



CITY OF CHICAGO
CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAMBER
CITY HALL ROOM 200
121 NORTH LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

October 7, 2024

Honorable Anna Valencia
City Clerk
City Hall, Room 107
121 North La Salle Street
Chicago, IL 60602

City of Chicago
City Clerk
121 North La Salle Street
Chicago, IL 60602
AARC

Clerk Valencia:

We, the undersigned Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, do hereby call a special meeting of the City Council, to be convened on Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 2:00pm. The special meeting is for the following purposes, and no other purposes whatsoever:

(1) As a Committee of the Whole, hold a hearing to receive testimony regarding the Chicago Board of Education and the challenges facing Chicago Public Schools, including from the recently resigned members of the Board and any proposed appointments to the Board; and

(2) The immediate consideration of the attached resolution in the event that the recently resigned members of the Board and any proposed appointments to the Board do not attend such hearing.

Respectfully signed,

NICOLE LEE
Alderman, 11th Ward

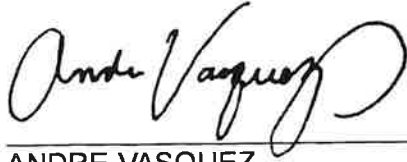
GILBERT VILLEGAS
Alderman, 36th Ward



MARTY QUINN
Alderman, 13th Ward



MARIA HADDEN
Alderwoman, 48th Ward



ANDRE VASQUEZ
Alderman, 40th Ward

CC: Peter Polacek, City Clerk Office

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, On Friday, October 5, 2024, all seven members of the Board of Education resigned, an unprecedented move that threatens to destabilize not only the transition to an elected Board, but also threatens to destabilize the fourth-largest school system in the country; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the unprecedented nature of this mass resignation and the serious challenges facing Chicago Public Schools, a super-majority of City Council has called for a public hearing before any new appointments to ensure that our residents' voices are heard; and

WHEREAS, With the district facing a nearly \$1 billion deficit, federal COVID-relief funds expiring, and less than one month until voters will cast the first ever ballots for Board members, our City is faced with a critical choice for the future of our children - to be transparent and responsible, or return to the days of mismanagement that lead to the State legislature replacing the entire Board and establish the independent Chicago School Finance Authority to assume financial management of the district; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the challenges facing our children, and the potential for ruinous consequences of ill-thought-out schemes like securing a short-term, high interest \$300,000,000 loan for operating expenses, our colleagues in the General Assembly have begun discussing the necessary "level of state oversight" and "additional guardrails" to ensure that the Board is acting in the best interests of students, including requiring City Council approval for appointments to the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, The challenges facing our district are sobering - but can be met with qualified, competent leadership; and

WHEREAS, As the elected representatives of this City - and, for many of us, as parents ourselves - we must work together to ensure that the leadership of Chicago Public Schools is committed to stability and success for our district and our children; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the members of City Council, hereby call upon the former members of the Board of Education and any appointees to appear at a hearing before this body regarding the mass resignation of the Board of Education and the challenges facing Chicago Public Schools.