTION ADOPTED/FAILED, that the Board hold a closed session to the consider the following matters:

- 1) Discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act.



Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Board Report

24-1220-AR1

Agenda Date: 12/20/2024

APPROVE SETTLEMENT WITH CHIEF OFFICER

(Note: this matter may be moved forward for final action or deferred for final action at a future Board meeting).



Board of Education

Office of the Board
1 North Dearborn Street
Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Board Report

24-1220-AR2

Agenda Date: 12/20/2024

APPROVE TERMINATION OF CHIEF OFFICER

(Note: this matter may be moved forward for final action or deferred for final action at a future Board meeting).