BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY OF CHICAGO
AMENDED FY-2017 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
held on
November 28, 2016

STENOGRAPHIC REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had in
the above-entitled matter at 42 West Madison
Street, Garden Level Board Room, Chicago, Illinois,
commencing at 6 o'clock p.m., MR. FRANK CLARK,
presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS:

MR. FRANK CLARK, President
MR. JAIME GUZMAN, Vice President
MR. MARK F. FURLONG
MS. GAIL D. WARD

ABSENT:

DR. MAHALIA A. HINES
REV. MICHAEL J. GARANZINI
MS. DOMINIQUE JORDAN TURNER

Reported By: Anna M. Morales, CSR, RMR
License No.: 084-002854
ALSO PRESENT:

MR. FORREST CLAYPOOL, Chief Executive Officer

DR. JANICE JACKSON, Chief Education Officer

MR. RONALD L. MARMER, General Counsel

MS. ESTELA G. BELTRAN, Secretary to the Board
(Whereupon, the following proceedings commenced at 6 o'clock p.m.)

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. President, before we begin the hearing this evening, I will ask Jadine Chou, our Chief of Safety and Security, to read a safety announcement, please.

MS. CHOU: Good evening, everyone. My name is Jadine Chou, and I would like to welcome all of you to today's Amended 2017 Budget hearing.

Quickly, before we start, I wanted to share some safety announcements to assure the safety of all our attendees here today. In order to maintain a safe environment, we ask that you help keep all aisles and exits clear. The primary entrance and exit is to my right, the door you all came in through; and, if you're leaving the room as a matter of course, please use that one entrance to my right.

In the event of an emergency and we need to vacate the room, you will hear an alarm. Please remain calm and promptly move to one of the exits. In addition to the primary exit on my right, we also have one other exit behind me to my right and
one behind me to my left. During the meeting, if you should need any special emergency assistance, please wave the attention of one of our security officers, and they will come to your aid. We do have CPD and emergency responders available to assist us in the event of an emergency.

At CPS, safety is always among our highest priorities. Thank you again for joining us today.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome. I'm Frank Clark, and on behalf of my fellow Board Members, I want to thank you for coming today.

The purpose of this hearing is compliance by the Board with the School Code Provision regarding amending the fiscal year 2017 budget.

Madam Secretary, please state for the record the notice procedure for this hearing.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Mr. President.

Notice of this public hearing was published in the Chicago Sun-Times, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Chicago, on November 21, 2016, and posted on the cpsboe.org Web site on November 17, 2016. The amended budget was posted on the Board's Web site on November 16, 2016, and
was further updated on November 21, 2016, in accordance with the School Code. I will now read into the record the public notice that was published.

Notice, Public Hearings FY Amended Budget 2016-2017, Chicago Board of Education, commonly known as Chicago Public Schools. To whom it may concern: Public notice is hereby given by the Chicago Board of Education that it has prepared an FY-17 Amended Budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year in tentative form and that five copies thereof available for public inspection have been filed and are now on file in the Office of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, commonly known as Chicago Public Schools, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 950, Chicago, Illinois, 60602, and available at www.cps.edu/budget, and that said Board of Education will hold two public hearings upon said amended budget on the 28th day of November, 2016; the first hearing, Chicago Public Schools, Loop Office, 42 West Madison Street, Garden Level Board Room, Chicago, Illinois, 60602, hearing time 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., registration 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; and then we have Chicago Public Schools
Loop Office, 42 West Madison Street, Garden Level

Board Room, Chicago, Illinois, 60602, hearing time

6 p.m. to 8 p.m., registration 4:30 p.m. to

5:30 p.m.

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, November 16, 2016, Chicago Board of Education, by Frank M. Clark, President; attest, Estela G. Beltran, Secretary.

Mr. President, for the record, I would like to note the Board Members that are present here for this hearing. And we have Member Furlong?

MEMBER FURLONG: Present.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Vice President Guzman?

VICE PRESIDENT GUZMAN: Present.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Member Ward?

MEMBER WARD: Present.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: President Clark?

PRESIDENT CLARK: Present.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Four members present. We have a quorum. I would also like to recognize Forrest Claypool, our Chief Executive Officer;

Ronald Marmer, our General Counsel; and

Dr. Janice Jackson, our Chief Education Officer.

