



November 27, 2019

School Community and Staff at
Hope High School
5515 S Lowe Ave Chicago, IL 60621

Re: Proposed Closure of Hope High School

Dear Hope High School Community,

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, career and civic life. CPS students continue to make record-breaking academic progress in every part of the city. Our goal 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.

At the end of last school year (SY18-19), Hope High School had 20 students enrolled. As of November 1, 2019, Hope had zero students enrolled. All students that have transferred out of the school after June 30, 2018 received support to ensure a successful transition to their new school. Additionally, each high school receiving transfer students received \$6,100 per student in supplemental funding to provide academic, social and emotional, and other supports to these students during SY18-19 and SY19-20. CPS continues to support former Hope High School students with this transition and as of November 1, 2019, all Hope High School students have successfully transitioned to other schools. This funding and support will also continue in SY20-21.

As such, CPS is proposing to close Hope High School effective July 1, 2020, in order to efficiently manage District resources. This proposal meets the criteria in the Chief Executive Officer's Guidelines for School Actions (Guidelines) because as of November 1, 2019, there were no students enrolled at Hope. There continue to be no students enrolled at Hope. Please refer to the enclosed Draft Transition Plan for additional information about the proposed closure.

As a next step, CPS will hold two community meetings and one public hearing to receive public comment and feedback on this proposal. More information can be found in the Public Comment Section of this letter. Following the meetings and hearing, the Board of Education may vote on this proposal as early as February 2020.

Information for Impacted CPS Employees

While you may report to work at a different location, your position continues to be assigned to Hope High School and, therefore, is impacted by this action. 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.

Public Comment on this Proposal

CPS values community input, and I invite you to share your feedback on the proposed closure of Hope during the two community meetings and one public hearing outlined below:

Community Meeting	Community Meeting	Public Hearing
Tuesday, January 14, 2020 5:30-7:00 PM Kershaw Elementary 6450 S Lowe Ave	Thursday, January 23, 2020 5:30-7:00 PM Kershaw Elementary 6450 S Lowe Ave	Wednesday, January 29, 2020 5:30 - 6:30 PM CPS Central Office 42 West Madison Street

If you wish to comment at the community meetings or hearing, please adhere to the following: you must register 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 the closure of Hope High School.

Further Questions and Concerns:

Information on this proposal can be found at [CPS.edu/Transitions](https://cps.edu/Transitions). Questions or concerns regarding this proposal and the Draft Transition Plan can be shared via email at transitions@cps.edu or by phone at (773) 553-1500.

Sincerely,

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