

FY2021 CPS BUDGET OVERVIEW

PUBLIC HEARING

(Zoom)

held on

August 18, 2020

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

had in the above-entitled cause held virtually  
via Zoom, commencing at 6:02 p.m.

MR. MIGUEL del VALLE, presiding

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

MR. MIGUEL del VALLE, President

MR. SENDHIL REVULURI, Vice President

MS. LUISIANA MELENDEZ

MS. AMY ROME

MR. LUCINO SOTELO

MS. ELIZABETH TODD-BRELAND

MR. DWAYNE TRUSS

Reported By: Karen Fatigato, CSR

License No.: 084-004072



1 ALSO PRESENT:

2 DR. JANICE JACKSON, Chief Executive  
3 Officer

4 MR. JOSEPH MORIARTY, General  
5 Counsel

6 MS. LaTANYA McDADE, Chief Education  
7 Officer

8 MR. ARNIE RIVERA, Chief Operating Officer

9 MS. ESTELA BELTRAN, Secretary to the  
10 Board



1 (Whereupon, the following  
2 proceedings commenced at  
3 6:02 p.m.) 18:02:22

4 PRESIDENT del VALLE: Good evening, 18:02:22  
5 Ladies and gentlemen. I am Miguel del Valle, on 18:02:25  
6 behalf of my fellow Board members, welcome to 18:02:28  
7 the first Budget Hearing. Today is August 18th, 18:02:31  
8 2020. We are holding the first Budget Hearing 18:02:35  
9 electronically via Zoom. The purpose of this 18:02:40  
10 first hearing is to comply with the School Code 18:02:44  
11 provisions regarding the FY21 Budget. 18:02:47

12 Madam Secretary, please state for the 18:02:50  
13 record the notice procedure for this hearing. 18:02:52

14 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, 18:02:56  
15 Mr. President. 18:02:56

16 Notice of this public hearing was 18:02:57  
17 published in the Chicago Sun-Times, a newspaper 18:02:59  
18 of general circulation in the City of Chicago, 18:03:02  
19 and posted at Board Room, Principal Office and 18:03:04  
20 42 West Madison Street Lobby on August 11, 2020. 18:03:08  
21 Notice was also posted on the CPSBOE.ORG and 18:03:12  
22 CPS.EDU websites on August 11, 2020. 18:03:16

23 I will now read into the record the 18:03:21  
24 public notice as published: 18:03:23



1 Notice: Public hearings FY21 Budget 18:03:27  
2 for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year, Chicago Board of 18:03:30  
3 Education, commonly known as Chicago Public 18:03:35  
4 Schools. 18:03:36  
5 To Whom It May Concern: Public notice 18:03:36  
6 is hereby given by -- hereby given by the 18:03:39  
7 Chicago Board of Education that it has prepared 18:03:42  
8 an FY21 Budget for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year in 18:03:44  
9 tentative form, and that five copies thereof, 18:03:49  
10 available for public inspection, have been filed 18:03:52  
11 and are now on file in the Office of the Board 18:03:54  
12 of Education of the City of Chicago, commonly 18:03:57  
13 known as Chicago Public Schools, 1 North 18:03:59  
14 Dearborn Street, Suite 950, Chicago, Illinois, 18:04:02  
15 60602, and available at [www.cps.edu/budget](http://www.cps.edu/budget) and 18:04:05  
16 that said Board of Education will hold two 18:04:13  
17 public hearings upon said Budget: 18:04:15  
18 Date: Tuesday August 18th, 2020. 18:04:17  
19 Hearing time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 18:04:20  
20 Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2020. 18:04:23  
21 Hearing time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. 18:04:26  
22 Pursuant to the Gubernatorial Disaster 18:04:29  
23 Proclamation dated July 24, 2020 and to protect 18:04:32  
24 the public's health in response to the COVID-19 18:04:36



1 pandemic, the public will have access to the 18:04:39  
2 meeting via livestream at cpsboe.org. And the 18:04:41  
3 public participation segment will be held via an 18:04:47  
4 electronic format -- platform, I'm sorry. 18:04:48  
5 For these two public hearings advance 18:04:50  
6 registration to speak will begin on Tuesday, 18:04:52  
7 August 11, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. and will close on 18:04:54  
8 Friday, August 14th, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. or until 18:04:58  
9 all 30 slots have been filled for each hearing, 18:05:01  
10 whichever occurs first. Advance registration 18:05:04  
11 during this period is available by the following 18:05:11  
12 methods: Online at www.cpsboe.org or by phone 18:05:13  
13 at (312) 989-7313. 18:05:19  
14 The public participation segments of 18:05:22  
15 the public hearings will conclude after the last 18:05:22  
16 person who has signed in to register to speak 18:05:27  
17 has spoken or at 8:00 p.m. on August 18th or 18:05:27  
18 6:00 p.m. on August 19th, whichever occurs 18:05:31  
19 first. Members of the public may submit public 18:05:33  
20 comments related to the FY 21 Budget via written 18:05:36  
21 comments form, on the Board's website at 18:05:38  
22 www.cpsboe.org or mailed to 1 North Dearborn, 18:05:40  
23 Suite 950, by 5:00 p.m., Thursday, August 20th, 18:05:45  
24 2020. 18:05:49



1 Dated at Chicago, Illinois, August 10, 18:05:50  
2 2020, Chicago Board of Education. By: Miguel 18:05:52  
3 del Valle, President. Attested by Estela G. 18:05:55  
4 Beltran, Secretary. 18:05:59  
5 Mr. President, I would now like to note 18:06:01  
6 the members that are present here today. 18:06:03  
7 We have member Rome? Member Rome? 18:06:06  
8 MEMBER ROME: Yes. 18:06:08  
9 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Member Melendez? 18:06:12  
10 MEMBER MELENDEZ: Here. 18:06:16  
11 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Vice President 18:06:18  
12 Revuluri? 18:06:20  
13 VICE PRESIDENT REVULURI: Present. 18:06:20  
14 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Member 18:06:22  
15 Todd-Breland? 18:06:23  
16 MEMBER TODD-BRELAND: Here. 18:06:23  
17 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Member Truss? 18:06:27  
18 MEMBER TRUSS: Here. 18:06:29  
19 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Member Sotelo. 18:06:31  
20 MEMBER SOTELO: Here. 18:06:32  
21 SECRETARY BELTRAN: And President del 18:06:33  
22 Valle? 18:06:36  
23 PRESIDENT del VALLE: Here. 18:06:36  
24 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. We have 18:06:43



1 seven members present, there is a quorum. 18:06:43

2 Mr. President, I would also like to 18:06:46

3 acknowledge Dr. Janice Jackson, our CEO; Joseph 18:06:47

4 Moriarty, our General Counsel, who is physically 18:06:53

5 present in the Board room; LaTanya McDade, our 18:06:56

6 Chief Education Officer; and Arnie Rivera, our 18:07:00

7 Chief Operating Officer. Thank you. 18:07:04

8 PRESIDENT del VALLE: Thank you. 18:07:06

9 Let's begin with the FY21 Budget 18:07:07

10 presentation. Heather Wendell, please proceed. 18:07:11

11 MS. WENDELL: Thank you. Give me a 18:07:16

12 moment, I'm trying to find my screen here. 18:07:37

13 There we go. 18:08:02

14 Thank you for that, Mr. President, and 18:08:03

15 good evening to members of the Board. I am 18:08:06

16 pleased to provide an overview of the proposed 18:08:08

17 FY21 Budget for you this evening. 18:08:11

18 So the FY21 Budget reflects a first of 18:08:17

19 its kind community engagement process that was 18:08:20

20 issued under the leadership of Mayor Lori 18:08:23

21 Lightfoot and CEO Jackson. We engaged this 18:08:26

22 winter in a really robust community engagement 18:08:29

23 dialogue around school funding and other 18:08:32

24 elements. We engaged with over 500 community 18:08:34



1 members across six school funding workshops in 18:08:37  
2 January and February and also engaged a working 18:08:40  
3 group that was comprised of parents, principals, 18:08:42  
4 school funding experts, budget members -- or, 18:08:44  
5 I'm sorry, Board members, members of the Budget 18:08:47  
6 Office and other District Leadership to solicit 18:08:50  
7 feedback and turn that into actionable 18:08:52  
8 recommendations that really helped inform and 18:08:54  
9 drive some of the key investments and decisions 18:08:57  
10 that this budget reflects. Those include: 18:09:00  
11 \$100,000 for all neighborhood schools 18:09:02  
12 and economic hardship areas through an FY2021 18:09:05  
13 equity grant. So there was additional funding 18:09:09  
14 that was put in this year informed specifically 18:09:11  
15 by the community engagement. 18:09:12  
16 Additional supports for principals and 18:09:14  
17 LSCs in relation to funding and allocation 18:09:16  
18 decisions. 18:09:19  
19 And an ongoing District commitment to 18:09:19  
20 stakeholder engagement around school funding. 18:09:21  
21 The presentation materials, as well as 18:09:23  
22 the full report outlining all of the 18:09:26  
23 recommendations, can be found on the CPS 18:09:28  
24 website. And I'd like to take some time to 18:09:30





