

Lily Eskelsen García  
*President*

Rebecca S. Pringle  
*Vice President*

Princess R. Moss  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

Kim Anderson  
*Executive Director*

Jesse Sharkey, President  
Chicago Teachers Union  
1901 W. Carroll Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60612

Dear President Sharkey:

I am writing to express support and encouragement for the members of the Chicago Teachers Union in your fight for what all your students need to thrive.

Chicago public schools must be places where parents want to send their children, teachers want to teach, and all students can learn. This is about creating an equitable and responsive public school system that reflects our values and the needs of the community. This is why NEA and our three million members across the country are behind you in this struggle.

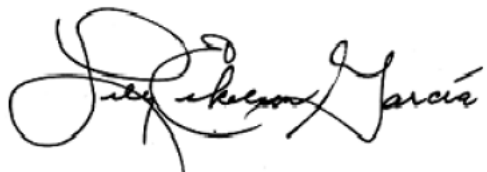
You are fighting to make sure students in our most vulnerable and marginalized communities have the same access to a great public school as children do in our most affluent communities. I am so proud of CTU and its members for demanding what are students need to learn and our educators need to teach.

NEA and its members are with CTU in calling on Mayor Lightfoot to deliver on her promises. That means assuring that there is a librarian in every school, and enough social workers, nurses, and counselors as well as 1000 teacher assistants in the elementary and high schools. Moreover, it is an injustice for Mayor Lightfoot to ignore the more 300 special education vacancies.

Thank you for your strength and courage. NEA members across the country – your national community – are proud of you. Stay strong and united. Continue to stand together for the greater professional respect that you so rightfully deserve!

Please convey to your members that they have the full support of our union, and don't hesitate to let me know how NEA can assist you in this struggle.

In Solidarity,



Lily Eskelsen Garcia  
President, National Education Association