



---

November 30, 2018

Staff and Local School Council at  
Cooper Dual Language Academy  
1624 W 19th St Chicago, IL 60608

**Re: Proposed Reassignment Boundary Change of Orozco Community Academy and Cooper Dual Language Academy**

Dear Cooper Staff and Local School Council Members,

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is committed to providing every child from every community with a high-quality education that prepares them for success in college and in life. CPS students continue to make record-breaking academic progress in every part of the city. Our vision is that all CPS schools can build on this progress by offering high quality, rigorous instruction from talented educators that help put Chicago students on a path to lasting success.

Cooper Dual Language Academy (Cooper) is a PK-5 Level 1 school located at 1624 W 19th St. On October 19, 2018, the Local School Council (LSC) of Cooper, with the support of the school community at large, elected officials, and the Orozco Community Academy (Orozco) school community, requested that Orozco's neighborhood 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boundary be reassigned to Cooper gradually over time.

Following an extensive community-driven process, CPS will propose to the Chicago Board of Education that Orozco's boundary be reassigned to allow Cooper to phase in grades 6-8 and offer 6th grade for School Year (SY) 2019-20, 7th grade by SY2020-21, and 8th grade by SY2021-22. Upon completion of the boundary reassignment in SY2021-22, Cooper will be a K-8 neighborhood school, while Orozco will be able to offer additional seats for families in their bilingual gifted program for students who are bilingual and/or heritage speakers.

This proposal is consistent with the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions (Guidelines) because it is a proposal requested by parents or community members via the process to request proposals outlined in the Guidelines. Furthermore, the resulting space utilization after the reassignment boundary change will not exceed any affected schools' enrollment efficiency range, as defined by the CPS' Space Utilization Standards.

This proposed action will have no impact on the Local School Council.

If you would like more details about the proposed reassignment boundary change, please refer to the Draft Transition Plan that is included with this letter.

**Information Specific to Staff**

CPS will work with your labor union over the coming weeks to identify supports that the Board may provide for you and your colleagues to ease this transition as much as possible and to provide you any benefits to which you are entitled under your collective bargaining agreement. In the meantime, if you have any questions about what this proposal means for you, please contact the Talent Office at [workforceplanning@cps.edu](mailto:workforceplanning@cps.edu).

**Public Comment on this Proposal**

As a next step, CPS will hold two community meetings and one public hearing to hear further feedback on CPS’ proposal (meeting information is below). Following the meetings and hearing, the Board of Education may vote on this proposal as early as February of 2019.

Your voice is critical to this process and I invite you to share your feedback on this proposed reassignment boundary change during the following two community meetings and one public hearing outlined below:

<b>Community Meeting</b>	<b>Community Meeting</b>	<b>Public Hearing</b>
Wednesday, January 9, 2019 6:00-8:00 PM Orozco Community Academy 1940 W 18th St.	Wednesday, January 16, 2019 6:00-8:00 PM Cooper Elementary 1624 W 19th St.	Thursday, January 31, 2019 6:00-8:00 PM CPS Central Office 42 West Madison Street

If you wish to comment at the community meetings or hearing, please adhere to the following procedures. You must sign up to speak on the day of, at the designated location, beginning one hour before the designated start time and ending 30 minutes after the start of the meeting or hearing. You will have two minutes to speak, unless the hearing officer or meeting organizer provides an extension. The hearing will conclude at the stated end time or following the comments of the last person who has signed up to speak, whichever occurs first.

Thank you in advance for your feedback as we work to provide all Chicago Public School students with the high quality education they deserve. After the community meetings and public hearing, I will review a written report from the hearing officer and at that time, I may recommend that the Board consider and approve this reassignment boundary change.

**Further Questions and Concerns**

All of this information can be found at [CPS.edu/Transitions](http://CPS.edu/Transitions). If you have any questions or concerns regarding this proposal and the DRAFT Transition Plan, please email [transitions@cps.edu](mailto:transitions@cps.edu) or call Chicago Public Schools at (773) 553-1500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice K. Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Janice K. Jackson, EdD  
Chief Executive Officer  
Chicago Public Schools