1 start by walking through some of those key 18:09:33  
2 investments as reflected in the '21 proposal . 18:09:35  
3 So the FY21 Budget reflects a District 18:09:44  
4 allocation of \$75 million in resources 18:09:48  
5 specifically to address challenges created by 18:09:50  
6 COVID. This includes supports for models of 18:09:52  
7 varying types, including both the remote 18:09:56  
8 learning model and in preparation for a return 18:09:59  
9 to in-person learning via a hybrid model . 18:10:01  
10 Allocations include support for computing 18:10:06  
11 devices, cleaning supplies, PPE and additional 18:10:07  
12 items that will allow us to provide these 18:10:09  
13 instructional models successfully. 18:10:12  
14 Also included in the budget is an 18:10:14  
15 investment of \$653 million for building 18:10:16  
16 improvements at more than 250 schools. 18:10:19  
17 Several of the priority projects 18:10:22  
18 include over \$306 million to address facility 18:10:24  
19 needs and strengthen high-quality neighborhood 18:10:27  
20 schools throughout the city. 18:10:30  
21 202 million in building improvements to 18:10:31  
22 support modern science labs, pre-K classrooms 18:10:34  
23 and spaces that are necessary to support our 18:10:35  
24 continued investment in new high-quality 18:10:38



1 academic programs. 18:10:41

2 And an additional commitment around the 18:10:42

3 launch of a five-year multi-million dollar 18:10:44

4 investment to improve ADA accessibility. 18:10:48

5 Additional investments this year 18:10:52

6 reflect what we provided to school leaders in 18:10:55

7 their budgets in April. And so continuing for 18:10:58

8 the third straight year that our school leaders 18:11:02

9 and school communities receive their annual 18:11:05

10 allocations in spring with funding levels that 18:11:07

11 are guaranteed against whatever fall enrollment 18:11:10

12 changes they had. The school budgets as 18:11:13

13 provided to school communities in April and as 18:11:14

14 reflected in this combined budget proposal 18:11:17

15 reflect over \$125 million in new investments. 18:11:20

16 This includes growing the investment in the 18:11:23

17 District's equity grant to 44 million this year, 18:11:26

18 including the component that highlights -- 18:11:29

19 specifically provides additional support for 18:11:32

20 students in economic hardship zones increasing 18:11:35

21 special education funding by 97 million, which 18:11:38

22 is the District's single largest increase in 18:11:40

23 investment in that area. 18:11:44

24 An additional \$18 million to continue 18:11:45



1 the expansion of our full-day pre-K programming. 18:11:47

2 Investments in specific targeted FTE 18:11:50  
3 and other human resource investments. So we're 18:11:53  
4 providing an additional position for 30 18:11:57  
5 high-need schools that will fund restorative 18:12:00  
6 justice coordinators, librarians, additional 18:12:02  
7 counselors or other positions that are aligned 18:12:05  
8 to specific school needs. 18:12:07

9 We're continuing the District's 18:12:09  
10 multi-year investments in case managers by 18:12:12  
11 adding an additional 40 FTE. Similarly the 18:12:15  
12 commitment that was made to continue to grow 18:12:19  
13 nurse and social work positions, we're adding an 18:12:19  
14 additional 55 nurses and 44 social workers, 18:12:22  
15 which will allow us to reach an all-time high in 18:12:24  
16 FTE count for each of those positions. 18:12:28

17 Additional investments reflected in the 18:12:35  
18 proposed budget include funding for the School 18:12:37  
19 Resource Officers, which will be reduced in FY21 18:12:39  
20 by 18 million, which is a cut of over 50 percent 18:12:43  
21 compared to last year's budget. 18:12:46

22 The FY21 Budget also includes \$353 18:12:48  
23 million of anticipated Federal funding to close 18:12:53  
24 the short-term budget gap that's been created by 18:12:54



1 the COVID-19 crises.

18:12:57

2 The anticipated Federal revenue  
3 represents a conservative estimate of the  
4 potential fundings. Proposals continue to be  
5 worked out both on the K-12 funding packages,  
6 understanding that the funding would well exceed  
7 the amount that we've included in our budget  
8 here.

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9 And the Stabilization Funding provides  
10 the necessary support to cover emergency  
11 expenses, including those related to remote  
12 learning and the eventual school opening, and as  
13 well as stabilizing and short-term losses in  
14 anticipated revenue that's driven by the State's  
15 financial position augmented by the ongoing  
16 pandemic.

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17 Moving on now to slide 6, we're going  
18 to talk a little bit more about the various  
19 components of the budget. Slide 6 provides --  
20 the chart on the side there provides an overall  
21 view of the three major components of our  
22 budget, the majority of the funding within the  
23 budget proposals for our operating dollars,  
24 which represent 6.9 billion or 83 percent of the

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1 budget. This primarily pays for our day-to-day 18:13:59  
2 operations and is funded through local tax 18:14:02  
3 revenues and State and Federal funding. 18:14:04  
4 The Operating Budget includes \$3.7 18:14:05  
5 billion in salary and benefits, as well as 886 18:14:09  
6 million in teacher pension contributions. 18:14:12  
7 The next largest piece of the budget is 18:14:14  
8 the Capital Investment at \$758 million or 9 18:14:17  
9 percent of the budget. And the Capital Budget 18:14:21  
10 pays for both renovations and expansions of 18:14:24  
11 existing schools, as well as other associated 18:14:26  
12 capital facilities costs. Eighty-five percent 18:14:29  
13 of the funds within the Capital Funding are 18:14:32  
14 generated from the issuance of bonds. 18:14:35  
15 And finally, the third component of the 18:14:35  
16 proposed budget is the Debt Service Funding, and 18:14:37  
17 this is 711 million in FY21, representing 8 18:14:39  
18 percent of the overall budget. The Debt Service 18:14:44  
19 Funding is necessary to pay interest in 18:14:46  
20 principals on bonds. And these -- this cost is 18:14:48  
21 primarily funded through State revenues and 18:14:51  
22 personal property replacement taxes. 18:14:54  
23 Moving on now to slide 7 to focus a 18:15:00  
24 little bit more specifically on the Operating 18:15:02



1 Budget, slide 7 provides the breakdown of our 18:15:04  
2 sources of revenue. State revenues comprise 27 18:15:08  
3 percent of the overall operating revenues that 18:15:13  
4 we as a District receive. The State revenues 18:15:15  
5 come in at about 1.85 billion, and this includes 18:15:18  
6 the funding under the evidence-based funding 18:15:22  
7 formula, teacher pension normal costs and some 18:15:24  
8 categorical grants. 18:15:27  
9 The State revenue in Illinois, and CPS 18:15:29  
10 in particular, represents a lower portion of 18:15:32  
11 overall operating revenues in other districts, 18:15:33  
12 which increases the reliance on local revenues 18:15:35  
13 which represent the largest portion of our 18:15:38  
14 funding. Local revenues represent 54 percent of 18:15:40  
15 our overall operating costs at about \$3.75 18:15:44  
16 billion. And this is comprised of local 18:15:48  
17 sources, primarily property taxes, personal 18:15:50  
18 property replacement tax and TIF surplus. 18:15:52  
19 The third component of our revenue on 18:15:55  
20 the Operating Budget is the Federal dollars, 18:15:58  
21 which represents an increase this year in a 18:16:01  
22 higher proportion inclusive of the Federal 18:16:04  
23 Stabilization Fund Assumptions. We're 18:16:06  
24 anticipating \$1.3 billion in Federal funding 18:16:09



1 this year, representing about 19 percent of the 18:16:13  
2 budget. This includes both the ongoing title 18:16:14  
3 and categorical funding under Lunchroom and 18:16:17  
4 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 18:16:19  
5 funding and as well as, as I mentioned, 18:16:22  
6 anticipated Federal revenues under the CARES Act 18:16:25  
7 and the secondary funding for Stabilization. 18:16:27

8 Looking now at the Operating Budget by 18:16:36  
9 location, the chart on here illustrates where 18:16:38  
10 the funds in the Operating Budget are 18:16:42  
11 directly -- what area of the work they are 18:16:45  
12 directly impacting. You can see that the 18:16:48  
13 District schools receive 48 percent of the 18:16:52  
14 overall Operating Budget directly allocated out 18:16:54  
15 to schools, with another 36 percent of funding 18:16:57  
16 coming through the city-wide budget for services 18:16:59  
17 that are budgeted centrally but directly impact 18:17:02  
18 school's operations. 18:17:06

19 Finally, charter school allocations at 18:17:07  
20 11 percent also support their day-to-day 18:17:09  
21 operations very similar to the District schools 18:17:13  
22 and city-wide services. Those are dollars that 18:17:15  
23 are provided to them to operate under their 18:17:18  
24 budgeting structure. 18:17:21



1 All told, 95 percent of the Operating  
2 Budget directly supports schools across the  
3 District allocations, the city-wide allocations  
4 and the charter school funding. The remaining  
5 less than 5 percent supports the Central Office  
6 and Network costs associated with this work.