Thank you.
PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you very much.

Mr. Walter, please proceed with the amended budget presentation.

MR. WALTER: Good evening. I am going to run through a brief presentation on the FY-2017 Proposed Amended Operating Budget and Amended Capital Budget. I'm going to start with the Operating Budget.

We are proposing to increase appropriations by $55 million related to the tentative CTU contract. The majority of the $55 million is related to steps and lanes for teachers. The $55 million in expense appropriation will be covered by $55 million in new TIF revenue, so the budget will remain balanced.

Net of this increase, the amended budget will move to $5.514 billion up from the originally approved budget of $5.459 billion.

In terms of the breakdown of the 5.5 billion, it will be identical to the originally approved budget with the addition of the new $55 million related to the CTU contract. The budget still contains roughly 70 percent of expenses related to personnel costs of which...
97 percent of our employees are teachers or school related personnel. We also have the $721 million teacher pension obligation included in the $5.5 billion. CPS is the only district in the state required to pay our legacy pension cost. The breakdown of the 55 million is as follows: As I mentioned, the largest portion is related to steps and lanes. This will move teachers to the step and lane that they would have been on if we would have provided steps and lanes last year. In addition, there's another $7 million in estimated cost associated with a reassigned teacher pool for laid off teachers, and then a total of $14 million in other contractual terms including K through 2 classes and charter share, a proportionate share. These increases are partially offset by about $11 million in expected healthcare savings related to plan changes.

Changing gears to the Amended Capital Budget. We are proposing to include up $750 million in new capital projects. These projects will be funded by the upcoming Capital Improvement Tax backed bond issuance. We will hold hearings shortly on the details of these projects.
and what specific products are included in the Amended Capital Plan.

That concludes my comments.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Board Members, questions?

Questions? Okay.

VICE PRESIDENT GUZMAN: Can you unpack a little bit the $8 million -- if you go back to the second slide, the $8 million charter equivalent, since I know we have some speakers signed up. So the impact about what that represents?

MR. WALTER: Sure. So right now, as we roll out steps and lanes to district schools, we are using additional new TIF money to pay for it. We're essentially increasing the SBB pot to all the schools to pay for this.

Charters are funded proportionately with district schools. So to the extent that we push out new SBB money to district schools, we push it out to charter schools as well.

VICE PRESIDENT GUZMAN: SBB, school-based budgeting?

MR. WALTER: Student-based budgeting.

VICE PRESIDENT GUZMAN: Thanks.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you. You pretty much
answered the question I was going to ask, but I will just ask it again. His answer to your question, he answered mine.

I want to state it for the record. The increase of $55 million is taking our budget from 5.459 billion to 5.514 billion, the $55 million has been funded by TIF.

MR. WALTER: New TIF revenue.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you. Thank you very much. Are there any other questions?

Okay. Let's proceed now with the public comment segment. Madam Secretary, please share the rules for public comment.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Mr. President. For the record, I would like to note that registration for the public hearing was held between the hours of 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., and we did take registration a little bit after the 5:30 mark.

Individuals who registered to speak will have two minutes to comment, and I will call the speakers in the order of registration. The hearing will conclude after the last person who has signed in to speak has spoken or at 8 p.m., whichever
occurs first.

When called, please state your name, and I will proceed by calling a couple of speakers, and we do have our staff member here, John, who will place the speakers in order. And as I call your name, please step up to the podium.

Our first speaker, Mr. President, will be Speaker Number 1, Sarah Chambers followed by Speaker Number 2, Jennifer Biggs, and then we have Speaker Number 3, Shawanda Colser.

Please state your name.

MS. CHAMBERS: Sarah Chambers. I'm with the Special Education Task Force, and I'm here to say that this budget is harmful to our most vulnerable students.

This year, you all have decimated the special education and clinician education budgets. On average, every school is short one to two special education teachers. We are also short our special education assistants for even our students in severe and profound classrooms. Students who need one-on-one assistance for feeding and changing and extreme behavior problems have no one. You have slashed the clinician services.
My school has students with seizures and only has one nurse two days a week. And in a city plagued with violence, there's only one social worker for every 1,300 students.

