

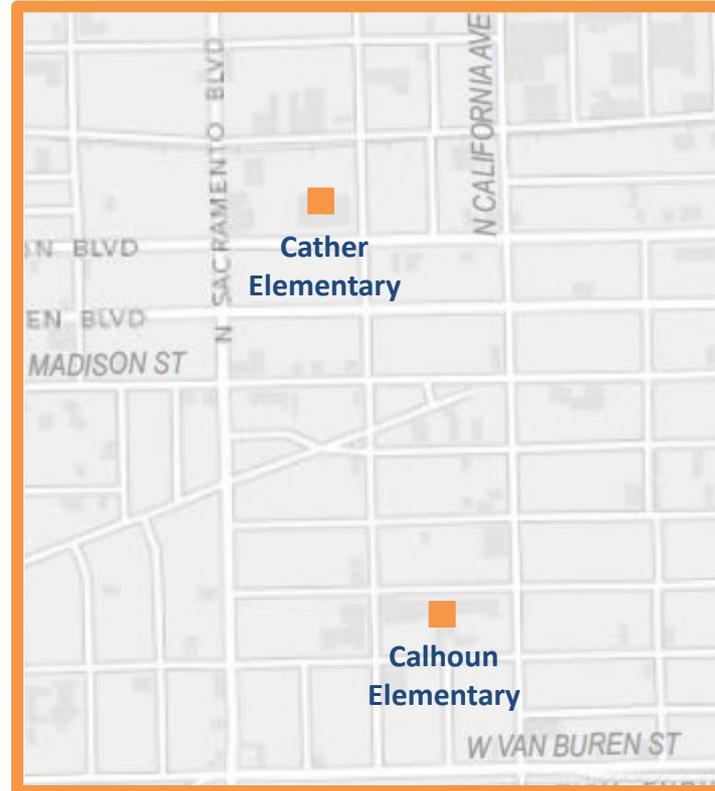
Providing A Better Education For All Students *Calhoun Elementary and Cather Elementary*

As Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), Barbara Byrd-Bennett is committed to ensuring that every child in every neighborhood receives a high-quality education that prepares them to succeed in college, career, and life. Right now, the reality is that too many of our children are being cheated of the quality education they deserve because they are trapped in underresourced and underutilized schools. Rather than fund half-empty buildings that are costly to maintain and repair, the District will redirect those funds for investments that parents, CTU and CPS agree children need to thrive, such as, air conditioning, a library, counseling and social work supports and technology and science upgrades.

Calhoun Elementary

Why CPS recommends to close this school:

- Enrollment has declined by 49% over the last 10 years (616 to 314)
- Building is less than half full
- Building requires \$13.4 million to maintain and update
- Building lacks ADA accessibility and full A/C



Cather Elementary

As a welcoming school, Cather will offer:

- A Level 1 school (highest performance rating)
- A PreK program
- Upgraded computer lab
- A science lab
- A building with ADA accessibility and full air conditioning
- A building that has received \$1.6 million in recent facility investment
- A school safety plan to provide a smooth and safe transition for all students

CPS has heard your concerns and after a thoughtful, rigorous engagement process, we have looked at every individual school and our decision incorporates the feedback we received from more than 20,000 of you – parents across the city and community members in every neighborhood. A series of supports will be provided so that our students have a safe and seamless transition to a higher performing academic environment at their welcoming school in fall 2013. Please call **311, City Services**, with questions or visit cps.edu/qualityschools.