7 While the previous slide shows the  
8 Operating Budget by location, slide 9 provides  
9 an illustration of how the dollars are allocated  
10 by account. The gray portion as well as the  
11 brown portion of this graph represent the  
12 teacher salaries and teacher pension with the  
13 blue benefits piece as well showing those are  
14 the largest proportions of our Operating Budget.  
15 And across teacher salaries and benefits, as  
16 well as ESP salaries and benefits, salaries and  
17 benefits total comprise about 77 percent of the  
18 overall Operating Budget. This also includes  
19 the charter tuition, which primarily funds their  
20 salary and benefits for their staff.

21 The remaining 23 percent of the budget  
22 is a combination of non-personnel expenses that  
23 include things like instructional supplies,  
24 equipment, software, transportation, minor

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1 building repair, as well as contractual services 18:18:36  
2 that provide additional head count and resources 18:18:39  
3 directly into schools, like the Facilities 18:18:42  
4 Management and the Safe Passage contracts. 18:18:44

5 Slide 10 provides another view of the 18:18:52  
6 Operating Budget investments, this time by FTEs. 18:18:54  
7 The yellow portion of this represents the 18:18:58  
8 largest portion of our investment, teachers. 18:19:00  
9 Over 20,000 FTE positions where the teachers are 18:19:03  
10 funded through the Operating Budget, followed 18:19:07  
11 closely by school support staff at just over 18:19:09  
12 11,000. 18:19:12

13 Additionally, city-wide student support 18:19:13  
14 is the third blue piece of this graph, which 18:19:15  
15 represents about 5,000 positions. 18:19:19

16 All told, the CPS FY21 Budget includes 18:19:22  
17 over 39,000 FTEs, and 97 percent of these 18:19:25  
18 directly support schools. The teacher, school 18:19:28  
19 support staff and school administrators make up 18:19:33  
20 84 percent of the employees, while another 13 18:19:36  
21 percent provide the city-wide services that are 18:19:38  
22 staff budgeted centrally but sent to schools on 18:19:41  
23 a daily basis. Less than 3 percent of the 18:19:43  
24 positions overall are Central Office 18:19:45



1 administrative positions.

18:19:47

2 Moving on to slide 11, the chart in  
3 front of you highlights the District's net cash  
4 position. And despite an improved overall  
5 financial position, the District still continues  
6 to need to borrow to meet cash obligations. The  
7 gray line in the center represents zero, and as  
8 you can see since 2014 the District has  
9 consistently ended the year with a negative cash  
10 position, including June 30th, FY2020, the last  
11 ending fiscal year. We're also projecting a net  
12 negative cash position during the majority of  
13 FY21.

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14 Now looking specifically at the debt  
15 service component of the proposed budget, the  
16 bar chart on slide 12 illustrates the District's  
17 long-term debt. To date we have \$8.1 billion in  
18 outstanding debt that supports the capital  
19 projects. In FY2021, the proposed \$711 million  
20 to service that longstanding debt.

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21 Moving on to slide 13 and looking into  
22 pension costs, the pension costs as illustrated  
23 on slide 13 show the State contributions there  
24 in the green bars, as well as the comparison to

18:21:01

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18:21:11



1 the Chicago pensions in the blue bars. While 18:21:13  
2 funding in both cases has increased over the 18:21:16  
3 recent years, the allocations are represented 18:21:18  
4 here as per student costs. And you can see that 18:21:22  
5 there continues to be an inequity between 18:21:24  
6 Chicago and other school districts in Illinois 18:21:27  
7 and how pensions are funded and at what level. 18:21:28  
8 Outside of Chicago districts receive 18:21:32  
9 the equivalent of about \$3200 per student for 18:21:33  
10 their pension costs. And within the City of 18:21:38  
11 Chicago we expect to receive in FY21 the 18:21:41  
12 equivalent of about \$742 per student for our 18:21:45  
13 pension. 18:21:49  
14 Continuing with pension costs, this 18:21:54  
15 chart shows that the teacher pension obligation 18:21:56  
16 will continue to grow for the next 40 years 18:21:59  
17 through FY2059. And even though the State only 18:22:01  
18 provides a portion of the funding, we will have 18:22:05  
19 a dedicated property tax revenue -- we now have 18:22:07  
20 a dedicated property tax levy that will grow 18:22:11  
21 over the next 10 to 15 years to meet that 18:22:14  
22 obligation without diverting operating dollars 18:22:17  
23 to the costs. So while the costs on the CPS 18:22:20  
24 side will continue to escalate, we have a 18:22:22



1 dedicated revenue strain which will allow us to 18:22:25  
2 meet those obligations. 18:22:27

3 Understanding that the Operating Budget 18:22:34  
4 as proposed includes Federal Stabilization 18:22:36  
5 Funding, we are providing some -- we have looked 18:22:38  
6 at options for balancing the budget in the 18:22:42  
7 absence of the Federal support coming in at the 18:22:45  
8 levels that we fully anticipate. Utilizing 18:22:48  
9 financial strategies, including debt service, 18:22:50  
10 stabilization funds and grant contingencies, 18:22:53  
11 would allow us access to onetime funding options 18:22:56  
12 to cover costs in FY2021. However, this will 18:22:58  
13 have a significant impact on the District's 18:23:01  
14 financial position in FY22 and would likely 18:23:02  
15 require us to revisit funding decisions as the 18:23:05  
16 budget as proposed utilizes stabilization 18:23:07  
17 funding to fully fund schools and department 18:23:11  
18 functions. It is essential for the Federal 18:23:12  
19 government to protect schools across the 18:23:14  
20 country, and we have every reason to believe 18:23:16  
21 that the Stabilization dollars will allow us to 18:23:19  
22 do just that. 18:23:21

23 Finally, looking into the Capital 18:23:27  
24 Budget component of the proposed budget, we are 18:23:29



1 including in our proposed plan an overall 18:23:32  
2 investment of \$758 million in FY21 for capital. 18:23:35  
3 This includes two primary areas that are our 18:23:41  
4 largest areas of investment around facility 18:23:45  
5 needs at 314 million and educational programming 18:23:45  
6 at 202. 18:23:48

7 The educational programming allows us 18:23:50  
8 to continue to provide the capital investments 18:23:52  
9 necessary for the continued expansion of pre-K, 18:23:54  
10 the ADA accessibility, other upgrades around 18:23:57  
11 science labs and other facility needs that allow 18:24:01  
12 us to continue to engage in increasing our 18:24:04  
13 programmatic offerings under the RFP and align 18:24:08  
14 to other academic priorities. 18:24:13

15 Finally, the Capital Plan Funding 18:24:16  
16 Strategy reflects \$653 million in guaranteed 18:24:18  
17 resources. These are backed by our anticipated 18:24:22  
18 bond offerings and other committed funding 18:24:24  
19 sources. The plan also includes 50 million in 18:24:28  
20 State funding for the construction of a new 18:24:30  
21 school, as well as 55 million in other potential 18:24:33  
22 external funding for the total of 758 as 18:24:35  
23 reflected in the budget proposal. 18:24:38

