**The CTU demands a safe and equitable reopening based on trust and dialogue**

CPS is trying to move people back into school without being clear about their safety standards. **We don’t trust them.** They have misrepresented their safety preparations, ignored arbitrators’ orders, and appear to be more focused on the mayor and her political considerations than the well-being of us and our students. The CTU is putting forward a safe reopening plan that undercuts CPS’ ability to lie about us being the people who are hurting education. **We will go back to in-person school when CPS can demonstrate that they have taken our concerns seriously.** Our key demands concern **Safety, Equity, and Trust.** While the list that follows is **not exhaustive,** it represents our key demands that come out of hundreds of meetings with members, parents and community stakeholders, and bargaining sessions since March. The union will ratify our full demands soon.

**SAFETY**

1. Establish clear public health criteria
   a. Re-open CPS facilities for all students and personnel at less than 3% positivity rate.
   b. If number is higher, all personnel, including clerks and tech cos, work remotely.
   c. Neighborhood school site shutdowns if zip code positivity rate is above 3%; citywide attendance boundary school site shutdowns if citywide positivity rate is above 3%.

2. Enforce safety protocols in schools
   a. Masks,
   b. Cleaning,
   c. Screening,
   d. PPE,
   e. Social Distancing,
   f. Proper ventilation, including training for teachers and staff to verify air quality standards are being met.
   g. Workspaces for all bargaining unit employees, including clinicians and nurses, shall meet therapeutic, instructional, and safety needs.

3. Testing, Tracing, and Vaccination
   a. Test all staff on a rotating basis (25%/week, target high positivity areas),
   b. Contact trace positive cases,
   c. Target vaccine to most needed areas (as opposed to those with best healthcare coverage/most able to pay).

**EQUITY**

1. Immediately improve Remote Learning
   a. Reduce screen time by 1 hour/day, during which time students engage in asynchronous activities, teachers have time for preparation and PD.
   b. Provide families with equipment and support for RL including headphones, devices, vision screening, etc.

**TRUST**

1. Bring parents, community members and other groups of employees, such as principals and engineers, to the table. Bargain in good faith.

2. Create CTU-CPS Joint Committee on Covid-19
   a. Include independent experts and can make inspections, investigations, and can issue directives.

3. Safety committee in each school
   a. Elected membership that includes delegates, other members, engineers etc.
   b. Local committee has the ability to stop work if conditions are unsafe.

The pandemic has closed schools. By not meeting these needs, CPS is keeping them shut. If CPS would provide trust — by bargaining in good faith and permitting independent verification of their safety claims by CTU, parents and safety experts — we could agree on safe ways to return to in-person learning. We are the ones with a comprehensive plan that can restore public trust and reopen schools safely. But if CPS insists on pushing us back without bargaining or taking our demands seriously, we will not sacrifice our lives or the lives of our students for their political goals.