

Providing A Better Education For All Students

Ryerson Elementary and Ward, L Elementary

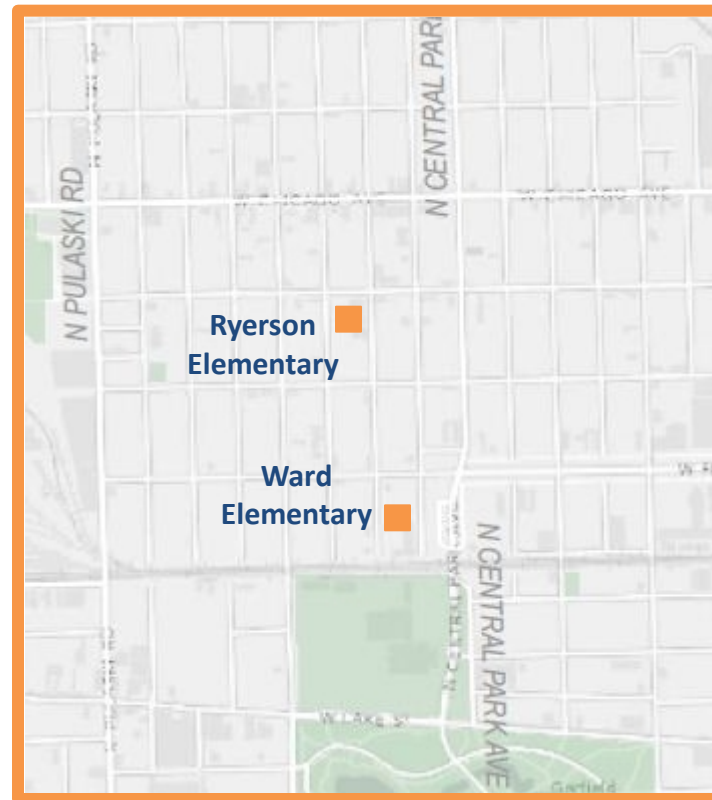
As Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), Barbara Byrd-Bennett is committed to ensuring that every child in every neighborhood receives a high-quality education that prepares them to succeed in college, career, and life. Right now, the reality is that too many of our children are 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.

CPS proposes closing Ryerson, and welcoming those students at Laura Ward. Ward will then relocate to the current Ryerson building.

Ryerson Elementary

Why CPS recommends to close this school:

- Enrollment has declined by 32% over the last 10 years (587 to 399)
- School is 58% utilized



Ward, L Elementary

As a welcoming school, Ward, L will offer:

- A Level 2 school where more than 80% of Ward, L students are meeting or exceeding ISAT standards (vs. 73% at Ryerson)
- A new STEM program
- New engineering and media labs, upgraded computer lab
- A PreK program
- A school safety plan to provide a smooth and safe transition for all students

Ward, L will be relocated to the Ryerson building, which will offer:

- A school based health center
- ADA accessibility

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.