24 Mr. President, that concludes the 18:24:41



1 presentation. 18:24:42

2 PRESIDENT del VALLE: Thank you, 18:24:44

3 Heather. 18:24:47

4 Board members, any comments or 18:24:47

5 questions? 18:24:49

6 If there aren't any, at this time let's 18:24:57

7 now proceed with today's public comment segment. 18:24:59

8 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, 18:25:05

9 Mr. President. 18:25:06

10 For the record I would like to note 18:25:07

11 that registration for the public hearing began 18:25:09

12 on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. and 18:25:11

13 closed on Friday, August 14th, at -- 2020 at 18:25:16

14 5:00 p.m. or until all 30 slots filled or 18:25:20

15 whichever occurred first. 18:25:23

16 Individuals who registered to speak 18:25:24

17 will have two minutes to comment. In order to 18:25:26

18 facilitate and expedite the public comment 18:25:30

19 segment, I will be calling speakers out of order 18:25:33

20 and grouping them. Members of the public may 18:25:36

21 submit written comments related to the FY21 18:25:38

22 tentative budget via the written comments form 18:25:42

23 on the Board's website at [www.cpsboe.org](http://www.cpsboe.org) or mail 18:25:45

24 to 1 North Dearborn, Suite 950, by 5:00 p.m., 18:25:53



1 Thursday, August 20th, 2020. 18:25:57

2 This hearing will conclude after the 18:25:59

3 last person who has registered to speak has 18:26:01

4 spoken or at 8:00 p.m., whichever occurs first. 18:26:04

5 When called, please state your name for the 18:26:10

6 record. 18:26:10

7 And, Mr. President, I will start by 18:26:13

8 calling the first speaker on the speakers' list. 18:26:15

9 We have Anna Ihana please. Anna Ihana. 18:26:18

10 We'll continue with the second speaker, 18:26:39

11 Mr. President, and then come back to Ms. Ihana. 18:26:42

12 Do we have speaker 16, Deepak Bapu, on the line? 18:26:46

13 We'll move on to the next speaker then, 18:26:58

14 speaker number 3, Karla Altmayer. 18:27:00

15 I see Mr. Bapu on the line. Mr. Bapu, 18:27:06

16 can you hear me? 18:27:10

17 MR. BAPU: Yes. 18:27:11

18 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. Can you 18:27:12

19 proceed with your comments. You have two 18:27:13

20 minutes to address the Board. 18:27:14

21 MR. BAPU: Yes. Thank you. 18:27:16

22 Thank you for your time, consideration 18:27:20

23 in allowing me to speak in front of the Board. 18:27:22

24 I'm speaking on behalf of Sauganash Elementary 18:27:24



1 for a capital expansion. 18:27:28

2 Our school is currently overcrowded, 18:27:30

3 and the number of students is increasing every 18:27:32

4 year. My primary concern is safety. We are 18:27:35

5 repurposing rooms that are not meant for 18:27:41

6 instruction and having significant numbers of 18:27:44

7 students in the hallways, and this is 18:27:46

8 inconsistent with best safety practices. These 18:27:48

9 concerns become worse every year if the number 18:27:53

10 of students gets larger. 18:27:56

11 I'd also like to highlight some aspects 18:27:57

12 of our school. Sauganash families represent 18:28:00

13 over 40 languages spoken, and 45 percent of our 18:28:02

14 students are dual language. Additionally, 29 18:28:06

15 percent of the school is low income. 18:28:09

16 On a personal note, my family chose 18:28:12

17 Sauganash because of the neighborhood, the 18:28:14

18 school and that we remain close to our cultural 18:28:16

19 spirits of family and community. I grew up in 18:28:20

20 Chicago, and like many Sauganash parents, living 18:28:24

21 in Sauganash allows us to remain close to the 18:28:26

22 various communities from which we come. I 18:28:29

23 believe this is reflected in our school's 18:28:31

24 tremendous diversity. 18:28:33





1 I hope you approve our school's capital 18:28:35  
2 expansion. Thank you again for your time and 18:28:38  
3 consideration. 18:28:41  
4 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Mr. Bapu 18:28:45  
5 for your comments. 18:28:46  
6 Mr. President, we'll proceed with the 18:28:47  
7 third speaker please, we have Karla Altmayer 18:28:48  
8 please. 18:28:51  
9 MS. ALTMAYER: Yes, can you hear me. 18:28:51  
10 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, we can hear 18:29:02  
11 you, Ms. Altmayer. You have two minutes to 18:29:03  
12 address the Board, you can proceed. 18:29:05  
13 MS. ALTMAYER: Thank you. 18:29:07  
14 Good evening, Board members, my name is 18:29:07  
15 Karla Altmayer, and I'm a co-director and 18:29:09  
16 co-founder of Healing to Action, a Chicago-based 18:29:11  
17 nonprofit that works to end gender-based 18:29:15  
18 violence by building the leadership and 18:29:18  
19 collective power of the communities most 18:29:19  
20 impacted. 18:29:21  
21 My question is around funding for 18:29:22  
22 comprehensive sexual education. This year 18:29:24  
23 Healing to Action in collaboration with over 200 18:29:26  
24 caregivers, youths and educators across Chicago 18:29:29



1 launched a practice campaign to ensure that 18:29:32  
2 comprehensive sexual education is accessible to 18:29:35  
3 every student in every zip code. That 18:29:38  
4 caregivers receive meaningful support to 18:29:40  
5 reinforce these critical lessons at home and 18:29:42  
6 that community members have a say in ensuring 18:29:45  
7 equitable implementation. 18:29:50

8 Right now 70 percent of the District is 18:29:52  
9 not in compliance with the current policy, which 18:29:53  
10 in parts of many of its requirements requires at 18:29:56  
11 a very minimum two educators trained at each 18:29:59  
12 school. And data from a recent FOIA request 18:30:02  
13 shows that the majority of those schools are 18:30:05  
14 located in black and brown communities on the 18:30:07  
15 south and west sides of the city. We've 18:30:09  
16 actually been in touch with the Office of 18:30:11  
17 Student Health and Wellness and aware that a new 18:30:14  
18 policy is being developed but that policy 18:30:16  
19 continues to miss key resources to address 18:30:18  
20 implementation gaps. 18:30:19

21 In calculating the costs of 18:30:21  
22 implementing comprehensive sex ed, I looked at 18:30:23  
23 the cost of ensuring that the educators -- that 18:30:26  
24 means ensuring the educators can take a day or a 18:30:28



1 day off -- a half day off to receive the 18:30:31  
2 District's training. If there are two educators 18:30:34  
3 in each of the 462 schools of the District and 18:30:36  
4 the cost of the substitute teacher in each 18:30:39  
5 school is approximately \$126 a day, it should 18:30:42  
6 not require more than \$175,000 -- \$175,000 to 18:30:46  
7 implement comprehensive sexual education in all 18:30:51  
8 of the schools. 18:30:54  
9 Funding is just one of many barriers, 18:30:55  
10 it's not the only one, but it is a key barrier 18:30:57  
11 to ensuring that any education is available to 18:31:00  
12 all the students from K through 12. And in a 18:31:03  
13 \$4 billion budget, investing \$175,000, the 18:31:06  
14 equivalent of the cost of one police officer's 18:31:08  
15 salary, could be the difference between 18:31:11  
16 experiencing gender-based violence or having the 18:31:13  
17 communication skills and tools that consent to 18:31:16  
18 prevent and end gender-based violence for a 18:31:19  
19 whole generation. 18:31:21  
20 So as the District considers where 18:31:22  
21 redirected funds are allocated, I would 18:31:25  
22 encourage the District to allocate the salary of 18:31:28  
23 one of those officers to preventing violence in 18:31:30  
24 our community by funding to ensure comprehensive 18:31:32



1 sex ed for all CPS students regardless of their 18:31:35  
2 zip code. Thank you. 18:31:38  
3 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. President, 18:31:45  
4 we'll continue with the next speaker, speaker 18:31:46  
5 number 4, Aurelia Aguilar please. Ms. Aguilar? 18:31:48  
6 We'll continue with the next speaker and go back 18:32:08  
7 to Ms. Aguilar. 18:32:09  
8 Do we have speaker number 5, Maria 18:32:11  
9 Serrano? 18:32:13  
10 Aidan, can you please unmute 18:32:24  
11 Ms. Aguilar? 18:32:28  
12 Ms. Aguilar, can you hear me? 18:32:28  
13 Ms. Aguilar, can you please unmute 18:33:01  
14 yourself? 18:33:04  
15 (Whereupon, the following 18:33:04  
16 comments were spoken in Spanish 18:33:04  
17 and translated to English.) 18:33:04  
18 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. President, the 18:35:28  
19 translator will now state her comments in 18:35:29  
20 English please. 18:35:32  
21 THE INTERPRETER: Hi, my name is 18:35:33  
22 Aurelia Aguilar, I am a member of Healing to 18:35:37  
23 Action and a mother of a CPS student that 18:35:40  
24 attends Roosevelt High School. My question is 18:35:42



1 about the funding for the Office of Student 18:35:44  
2 Health and Wellness when it comes to 18:35:46  
3 implementation of comprehensive sexual health 18:35:48  
4 education. 18:35:52