Rahm Emanuel and the appointed Board of Education has created an unsafe environment for our students in special education and our students with trauma. And not only have the budgets been slashed this summer, but they will be continued to be slashed because of the new special education procedure manual you guys created. With this new manual, you have created obstacles and also students getting denied services such as bussing, student assistants, and also classroom changes.

So there is money in Chicago. There is money. There's TIF money out there. River Point Plaza is one example. It's these wealthy condos in downtown. They received 25 million in TIF money and, yet, we don't have money for special education. There's money all throughout the whole downtown area in TIFs. There's also the toxic swaps. You guys could renegotiate those.

We are here to ask why do the banks get paid first? Why do these rich condos get paid?
first before special education? That is what I want to know. And we need to fund special education first because it's federal law, and you guys should all be following IDEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you very much. Before you call the next speaker, Dr. Jackson, would you care to offer any response?

CEDO JACKSON: No, unless there's a specific --

CEO CLAYPOOL: I can answer, Mr. Chairman. We agree with you that special education should be funded first which is why we required it for the very first time this year that every school fund special education first and schedules it first. Every dollar goes into every IEP. So every IEP is fully funded before one single dollar goes into the general education. That's a reform. It's the first time it's occurred.

If you are aware of any IEPs that are not funded, we want to know about it. We will investigate. We will get back to you. The principal in each school is responsible for making sure that every single IEP is fully funded and
compliant with the law. If you have any evidence that there's an IEP that is not fully funded, please bring it to our attention.

MS. CHAMBERS: When the principal association, when they sent out a survey about principals who did appeals, appealing for more special education funding to cover the minutes, only one was approved and all the rest were told to take money from general education.

CEO CLAYPOOL: The appeals are for general education now because every single IEP has to be funded first. So what the principals appeal on is after they funded all their IEPs, if they don't have enough money left over to fund the full curriculum in general education, that's what they appeal on, and that's what -- we then grant in situations where that's the case, we provide extra general education funding.

But the scheduling and the funding of IEPs have to be done first.

MS. CHAMBERS: NO, they're not being funded.

CEO CLAYPOOL: Give us the evidence.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. Our next speaker, please, Jennifer Biggs.
PRESIDENT CLARK: I'm sorry, before you start. We're not going to go tit-for-tat because everyone wants to speak, but it looks like you have the same issue.

You heard the CEO specifically state, if you got a case or cases and you can give us the names or specific areas where someone is not being funded appropriately, that's what you need to do. We'll address it immediately. You don't believe what you're hearing, I accept that. It doesn't mean that you're right, but you just don't believe what you're hearing, and I do accept that.

But if you got -- if you have specific cases, CEO Claypool, Dr. Jackson need to see them. General comments and general statements are useful in terms of making your point, but if we have problems that need to be addressed, we need specific cases. Please go ahead.

MS. BIGGS: We're the ones in the schools. We know what's happening.

My name is Jenny Biggs. I'm a parent representative on the Sheridan LSC. I'm speaking tonight on behalf of the over 410 LSC members from over 145 schools who have signed a city-wide LSC
letter regarding the unacceptable budget parameters placed on schools in terms of special education funding. LSC members from various LSCs came together and wrote the letter before you. Via social media and word of mouth, this letter has circulated and been on the agenda of many LSC meetings across this city.

LSC members witness and understand the day-to-day demands of their own school communities and know that your continuous school level cuts plus the budgetary parameters of special education funding at the school level are devastating to our schools and, by extension, our communities.

As the elected representatives of our schools, we, LSC members, see firsthand how your budget decisions impact individual schools, and we are organizing and using our collective voice.

From the letter: "We, the undersigned members of the Chicago Public Schools Local School Councils, are alarmed over the 2016-2017 budgetary parameters delivered to our schools by the network offices, the district office, the Chicago Board of Education, the City of Chicago. The commingling of general education and special education funds with
the initial 4 percent reduction to special education budgets have put schools in a terrible position, one which we, as LSC members, find unacceptable."

