



## PPCs & PPLCs

The PPC and the PPLC are vitally important committees that should operate in each CPS school. PPC stands for Professional Problems Committee. This committee is mandated by our contract. It is our voice and our power in the school building. PPLC stands for Professional Personnel Leadership Committee. This committee leads on curriculum, budget, safety and more. It is mandated by state law.

### PPC

*Each school shall establish a Professional Problems Committee (PPC) to discuss school operations, contract enforcement issues and any new BOARD instructional program or joint BOARD- UNION initiative prior to or at the time of its implementation at the local school level.*

~Article 1-12

Your PPC's chairperson is the school's head teacher delegate. There can be from three to five members, including PSRPs, elected by CTU members assigned to the school. The committee members' names must be submitted to the principal within 48 hours of their election, which takes place following delegate elections every three years.

The PPC should meet at least monthly. Each party should submit agenda items 48 hours before the meeting. The PPC's purpose is to give the staff and the principal a chance to discuss and resolve issues about implementing the contract in the school. The committee also oversees implementation of new CPS instructional programs at the school level. Both teachers and the principals can bring in resource people to discuss particular agenda points where they have expertise but these people are not regular members of the PPC.

The PPC can be an excellent way of resolving potential grievances in an informal way. The PPC also gives its members an opportunity to get information, which they can then disseminate to the staff as a whole either on the CTU bulletin board, by e-mail, and/or at monthly union meetings. It is also a way of bringing concerns of the faculty to administration's attention on a collective basis, making it harder for administrators to target individuals as 'complainers.'

### PPLC

This committee was established by Illinois State Law and is mandatory. At many schools, the principal has usurped the PPLC's duties with an Instructional



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Leadership Team (ILT) *that they appoint, rather than the PPLC, which we elect.* The delegate and the teacher LSC reps should remind the principal of their responsibility to call for an election and convene an initial meeting within the first five weeks of the school year.

The PPLC consists of the two teacher representatives on the LSC and up to seven certificated staff members. The PPLC's responsibilities include reviewing and providing input for the Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP), the school budget, the curriculum, staffing and student safety. It is also supposed to help develop an expenditure plan for the school's lump-sum allocation from CPS. The principal is responsible for developing the discretionary budget in consultation with the PPLC and the LSC.

The PPLC meet monthly with the principal and should also make regular reports to the LSC on matter under its purview. The PPLC is subject to the Open Meetings Act and must post its agenda 48 hours in advance and must include an opportunity for public participation at every meeting.

If your committees are not in place, let's get them up and running. They are our collective voice and we should use them to the max. They can only work if we make them work! ■