5 Right now the Office of Student Health 18:35:52  
6 and Wellness is working to change the policy of 18:35:54  
7 sexual health education to make sure that the 18:35:57  
8 students have a better service to establish 18:35:59  
9 these policies and the curriculum regarding 18:36:05  
10 LGBTQ should be accessible to all students, but 18:36:09  
11 in my community a lot of the parents are 18:36:12  
12 disappointed with the training that educators 18:36:14  
13 are receiving. Sometimes a teacher don't know 18:36:16  
14 how to address these issues and they don't 18:36:18  
15 educate our students well. Thank you. 18:36:24

16 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you for the 18:36:27  
17 translation. 18:36:28

18 Mr. President, we'll continue with the 18:36:29  
19 next speaker, number 5, Maria Serrano please. 18:36:31  
20 Ms. Serrano? 18:36:40

21 (Whereupon, the following 18:36:40  
22 comments were spoken in Spanish 18:36:40  
23 and translated to English.) 18:36:40

24 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. President, we 18:39:09



1 will now have the translator proceed. 18:39:10

2 THE INTERPRETER: My name is Maria 18:39:12

3 Serrano, I am a member of Healing to Action, and 18:39:20

4 I'm a mother of two CPS students. They attended 18:39:22

5 Maria Saucedo, a school with almost a thousand 18:39:26

6 students in the neighborhood of Little Village. 18:39:30

7 My question is about funding for the Office of 18:39:32

8 Student Health and Wellness when it comes to the 18:39:34

9 implementation of comprehensive sexual health 18:39:37

10 education. 18:39:39

11 This year my daughter graduated 8th 18:39:39

12 grade, and when I asked here if she had any 18:39:42

13 special health education during this time, her 18:39:44

14 answer was no. And through this information I 18:39:47

15 learned that my daughter is part of the 70 18:39:49

16 percent of students in the District who are not 18:39:52

17 receiving comprehensive sexual education. And 18:39:55

18 most of these students live on the west and 18:39:58

19 south sides of the city, such as, Little 18:40:00

20 Village. 18:40:03

21 I recently spoke with members of the 18:40:03

22 Office of Student Health and Wellness, and they 18:40:05

23 said that they are now supporting ten schools so 18:40:05

24 that they can implement sexual health education. 18:40:08



1 These schools are Englewood, Lindblom, Juarez, 18:40:11  
2 Clemente, Payton, Lane Tech and Wells. But the 18:40:15  
3 Office of Student Health and Wellness told us 18:40:20  
4 that they are using funds to ensure that 18:40:22  
5 comprehensive education is implemented in these 18:40:25  
6 schools, but it is important that almost half of 18:40:28  
7 these schools already have several resources 18:40:30  
8 invested in them. 18:40:35

9 So my question was of which half 18:40:36  
10 already have multiple resources implemented to 18:40:39  
11 apply policy, this should be District-wide. How 18:40:43  
12 are we going to make sure that the sexual 18:40:45  
13 education policy is implemented throughout the 18:40:47  
14 District, including all elementary schools? 18:40:50

15 As a mother, an activist, I see that 18:40:53  
16 this budget has to include funds to ensure that 18:40:56  
17 all CPS students have access to sexual health 18:41:00  
18 education, especially now when there are 18:41:03  
19 students living in homes where they do not feel 18:41:07  
20 safe and there are incidents of online 18:41:07  
21 harassment. Thank you. 18:41:09

22 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. 18:41:10

23 Mr. President, we'll proceed with the 18:41:11  
24 speakers' list, and our next speaker will be 18:41:13



1 speaker number 6, Melissa Ramirez please. 18:41:15  
2 Ms. Ramirez? 18:41:23  
3 MS. RAMIREZ: Hello. 18:41:25  
4 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, Ms. Ramirez, 18:41:29  
5 can you hear me? 18:41:30  
6 MS. RAMIREZ: Yes, I can. 18:41:30  
7 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. You 18:41:32  
8 have two minutes to address the Board, and you 18:41:33  
9 can proceed. 18:41:35  
10 MS. RAMIREZ: Good afternoon, my name 18:41:35  
11 is Melissa Ramirez, and I'm calling on behalf of 18:41:37  
12 Grissom Elementary. I want to bring my school 18:41:41  
13 to your attention once more and hope that you 18:41:44  
14 will reconsider investing in our school. The 18:41:47  
15 numbers don't quite look right when you look at 18:41:51  
16 our utilization report, it looks like we are 110 18:41:54  
17 capacity, maybe a little bit higher, but that 18:41:59  
18 capacity rate is not taking in consideration of 18:42:01  
19 the space needed for our diverse learners and 18:42:05  
20 our EL students. After giving every teacher a 18:42:08  
21 homeroom, there's no space for our diverse 18:42:12  
22 learners to learn or for our EL student 18:42:13  
23 services. Our ELs are currently receiving 18:42:17  
24 services in a little multi-purpose office kind 18:42:19





1 of a room, so they're getting services and then 18:42:23  
2 they need to leave and maybe go to the hallway 18:42:25  
3 so that an IEP meeting can occur. And then also 18:42:27  
4 while an IEP meeting is occurring, the parents 18:42:32  
5 do not have any privacy because clinicians are 18:42:34  
6 coming in and out to get to their job. And 18:42:37  
7 we're not doing this on purpose, but we have no 18:42:41  
8 other option. 18:42:43

9 Our pre-K was relocated to Saint 18:42:44  
10 Columbus Church. We heard that Saint Columbus 18:42:48  
11 Church, the building owned by the Archdiocese is 18:42:50  
12 being remodeled to house our pre-K, and we would 18:42:52  
13 like to see that money reinvested into Grissom 18:42:55  
14 Elementary for a long-term solution. Bring our 18:42:58  
15 pre-K home, let's have them on site so that they 18:43:01  
16 can be part of our school community school too 18:43:04  
17 and not have to walk that 1.3 miles, which is a 18:43:06  
18 27-minute walk to the church. 18:43:10

19 And then we look at our diverse 18:43:12  
20 learners, we don't have enough classrooms for 18:43:13  
21 them. So this year we are expecting to have 18:43:16  
22 three diverse learner teachers sharing a 18:43:18  
23 standard size classroom and hope to have three 18:43:24  
24 classes at once. I understand the pandemic is 18:43:27



1 going on, when the pandemic is over school will 18:43:30  
2 return to normal. While the general ed students 18:43:31  
3 have their own dedicated classroom, diverse 18:43:32  
4 learners have to share a classroom, that's not 18:43:35  
5 equitable. 18:43:37

6 It seems that you might be making some 18:43:39  
7 improvements at Sauganash, that's great, I would 18:43:41  
8 like to see that done at my school as well. I 18:43:43  
9 am seriously hoping that you'll reconsider our 18:43:46  
10 school, we want our kids to be college and 18:43:49  
11 career ready. At the same time we have to get 18:43:51  
12 rid of our library in order to make a homeroom 18:43:54  
13 so we're not able to teach them how to use a 18:43:56  
14 library as they would do in college. 18:43:59

15 We are also a magnet arts, magnet 18:44:04  
16 performing school, however, our art is on a 18:44:09  
17 cart. We obviously don't have a classroom for 18:44:12  
18 the art teacher. 18:44:15

19 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Ramirez? 18:44:18

20 MS. RAMIREZ: Yes. 18:44:19

21 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you for your 18:44:20  
22 comments. 18:44:20

23 MS. RAMIREZ: Okay. 18:44:21

24 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. President, 18:44:23



1 we'll proceed with the next speaker from 18:44:24  
2 Grissom, we have speaker number 8, Paulina 18:44:27  
3 Torrejon please. Do we have Paulina on? 18:44:31  
4 MS. TORREJON: Hello. 18:44:39  
5 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, Paulina, you 18:44:45  
6 can proceed. You have two minutes. 18:44:47  
7 MS. TORREJON: Okay. Thank you. 18:44:51  
8 Hi, my name is Paulina Torrejon, I'm 18:44:52  
9 going to be a 7th grader at Virgil I. Grissom 18:44:53  
10 Elementary School. For years I have had to 18:44:58  
11 experience firsthand overcrowding, and I am here 18:45:00  
12 for the third time to once again to ask CPS to 18:45:02  
13 quickly address these issues about my 18:45:05  
14 overcrowded school because splitting the classes 18:45:07  
15 will not be enough for this issue to be solved. 18:45:11  
16 Recently my language arts class and my 18:45:13  
17 math class had to be split. However, my science 18:45:16  
18 class is still one big classroom. In my school 18:45:19  
19 the middle school classes far exceed the CPS 18:45:22  
20 guidelines that there should be no classroom 18:45:26  
21 with more than 31 students from 4th through 8th 18:45:29  
22 grade. This is simply unacceptable. 18:45:32  
23 First of all, my art class is on a 18:45:34  
24 cart. Our school is supposed to be a fun and 18:45:37