To view the publicly posted letter with current signatures, please go to the link provided at the top of the letter. This letter will be updated daily as more LSC members sign. The letter with signatures will be presented by LSC members at the unelected Board of Ed meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 7th. The letter with signatures will then be mailed or hand-delivered to the mayor, the network chiefs, the aldermen, Alderman Brookins, the City of Chicago Education Committee Chair, state senators who represent Chicago --

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Biggs.

MS. BIGGS: -- state representatives who represent Chicago, and the Governor. Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you for your comments.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Our next speaker, please, Shawanda Coker. As she approaches the microphone,
the next speakers will be Speaker Number 4, Marco Rojas followed by Speaker Number 5, Carol Coker, and then Speaker Number 6, Gloria Silman.

Please state your name.

MS. COKER: Hi. My name is Shawanda Coker. The school I attend is Catalyst Marie. Charter schools and CPS schools are both great schools, and I think charter schools should be able to be funded freely, and I think charter schools should be able to get treated the same way as CPS schools.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Ms. Coker.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Our next speaker, please.

MR. ROJAS: Hi. My name is Marco Rojas. I am here, and I'm going to speak in Spanish, then in English. Okay?

My name is Marco Rojas. My son is Angel Rojas. He is now with Mansueto Noble School, one of the newest Noble schools. And I am just here to say that, please, when it's time to fund, please fund us the same equally. That's all I'm here to say. We are the same. All of our students deserve the same opportunity. Thank you.
SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. 06:17:05

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you very much. 06:17:06

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Next speaker, please. 06:17:07

Please state your name. 06:17:14

MS. COKER: My name is Carol Coker, and I'm a proud parent from Catalyst Marie Charter School, and I think our schools are great and we have great teachers because they spend time with the students after school and before school, and I think that charter schools should be funded fairly because we're also Chicago Public Schools. 06:17:15

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you very much. 06:17:18

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. Our next speaker, please. 06:17:24

MS. SILMAN: Hi. My name is Gloria Silman. I have twin boys who are juniors at Butler College Prep Noble. My boys have been on the honor roll since their freshman year, and I know that their success is actually due to the attention that they receive at their school. They offer an excellent educational program there, and I'm asking today if you would consider in your voting to vote for our children that attend charter schools to receive equal funding as public schools. Thank you. 06:17:28
PRESIDENT CLARK: You're welcome. 06:18:34

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Ms. Silman. 06:18:35

PRESIDENT CLARK: There will be no voting today 06:18:37
which -- this is a hearing. We're listening. 06:18:39

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Mr. President. 06:18:42

Next group of speakers then will be Speaker 06:18:43
Number 7, please, Omar Rodriguez followed by 06:18:46
Speaker Number 8, Bernard Kelly, and then Speaker 06:18:48
Number 9, Shamira Quinoes. 06:18:52

Please state your name. 06:18:57

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Omar Rodriguez. I'm a member 06:18:57
of CMCP which is Chicago Multilingual Parent 06:18:59
Council and I also have kids in charter schools. 06:19:05
And I want to say in both languages. 06:19:06

So, first of all, I want to say, thank you 06:19:08
so much for your time, and I want you guys to 06:19:10
consider equal funding for the charters and the 06:19:13
regular schools. 06:19:16

Now my kids are in charter schools. When 06:19:17
I tell them, Mr. Guzman, I'm going to fight now for 06:19:19
charters school, but now on, you're still going to 06:19:22
see my face here fighting for them, for the 06:19:26
charters. Now I'm going to say in Spanish. Thank 06:19:29
you. 06:19:42
SECRETARY BELTRAN: Next speaker, please. 06:19:46

Bernard Kelly. 06:19:49

MR. KELLY: Good evening. Mr. President, 06:19:53
Mr. Claypool, Board Members. My name is 06:19:57
Bernard Kelly. I think everyone here asks for 06:20:00
equal funding.

I just want to throw a little something 06:20:06
out there. I'm a product of a traditional 06:20:10
education. My daughter and I chose a charter 06:20:12
school, CICS Ellison. It was a good fit. Great 06:20:17
education. Great staff. Great learning 06:20:22
environment. It's very important that I had that 06:20:26
option of being able to go to a charter school. I 06:20:32
could have selected a traditional school, but it 06:20:36
was a good fit.

