



City of Chicago



R2018-500

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 5/25/2018

Sponsor(s): Waguespack (32)
Sawyer (6)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call for hearing(s) on current and historical staffing of librarians, nurses, social workers and counselors in Chicago Public Schools and future needs and resources required to improve these essential services to CPS students

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Education and Child Development

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**Committee on Education and Child Development
City Council Meeting
May 23, 2018**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, 371,382 students were enrolled at Chicago Public Schools at the start of the 2017-2018 school year; and

WHEREAS, 77.7% of those students are economically disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, it is the legal and moral obligation of the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois to provide public education to all students; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Public Schools are funded by taxpayers, with more than half of taxpayer dollars going to the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, staffing deficiencies exist as it relates to librarians, nurses, social workers and counselors are rampant in CPS; and

WHEREAS, there are currently only 296 social workers at CPS to service the more than 371,000 students in CPS; and

WHEREAS, CPS currently employs only 109 occupational therapists to serve the students of CPS; and

WHEREAS, there are only 120 full-time nurses employed by CPS; and

WHEREAS, in 2017-2018 CPS budgeted for less than a third of the number of librarians staffed in the 2012 school year; and

WHEREAS, three out of four Chicago Public Schools do not have a librarian, with only 25 of 167 Chicago Public School staffing at least one full time librarian; and

WHEREAS, the total number of certified librarians at CPS is 40; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies show that students with access to a full-time librarians achieve better test scores in reading and writing than those students without access to librarians; and

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association recommends a student-to-student counselor ratio of 250:1, yet the current ratio of students to counselors in CPS is roughly 1000:1; and

WHEREAS, failure to provide school counselors disproportionately impacts first-generation and low-income students; and

WHEREAS, failure to provide students and staff with these supportive services is detrimental to education of students and the learning environment as a whole;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the members of City Council call for hearings before the Committee on Education and Child Development at which CPS appear to discuss:

Current and historical staffing of librarians, nurses, social workers and counselors;

CPS' plan to engage and fill the staff needed in each school and what resources will be required; and,

The public health and education ramifications of failure to provide these essential services to CPS students.

Susan Sadlowski-Garza
Alderwoman, 10th Ward



Scott Waguespack
Alderman, 32nd Ward

Sophia King
Alderman, 4th Ward

Leslie Hairston
Alderman, 5th Ward



Roderick Sawyer
Alderman, 6th Ward

Toni Foulkes
Alderman, 16th Ward

David Moore
Alderman, 17th Ward

Ricardo Muñoz
Alderman, 22nd Ward

Christopher Taliaferro
Alderman, 29th Ward

John Arena
Alderman, 45th Ward

Carlos Ramirez-Rosa
Alderman, 35th Ward

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