1 performing arts and magnet program, how can it 18:45:40  
2 be possible if my art class is on a cart? My 18:45:43  
3 art teacher should not have to push around a 18:45:46  
4 cart in order to teach her classes and carry her 18:45:48  
5 supplies. She should have her own classroom, 18:45:52  
6 teach her classes and access her supplies 18:45:54  
7 easily. My class would then have more 18:45:58  
8 opportunity to create more artwork, such as, 18:46:00  
9 sculptures, art dream catchers, instead of just 18:46:03  
10 pencil and paper. 18:46:06

11 Secondly, my school should have an 18:46:07  
12 actual cafeteria, and my school should not have 18:46:11  
13 to use a gym cafetorium and after school sports 18:46:14  
14 in one place. It's a hazard for school sports 18:46:17  
15 teams to be in the gym cafetorium since there 18:46:20  
16 are chairs and tables in the way of practices. 18:46:26  
17 Due to harsh weather it's hard for my school to 18:46:27  
18 actually take a break from class if we have to 18:46:30  
19 sit still and do nothing. 18:46:33

20 Thirdly, my class -- my science class 18:46:34  
21 is overcrowded for my class to have a real 18:46:37  
22 opportunity to experiment and have a laboratory 18:46:42  
23 to do them in. My school cannot have -- my 18:46:44  
24 class cannot have -- cannot work in these 18:46:47



1 conditions, this is why I'm fighting for my 18:46:49  
2 school. It should not be overcrowded. I am 18:46:54  
3 fighting for the students at Grissom to receive 18:46:56  
4 the same quality of education that is offered to 18:46:58  
5 those students on the north side of Chicago 18:47:01  
6 where the students have smaller class sizes. I 18:47:03  
7 will continue to fight for these issues until we 18:47:07  
8 receive the resources and funding that the 18:47:09  
9 students at Grissom deserve. Our education 18:47:10  
10 matters. 18:47:13  
11 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, 18:47:15  
12 Ms. Torrejon. 18:47:16  
13 MS. TORREJON: Thank you. 18:47:17  
14 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. 18:47:18  
15 Mr. President, we'll proceed with the 18:47:19  
16 next speaker, speaker number 10 please, Mary 18:47:21  
17 Hughes. Ms. Hughes? 18:47:24  
18 MS. HUGHES: Hello. 18:47:31  
19 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, Ms. Hughes, 18:47:36  
20 can you hear me? 18:47:37  
21 MS. HUGHES: Yes, I can. Thank you. 18:47:38  
22 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. You 18:47:40  
23 have two minutes to address the Board, you can 18:47:41  
24 proceed. 18:47:43



1 MS. HUGHES: Thank you. 18:47:43

2 Hello, Board President del Valle and 18:47:45  
3 members of the Board, my name is Mary Hughes, 18:47:47  
4 I'm with Raise Your Hand, and I'm concerned that 18:47:50  
5 174 special ed classroom assistants, SECAs, 18:47:54  
6 positions have been cut in the budget 2021. 18:47:58

7 When school ended in June the student 18:48:02  
8 IEPs reflected X number of SECA minutes per 18:48:04  
9 school requiring a certain number of then active 18:48:08  
10 SECA positions per school. As there were few 18:48:12  
11 IEP meetings held over the summer, there's no 18:48:15  
12 reason why there should be 174 fewer SECA 18:48:18  
13 positions in the budget. 18:48:21

14 I believe the ODLSS formula for SECAs 18:48:22  
15 is incorrect. Several principals, who requested 18:48:25  
16 to remain anonymous, shared with me that the 18:48:27  
17 current SECA staffing formula is incorrect. 18:48:30  
18 They further shared that they knew that they had 18:48:32  
19 scheduled their school staff as efficiently as 18:48:34  
20 possible, and that the staffing shortfall could 18:48:39  
21 not be resolved by staggering SECA start times 18:48:39  
22 as ODLSS administration suggested. 18:48:42

23 Even when ODLSS network reps agreed 18:48:45  
24 with the school administrators that the current 18:48:49



1 SECA staffing formula led to staffing shortfall 18:48:50  
2 in certain schools, ODLSS administration refused 18:48:53  
3 to budge on approving appeals for these 18:48:56  
4 positions. For brevity, please see the e-mail I 18:48:57  
5 sent you for explanation of the formula error. 18:49:01

6 This kind of carving away services is 18:49:04  
7 too familiar and will lead to students being 18:49:08  
8 delayed or denied legally mandated SECA services 18:49:11  
9 when school begins in November. 18:49:14

10 Board members, please investigate this 18:49:17  
11 issue and talk to principals who have denied 18:49:18  
12 their appeals for SECA positions. Remote 18:49:21  
13 special education requires so much more 18:49:24  
14 preparation time on the part of parents, 18:49:24  
15 teachers, SECAs and related service providers. 18:49:26  
16 And, if anything, the CPS special ed budget 18:49:28  
17 should reflect additional SECA positions to 18:49:32  
18 assist teachers who are working with students 18:49:34  
19 who need that extra attention and support in 18:49:36  
20 order to access special education remotely. 18:49:39

21 Please consider using some of the 18:49:43  
22 COVID-19 funds to shore up staffing in support 18:49:44  
23 for students with disabilities during this time 18:49:48  
24 of remote special education. CPS needs to 18:49:50



1 address the students who attempted to engage in 18:49:53  
2 remote learning without needed accommodations 18:49:55  
3 and learning tools like visual schedules, 18:49:58  
4 timers, seat cushions, fidget items, sensory 18:50:01  
5 items, et cetera. In addition to devices that 18:50:04  
6 provide computer access, students with 18:50:07  
7 disabilities who have accommodations in tools 18:50:10  
8 set out in their IEPs need those tools made 18:50:12  
9 available to them in their homes to honor their 18:50:17  
10 learning needs and improve student outcomes. 18:50:19  
11 Thank you. 18:50:22  
12 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, 18:50:23  
13 Ms. Hughes, thank you for your comment. 18:50:23  
14 Mr. President, we'll proceed with the 18:50:25  
15 next speaker please, speaker number 11, Chris 18:50:26  
16 Yun please. Chris Yun? 18:50:32  
17 MS. YUN: Yes. Can you hear me? 18:50:38  
18 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, we can hear 18:50:39  
19 you. You have two minutes to address the Board 18:50:41  
20 please. 18:50:43  
21 MS. YUN: Oh, yes. Hi. 18:50:43  
22 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Please proceed. 18:50:44  
23 MS. YUN: Hi. Good evening, President 18:50:45  
24 del Valle and members of the Board, my name is 18:50:47





1 Chris Yun, and I'm the education policy analyst 18:50:50  
2 with Access Living, accessibility rights of 18:50:51  
3 education in Chicago. Today I'm here to 18:50:54  
4 partition the Board to redirect CPS's school 18:50:57  
5 accessibility improvement plan and make schools 18:51:00  
6 fully accessible for students. 18:51:05

7 First of all, we welcome CPS's 18:51:06  
8 commitment of \$20 million for ADA improvement 18:51:08  
9 project. However, CPS's plan of spending \$20 18:51:12  
10 million next year and a total of \$100 million 18:51:16  
11 over the next five years to make every school 18:51:20  
12 accessible is seriously miscalculated because 18:51:23  
13 doing so will not enhance any education and 18:51:27  
14 accessibility for students with mobility 18:51:27  
15 disabilities. It also excludes any parent or 18:51:33  
16 family members with disabilities from parenting 18:51:35  
17 by limiting their access to first floors when 18:51:38  
18 education is on other floors. 18:51:40

19 When improving school accessibility, 18:51:45  
20 CPS should prioritize students' access to 18:51:45  
21 educational spaces, such as, classrooms, 18:51:53  
22 cafeteria, gym and library, and making schools 18:51:54  
23 fully accessible is the only way to achieve this 18:51:57  
24 goal. As of today more than half of CPS schools 18:52:00



