

Mayor Lightfoot, when will you finally address **safety** in CPS school buildings?

In August, the mayor's CPS team said the schools were ready to go. **Now, even the mayor acknowledges that there really was no plan.** Instead, Lightfoot has **rolled back most of the safety measures** that the CTU — alongside parents and community organizations — **fought for and won last winter.**

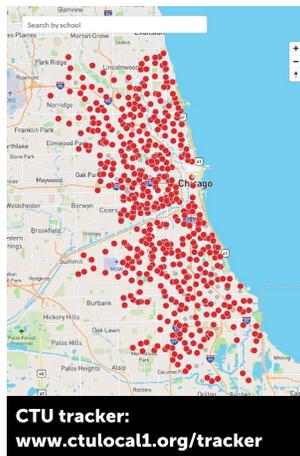
The mayor has \$4 billion in COVID relief funds at her disposal — including \$2 billion for CPS — to make our schools safer and support our students. Instead, **180 schools opened without a full-time nurse.** The mayor's CPS team seems content with putting out fires rather than tackling their systemic shortcomings.

This is **failure on an epic scale.** Just **3 percent of CPS' share** — \$70 million — would ensure that EVERY school has a nurse, a social worker, and a librarian this year, all supports our students desperately need.

The mayor can — and must — do better.

What you can do

- Sign and share our **United for Safe CPS Schools Now petition** (available at www.ctulocal1.org/petition) to tell Mayor Lightfoot and CPS what your top priorities are.
- **Call the mayor** by dialing 3-1-1 or 312-744-3334 and demand that her CPS team deliver on the COVID testing, contact tracing, vaccinations and additional staffing that Chicago's students deserve.
- **Call your alderman** (find contact info at www.ctulocal1.org/alder) to ask for a hearing on Chicago Public Schools' COVID-19 safety plans, protocols, and remote learning options.
- **Contact your Local School Council (LSC)**, which has the authority to demand that the mayor's CPS team address safety problems in your child's school.
- **Report unsafe school conditions** using the CTU's COVID Tracker located at www.ctulocal1.org/tracker.



Five **demands** that we're fighting for

- 1 Mandatory weekly testing for all staff and weekly testing for students unless parents opt out**, instead of occasional testing of the 5% of students who have completed CPS's lengthy and intimidating consent form.
- 2 Contact tracing within 48 hours of possible exposure and broad communication to staff, students and families**, instead of quarantine notices that arrive up to 8 days after exposure.
- 3 Public master schedule of all COVID vaccination events in schools, at least 100 per week, and clear organizing plans to increase participation**, instead of less than 25 events per week without even alerting the school communities when events are happening.
- 4 Increased staffing, especially nurses, social workers, and substitute teachers, to address critical student needs during the pandemic**, using the federal money earmarked for this purpose.
- 5 A clear metric for when COVID-19 outbreaks or community spread require individual schools or the district to shift to remote learning**, instead of waiting for CPS officials to act when they've shown they won't.

We believe if CPS had accepted our proposals to implement these safety measures at the start of the school year, the recent tragic deaths of CPS parents at Jensen Elementary likely could have been prevented. The mayor's CPS team must do everything in its power to keep tragedies like these from recurring.



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