

Dear Special Committee on the Chicago Elected Representative School Board,

I am writing to you as a CPS parent and concerned resident about the Chicago Elected Representative School Board maps.

Historically, mayoral control has exacerbated the deep racial inequities of this city. We have seen chronic financial mismanagement, destruction of local neighborhood schools, and policies that disproportionately impact Black and Brown families. I applaud the legislature for finally establishing a pathway towards a fully elected school board where my family will be able to direct hold board members accountable.

Like all democratic bodies, we must constantly revise and improve upon them. I am concerned that there is not enough representation - both in majority and plurality - for our Black and Brown families. We must make sure the districts are drawn in a way that allows those who have been harmed most by the policies to have the most agency in the change. We need more Black and Brown representation. We need a map that mirrors the progressive policies and racial demographics of CPS.

Many families are not able to make hearings scheduled in less than 24 hours, which is why we are directly reaching out to make our voices heard.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Hughes

Jodi Lacy

Erykah Nava

Naoma Nagahawatte

Rousemary Vega

Nicholas Hussong

Mila Cohen

Esmeralda Hernandez

Allie Mizota

Jose Almanzs

Carlos Morales Jr.

Edward Juillard

Matt Roan

Joy Bunton

Ana Mercado

Melina Lesus

Jennifer Jones

Luke Kizer

Phillip Dworkin-Cantor

Gayle Hammer