



Board of Education | City of Chicago

News Release

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Chicago Board of Education Approves Resolution Affirming Community Engagement in the CEO/Superintendent Search *Application Period Opens Today, April 25*

CHICAGO – At its regular meeting on Thursday, April 24, 2025, the Chicago Board of Education unanimously approved a resolution launching the search for the next CEO/Superintendent of Chicago Public Schools (CPS). The resolution emphasizes the Board’s commitment to engaging CPS stakeholders—including students, staff, administrators, and the broader community—throughout the process.

Applications for the position open today, April 25, allowing candidates to apply before the school year ends.

The Board is committed to selecting a leader who upholds educational excellence, equity, and accountability. As outlined in a resolution passed on March 20, 2025, candidates must hold a valid Illinois Professional Educator License with a Superintendent endorsement—or an equivalent credential from another state.

Engaging with CPS and Stakeholders

Community voice will be instrumental in helping the Board refine the job posting and shape a comprehensive leadership profile that highlights the District and outlines key priorities and goals for the next CEO/Superintendent. Following the completion of the initial community engagement, the Board will review the findings in collaboration with its executive search firm, Alma Advisory Group, and make the report publicly available.

“The Board is taking the search for our next CEO/Superintendent very seriously,” said Board President Sean B. Harden. “We feel it’s important to authentically engage the community in the search process. The lived experiences of the CPS community and Chicagoans will shape the way we think about the role, and the ways in which we will interview potential candidates.”

Although a vote on the resolution isn’t legally required to start the search process, the Board believes it’s important to formally express its unity and commitment to a collaborative approach. The vote also

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demonstrates the Board’s consensus on the role’s key responsibilities and the skills it will prioritize in the search. This marks a pivotal moment for the city, as the nation’s largest public school governing body begins the process of selecting the next CEO/Superintendent of CPS.

“The diversity within our Board creates an opportunity for greater parent, student, and community voice and representation to the District’s leadership,” said Board Member and Transition Team Chair Jessica Biggs. “Our first opportunity to demonstrate this strength will be in the way we carry out this search. It’s a charge that we take very seriously.”

How to Get Involved

There will be multiple ways that the CPS community and Chicagoans can be involved in the weeks ahead, including:

- **Community gatherings:** During the month of May, each of the ten elected school board districts will host a community gathering where the public will be invited to attend and give their input.
- **Focus groups:** The District will conduct interviews and focus groups with teachers, students, principals, staff, union leaders, and community partners to allow for deeper discussions.
- **Community survey:** The Board will issue a community survey to gather feedback broadly.

The Board will provide a schedule for each community gathering event on its website **CPSBOE.org**, along with updates about the search.

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About the Executive Search Firm

Alma Advisory Group (Alma), a Chicago-based firm, was selected for its strength in community engagement and its ability to build strong screening processes. Throughout the CEO/Superintendent search, Alma will be partnering closely with the District’s talent team and Board members. The firm was identified through CPS’ procurement process.

About the Board

The Chicago Board of Education (Board), founded in 1840, is responsible for the governance, organizational, and financial oversight of Chicago Public Schools, one of the largest school districts in the United States. The Board establishes policies, standards, goals, and initiatives to ensure accountability and provide a high quality, world-class education for the 21st century that prepares our students for success in college, work, and life.

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