And I'm asking that that option still be 06:20:40
available to all parents. All charters may not be 06:20:43
the answer, but in this particular case, I believe 06:20:48
if you continue to fund equally and give all 06:20:51
children an opportunity to have a great educational 06:20:54
or great start, you all have that power on 06:20:57
December 7th, and I'm hoping that you vote in 06:21:01
accordance to that. Thank you. 06:21:04

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you very much. 06:21:08
SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you. Our next speaker, please. As she approaches the microphone, we'll then have Speaker Number 10, Rebecca Hall, followed by Speaker Number 11, Lucille Reese, and then Speaker 12, Christopher Egan.

Please state your name.

MS. QUINONES: Hello. My name is Shamira Quiones, and I am a product of CPS. I attended my neighborhood elementary school, and then attended Noble Street College Prep. I graduated in 2014, and I am now a junior at the University of Illinois, Chicago. Because of this, I believe in equal funding for all schools, including charter schools. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CLARK: You're welcome.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Mr. Quinoes.

MS. HALL: Hello. My name is Rebecca Hall, and my sons go to Gary Comer College Prep. It's the only south side Noble school.

I have an older son who was a very -- he's a good student. He was getting Cs and he was passing, but he was a very -- he's very likable and he's very polite. In a normal CPS organization, he was making honor roll, but his test scores weren't...
as high; and by bringing him over to the Noble -- sorry -- thank you -- over to Gary Comer, he's a sophomore taking pre-calc. A sophomore taking pre-calc. Do you understand how that just blew my mind because of the opportunities that the teachers and the administration put into their students.

I know that you already know the numbers that Noble has brought to the city as in kids and what they can do. I'm pleading that you do consider equal funding because the young men, they need that. There is an organization within Gary Comer called Chips, and every Saturday they get together and they say, you can be better than that. You can be better what's outside the schools. We want you to be better.

The teachers put the time. Some are there from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on their own to dedicate their time for their students, and they need that funding to help expand whatever they can do for the children. So that's all I'm asking. Consider.

Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Ms. Hall. Our next speaker, please. Please state your name.

MS. REESE: Good evening. I'm Lucille Reese.
I'm here along with my husband, who's hoarse, and I'm speaking on his behalf as a support and I have a parent here also from DRW. We are parents of students at DRW Noble High School, and we're here to ask that just not Noble, we're asking that all children be funded equally, and that wherever their choices are decided upon, that that money goes with that student so that they can be successful.

We've had our first college graduate who's a product of a CICS school, Longwood campus. We've also had a student from Gary Comer College Prep who's a freshman now at Grand Valley State University. These opportunities was afforded because we had choices. There were options out there for us. We could not get into a magnet school which was in walking distance from our home. However, we had the next best thing, and that was the opportunity for our students to attend a charter school that made it possible for our kids to work hard, to become great scholars and continue their education.

My daughter who did just graduate from U of I is now working towards her master's, and this was due to the hard work that the teachers,
the faculty that they put aside for them to make sure that they're successful.

Thank you for the opportunity to hear me speak tonight, and we look forward to the results.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Ms. Reese.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Mr. Reese, by the way, my wife often speaks for me even when I'm not hoarse.

MR. REESE: That's very true.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Please state your name.

MR. EGAN: Hi. I'm Christopher Egan, and I started teaching in Chicago in 1985, and in all that time, I don't recall hearing of budget increases.

The $25 million that was cut from special ed this year is on top of cuts that have been made on an annual basis going back as far as I can remember. Specifically what that means is that I work in a school on a temporary basis even though there are hundreds of vacancies. I do more than a full load. In fact, everyone in our special ed department is overwhelmed by our workload. Extra paperwork in addition to just maintain our staffing levels. And I think this was actually specifically
pointed out as a way to bring our service levels down to national norms. And I don't know where those -- you know, what data, how they determined national norms that are appropriate for Chicago schools.

So, yeah, the TIF money that we could have used would have been more than enough to cover this year's cuts. And, you know, this is basically where I live, you know, for, you know, my whole professional life, and it is very painful to see people not getting services they need because of choices that benefit people who aren't really in a condition of need like my students are. Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Mr. Egan.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you very much.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Our next speakers, Mr. President, will be Norine Gutenkast and then Speaker Number 14, Natasha Carlson, please.