1 are not available for students with mobility 18:52:04  
2 disabilities to attend due to a lack of full 18:52:08  
3 accessibility. 18:52:08  
4 On the south and west sides of the 18:52:08  
5 city, black and brown students need to travel 18:52:08  
6 further distance than their peers on north side 18:52:17  
7 due to the severe lack of accessible schools and 18:52:19  
8 high-quality programs. CPS needs to make more 18:52:22  
9 schools fully accessible to bring equity to its 18:52:25  
10 students. 18:52:28  
11 Here are our recommendations to include 18:52:29  
12 school accessibility: 18:52:32  
13 No. 1: Make a school fully accessible 18:52:33  
14 so students with a mobility disability can 18:52:36  
15 access and enjoy the same academic programs as 18:52:37  
16 her peers without disabilities too. 18:52:37  
17 No. 2: Prioritize schools in the south 18:52:46  
18 and west sides. The severe lack of accessible 18:52:48  
19 schools hurt black and brown students and their 18:52:49  
20 communities and places an extra burden on the 18:52:51  
21 students to travel further distance to attend 18:52:55  
22 accessible schools. 18:52:58  
23 No. 3: Devote more ADA capital 18:52:59  
24 investment. CPS -- 18:53:01



1 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Yun? 18:53:03

2 MS. YUN: -- needs ADA improvement, but 18:53:05

3 20 million makes up less than 3 percent of the 18:53:06

4 total capital investment. If CPS is willing to 18:53:09

5 spend funds to provide first floor access to 18:53:14

6 community people, CPS can and should put more 18:53:15

7 resources to make schools fully accessible for 18:53:15

8 their students. 18:53:15

9 Lastly, please create a long-term 18:53:24

10 accessibility plan to make every school fully 18:53:26

11 accessible. CTA has a 20-year-old station 18:53:31

12 accessibility plan by identifying funding to 18:53:32

13 many priorities. We need long-term strategy 18:53:36

14 plan to make every school fully accessible, and 18:53:39

15 CPS should take a leadership role to bring 18:53:41

16 equity to its students and their families. 18:53:44

17 Thank you. 18:53:46

18 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Ms. Yun, 18:53:47

19 thank you for your comments. 18:53:48

20 Mr. President, we'll proceed with the 18:53:49

21 next speaker please, speaker number 12, Alicia 18:53:51

22 Martin please. Ms. Martin? 18:53:55

23 MS. MARTIN: Hi, everyone. 18:54:04

24 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, 18:54:06



1 Ms. Martin. You have two minutes to address the 18:54:07  
2 Board. 18:54:09

3 MS. MARTIN: Thank you. 18:54:09

4 My name is Alicia Martin, and I am a 18:54:13  
5 proud parent of three amazing Alexander Graham 18:54:15  
6 students. I'm here today to present to the 18:54:21  
7 Board an addition to the budget. 18:54:23

8 As you are aware, the CPS school system 18:54:26  
9 serves predominantly low-income families. The 18:54:30  
10 system is made up of 76.4 percent of students 18:54:33  
11 who are economically disadvantaged. Online 18:54:36  
12 learning has created an unexpected expense for 18:54:42  
13 families already devastated from the domino 18:54:45  
14 effects of COVID-19. Families need additional 18:54:49  
15 funding. They need the educational stipend for 18:54:53  
16 CPS students. 18:54:57

17 The educational stipend for CPS 18:54:59  
18 students would provide students with \$500 per 18:55:01  
19 quarter. The funds would help with reoccurring 18:55:05  
20 expenses, the conversion from a home into a 18:55:11  
21 classroom during remote learning and possibly 18:55:14  
22 assist with child care expenses. The stipend 18:55:16  
23 should remain should remain in effect until the 18:55:21  
24 children are in school in person 100 percent of 18:55:26



1 the time. 18:55:30

2 CPS only scratched the surface of an 18:55:30

3 economic issue faced by the CPS families. The 18:55:33

4 educational stipend for CPS students has the 18:55:36

5 potential to accomplish much more. Thank you. 18:55:40

6 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you for your 18:55:45

7 comments. 18:55:45

8 We'll proceed with the next speaker 18:55:48

9 please, speaker number 14, Tim Noonan. 18:55:50

10 Mr. Noonan? 18:55:59

11 MR. NOONAN: Okay. 18:55:59

12 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, Mr. Noonan, 18:56:08

13 can you hear me? 18:56:09

14 MR. NOONAN: Yes, I can hear you. 18:56:09

15 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, you can 18:56:11

16 proceed. Thank you. 18:56:12

17 MR. NOONAN: Hello, my name is Tim 18:56:12

18 Noonan. The \$3 million proposal released by CPS 18:56:17

19 and Alderman O'Shea for Kellogg Elementary is 18:56:20

20 both insulting and disheartening. While we were 18:56:25

21 really happy that the needs -- Kellogg's needs 18:56:28

22 are finally receiving the attention, the people 18:56:29

23 who created the plan must have not been paying 18:56:31

24 attention. 18:56:34



1           Our modular is literally crumbling. 18:56:34  
2       The walls are falling off. This is not 18:56:38  
3       conjecture, we have pictures to prove it. We 18:56:39  
4       were given a plan that not only does not address 18:56:42  
5       the main issue of an addition but would 18:56:44  
6       permanently preclude any addition in the future. 18:56:47  
7       There's only one logical place to expand and 18:56:49  
8       that is on the north end of the building. This 18:56:52  
9       plan puts an elevator on the north end of the 18:56:55  
10      building. This would mean that Kellogg would 18:56:57  
11      never get an addition. And good money after bad 18:57:00  
12      will be invested in a modular that is way beyond 18:57:02  
13      its useful lifetime. Why would any sane person 18:57:07  
14      do this? Especially in a time when we are 18:57:09  
15      tightening our belts. We are presented with a 18:57:11  
16      plan of wanton waste. 18:57:13  
17           Kellogg's LSC needs to be at the table. 18:57:16  
18      We have not been involved with this plan as it 18:57:18  
19      was thrust upon us via an e-mail blast. I'm on 18:57:21  
20      the LSC, I lead the committee that is pursuing 18:57:24  
21      the addition. There's no more capable -- 18:57:28  
22      there's no one more capable to advise on 18:57:30  
23      Kellogg's Elementary needs than the staff, the 18:57:31  
24      parents and most importantly the students who 18:57:33



1 use this building day in and day out. The LSC 18:57:36  
2 has been entrusted by voters and empowered by 18:57:41  
3 the mayor to take the right decisions for 18:57:43  
4 Kellogg. This plan is wrong for Kellogg. We 18:57:46  
5 would be shirking our duties as elected 18:57:51  
6 representatives by accepting this plan prima 18:57:54  
7 fascia. 18:57:56

8 I implore the Board of Education, CPS 18:57:57  
9 and the Alderman and Kellogg to sit down 18:58:00  
10 together in a collaborative manner to develop a 18:58:04  
11 plan that makes sense and is prudent. The 18:58:07  
12 taxpayers deserve this and so do our children. 18:58:10  
13 Again, included in the plan for capital 18:58:14  
14 improvements for Kellogg, we all want to see 18:58:16  
15 Kellogg to be the shining gem that it has proven 18:58:19  
16 to be over the last 80 years. 18:58:23

17 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. Noonan. 18:58:25

18 MR. NOONAN: We also want to be 18:58:27  
19 fiscally responsible with the money the 18:58:27  
20 taxpayers have entrusted us. We look forward to 18:58:28  
21 working together and to make Kellogg another -- 18:58:31  
22 make Kellogg into another successful 80 years. 18:58:33  
23 Thank you for allowing me to speak. 18:58:36