MS. GUTENKAST: Hi. Good evening. Thank you for holding this hearing tonight.

Last year, CPS started this school year by cutting $40 million from special education services, and there was a tremendous pushback. And after months and months and months of pushing back
by parents and teachers and students, finally, the Board relented and restored some of those cuts, but it was too late by then because many of those special education teachers and staff had given up and gone off and looked for jobs in other districts. So that by December of last year, there were 360 special education vacancies, and those vacancies have continued.

The Board of Education has failed to do the recruitment necessary to be able to staff the positions that we need. And there are numerous schools all across the system that have special education vacancies. This year, the proposed budget at the beginning of the year was -- the special education cuts were -- 9 percent of the special education budget was lower -- it was lowered by now -- boy, I'm not saying this right -- lowered by 9 percent from the previous year.

And Mr. Claypool mentioned that the principals have been instructed to take care of IEPs first, but this is actually adding insult to injury because our -- because of student-based budgeting, because of the cuts that were instituted last year, the overall school budgets are lowered,
too. And so this is actually impoverishing the staff and the services available to all of the children.

So CPS believing that there are too many children being identified for special education has actually put up obstacle after obstacle for our really needy and worthy students from receiving the special education services that they deserve. And so they're putting up these procedural obstacles through all of their variety of ways that includes the work --

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Gutenkast.

MS. GUTENKAST: Yes. Over the last four years --

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Gutenkast --

MS. GUTENKAST: I'm wrapping up right now -- we have called on the Board to fund special education and to find that funding so that our students are not losing year after year after year, but, instead, get the services they deserved.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Ms. Gutekanst.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: We have one additional speaker, please. Natasha Carlson. Last call for
Natasha Carlson.

MS. CARLSON: Good afternoon, unelected school board. My name is Natasha Carlson, and unfortunately I am here yet again at the budget hearing to speak out against your policies and procedures that are undervaluing and systematically continuing to destroy what is special education, let alone public education.

With the budget that you have this year, it lacks transparency, accountability, and clear understanding of actually where the money is going to fund the positions in the schools. Beyond already the toxicity that occurs from student-based budgeting for the general education funds, you chose to continue that for special education, and you've pitted general education and special education teachers, parents, and faculty against each other, including principals.

Mr. Claypool, you state that principals must actually fulfill the IEP. What you don't state is that that is at the disservice to not only the special education students but the general education students. At my school, the appeals process took us losing our additional case manager.
counselor, our only art teacher for a thousand students because we were so underfunded by $200,000, and still my minutes are not being met. So the principals, while you might place blame on them, you are the ones that are appointed, not elected, but appointed, and, hopefully, you could actually represent the true concerns.

In this mess that it is of the last 53 school days where we have seen the effects of the budget for special education in the schools, you have also instituted policies and procedures that limit the ability to get the appropriate services; where my student who needs paraprofessional support and was egregiously not given it prior has had 132 seizures. Now without paraprofessional for medical, not only because my principal is concerned about what that will do of adding that position, of what it will take away from the rest of our school --

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Ms. Carlson.

MS. CARLSON: -- but also of the ridiculous form that I have to fill out and not the legal document.

But just our choices and your choice to
continue to devalue special education is clear, but you still have a choice on December 7th to actually require CPS be transparent and accountable and fulfill those legal documents.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Thank you, Ms. Carlson.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Thank you.

SECRETARY BELTRAN: Mr. President, this concludes the public comment.

PRESIDENT CLARK: Board Members, any questions of any of the presentations during public comment? If there are no questions from any other Board Member and there are no other persons speaking, this will conclude this Amended Budget Hearing. Thank you very much.

(Whereupon, the Public Hearing adjourned at 6:33 p.m.)
STATE OF ILLINOIS 

COUNTY OF WILL 

ANNA M. MORALES, as an Officer of the Court, says that she is a shorthand reporter doing business in the State of Illinois; that she reported in shorthand the proceedings of said Public 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 Public Hearing.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF: I have hereunto set my verified digital signature this 30th day of November, 2016.

Illinois Certified Shorthand Reporter
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**Accurate Reporting Company**
Chicago, Illinois  (312) 346-4707
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