24 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, 18:58:38



1 Mr. Noonan, thank you for your comments. 18:58:38

2 Mr. President, we'll proceed with the 18:58:41

3 next speaker, speaker 15, Elizabeth Triplett 18:58:42

4 please. Ms. Triplett? 18:58:48

5 MS. TRIPLETT: Hello. Can you hear me? 18:58:52

6 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, we can hear 18:58:56

7 you, Ms. Triplett. Can you please proceed? 18:58:57

8 MS. TRIPLETT: Okay. Thank you, 18:59:00

9 President and members of the Board of Education. 18:59:01

10 As an educator for over 28 years and in early 18:59:05

11 childhood for over 15, I was so excited to 18:59:11

12 discover a developmentally appropriate tool for 18:59:15

13 teachers to use with 3 and 4 year olds during -- 18:59:19

14 especially during remote learning. 18:59:25

15 The program is called ReadyRosie, and 18:59:28

16 it provides excellent communication tools to use 18:59:32

17 with parents, especially parents of young 18:59:37

18 children. All children need access to 18:59:40

19 opportunities and rich learning experiences that 18:59:48

20 build their cognitive and social skills so they 18:59:50

21 are ready to learn and thrive in today's 18:59:54

22 rigorous schools and ultimately the workforce. 18:59:57

23 So I am asking that the subscription to 19:00:03

24 ReadyRosie be added to teacher strategies goals 19:00:06





1 that is used in the Early Childhood department. 19:00:13  
2 While teachers doing remote learning and while 19:00:15  
3 using Google Meets, a lot of parents expressed 19:00:20  
4 to me that they needed help with helping their 19:00:22  
5 young children learn different concepts. And 19:00:26  
6 many parents even called me in the evening 19:00:30  
7 because they wanted some strategies to use with 19:00:34  
8 their young children. 19:00:38  
9 This program has been acquired by 19:00:39  
10 Teacher Strategy Goals, a curriculum that's 19:00:43  
11 already used with our Early Childhood program. 19:00:47  
12 And this program provides excellent short videos 19:00:50  
13 that have been proven through research to help 19:00:56  
14 parents become vital partners in educating their 19:01:01  
15 children. I tried to access this program 19:01:05  
16 through Teacher Strategy Goals, a curriculum 19:01:08  
17 that we use in Early Childhood, and they said 19:01:14  
18 Chicago Public Schools hadn't published -- I 19:01:16  
19 mean purchased it. So please purchase this 19:01:19  
20 program for -- to use with the Early Childhood 19:01:22  
21 curriculum. 19:01:25  
22 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. 19:01:26  
23 MS. TRIPLETT: Thank you. 19:01:26  
24 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you for your 19:01:27



1 comments, Ms. Triplett. 19:01:28  
2 Mr. President -- 19:01:30  
3 MS. TRIPLETT: You're welcome. Thank 19:01:30  
4 you. 19:01:31  
5 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. 19:01:32  
6 Mr. President, I would just like to 19:01:32  
7 note for the record that we did have other 19:01:33  
8 registered speakers, but they didn't call in 19:01:36  
9 during the time frame, so I would just like to 19:01:38  
10 say for the record that they can submit their 19:01:41  
11 written comments as noted earlier at 19:01:43  
12 www.cpsboe.org. 19:01:49  
13 So that concludes the speakers' list, 19:01:51  
14 Mr. President. We'll proceed with the elected 19:01:54  
15 officials, and we have Alderman Nugent with us 19:01:55  
16 from the 39th Ward. 19:01:58  
17 Alderman Nugent? Alderman Nugent? 19:02:00  
18 ALDERMAN NUGENT: Good evening. Can 19:02:12  
19 you hear me? 19:02:14  
20 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Yes, we can hear 19:02:14  
21 you. Thank you. 19:02:15  
22 ALDERMAN NUGENT: Perfect. Thank you. 19:02:16  
23 Good evening, President del Valle, 19:02:21  
24 members of the Board, Dr. Jackson and CPS 19:02:23



1 Leadership, I am Samantha Nugent, Alderman of 19:02:25  
2 the 39th Ward of Chicago. Thank you for this 19:02:29  
3 opportunity to speak this evening. While I have 19:02:32  
4 spoken to you individually about Sauganash 19:02:34  
5 Elementary School, I want to reemphasize that 19:02:37  
6 the school community is in dire need of a 19:02:39  
7 capital expansion. 19:02:42  
8 As you know, Sauganash is the most 19:02:44  
9 overcrowded neighborhood school in the city. It 19:02:46  
10 is currently at 124 percent capacity. They're 19:02:49  
11 projected to be at 136 percent in four years. 19:02:52  
12 Enrollment in Sauganash has consistently grown 19:02:56  
13 by 4 percent every year, and last year the 19:02:59  
14 enrollment increased by 6 percent. According to 19:03:02  
15 the Chicago Teachers Union contract, 16 out of 19:03:05  
16 21 homerooms are overcrowded, that's 76 percent. 19:03:08  
17 There is an immediate need for a capital 19:03:12  
18 expansion to reduce overcrowding at Sauganash 19:03:14  
19 and provide students with a safe learning 19:03:17  
20 environment. 19:03:19  
21 Sauganash is 29.5 percent low income 19:03:20  
22 with 44 languages spoken. Twenty-four percent 19:03:24  
23 of the students are English Language Learners. 19:03:27  
24 Teachers have been forced to use storage 19:03:31



1 closets, hallway areas and stairwell landings 19:03:33  
2 for instruction because of the lack of space. 19:03:36  
3 The school has been cited by the fire department 19:03:38  
4 for code violations. This poses significant 19:03:40  
5 safety concerns, and in the event of an 19:03:42  
6 emergency students and faculty would be exposed 19:03:44  
7 and potentially be targeted. This keeps me up 19:03:47  
8 at night. 19:03:49  
9 As the former chief of staff for the 19:03:50  
10 Cook County Department of Homeland Security, 19:03:52  
11 part of my responsibility including -- included 19:03:54  
12 preparing and assessing school readiness for a 19:03:57  
13 natural or manmade disaster to include active 19:04:01  
14 scenarios -- active shooter scenarios. Children 19:04:04  
15 and faculty congregating in hallways because 19:04:07  
16 there is no classroom space is incredibly 19:04:09  
17 dangerous. The 664 students, 43 CTU members and 19:04:12  
18 14 SEIU members deserve a safe environment to 19:04:17  
19 learn and work. 19:04:21  
20 Sauganash Elementary is a 100 percent 19:04:23  
21 neighborhood school, but due to size limitations 19:04:25  
22 it cannot possibly serve the current student 19:04:27  
23 community nor the consistently growing K through 19:04:30  
24 8 student enrollment without an expansion. The 19:04:34



1 neighboring schools are also either overcrowded 19:04:37  
2 or almost at capacity and they too do not have 19:04:39  
3 the space to help relieve Sauganash's 19:04:42  
4 overcrowding. 19:04:45

5 School communities are like children, 19:04:46  
6 they each are unique and have unique needs. I 19:04:47  
7 recognize this and support schools throughout 19:04:50  
8 the 39th Ward. I have allocated a half a 19:04:52  
9 million dollars to Volta Elementary School for 19:04:54  
10 green space. I have worked with State 19:04:56  
11 Representative Jamie Andrade to secure funding 19:04:58  
12 for a science lab. Palmer, Peterson, North Side 19:05:01  
13 Learning, Von Steuben and Belding are undergoing 19:05:05  
14 capital improvements. 19:05:07

15 I strongly support the expansion of 19:05:08  
16 Sauganash Elementary to help relieve the 19:05:10  
17 overcrowding. I again kindly request your 19:05:13  
18 assistance in approving this expansion. Thank 19:05:15  
19 you for your time and consideration. I am 19:05:19  
20 grateful for your ongoing commitment to all 19:05:20  
21 Chicago students. Of course, as always, if you 19:05:23  
22 have questions or concerns, please do not 19:05:25  
23 hesitate to reach out to me or my office. Thank 19:05:27  
24 you so much for your time. 19:05:30



1 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, 19:05:31  
2 Alderman. 19:05:33  
3 And, Mr. President, this does conclude 19:05:34  
4 the public comment segment of the hearing. 19:05:36  
5 PRESIDENT del VALLE: Thank you. 19:05:38  
6 The first speakers we called, they 19:05:41  
7 didn't respond? 19:05:44  
8 SECRETARY BELTRAN: They didn't 19:05:45  
9 respond, Mr. President, so they could submit 19:05:46  
10 their written comments via the CPSBOE.ORG 19:05:48  
11 website. 19:05:53  
12 PRESIDENT del VALLE: Okay. And so we 19:05:54  
13 certainly encourage them to do that. 19:05:55  
14 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Correct. 19:05:57  
15 PRESIDENT del VALLE: Board members, 19:05:57  
16 any comments or questions? Any comments or 19:05:58  
17 questions regarding the budget hearing, what we 19:06:10  
18 heard today? 19:06:13  
19 If there are no comments or questions, 19:06:16  
20 this concludes the first FY22 (sic) Budget 19:06:20  
21 Hearing. We will have a second hearing and -- 19:06:25  
22 but this concludes our work for this evening. 19:06:28  
23 SECRETARY BELTRAN: Just to note, 19:06:32  
24 Mr. President, FY21. 19:06:34





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STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
 ) SS:  
COUNTY OF C O O K )

Karen Fatigato, being first duly sworn,  
on oath says that she is a court reporter doing  
business in the City of Chicago; and that she  
reported in shorthand the proceedings of said  
hearing, and that the foregoing is a true and  
correct transcript of her shorthand notes so  
taken as aforesaid, and contains the proceedings  
given at said hearing.

Karen Fatigato



Karen Fatigato, CSR  
LIC. NO. 084-004072





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