



Forrest Claypool
Chief Executive Officer

42 West Madison, 3rd Floor • Chicago, Illinois 60602

April 20, 2016

Karen Lewis
Chicago Teachers Union
222 Merchandise Mart Plaza, Suite 400
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Re: Proposal for Final and Binding Arbitration In Lieu of Strike

Dear Karen,

We are disappointed that the CTU decided to reject the Fact Finder's recommendation. We are also aware of your public comments that the "clock is ticking" toward a strike. In our view a strike whether in May or in August or in September would be devastating to our students and parents. Further, we are at a loss as to how a strike would solve or even advance a solution to the considerable challenges that CPS faces. The best course is for CPS and CTU to join together in Springfield for long term sustainable funding for our schools. A strike is counterproductive and would only fuel the anti-CPS forces in Springfield.

To avoid disruption to our schools and to advance our partnership in Springfield, we are asking that CTU agree to final and binding interest arbitration in lieu of a strike. As you know, final and binding interest arbitration is permitted pursuant to section 12 (a-10) (d) of the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act. Interest Arbitration has been used in Chicago for our Police and Fire contracts for decades. I believe that teachers are just as important as our policemen and firemen. The extraordinary circumstances that CPS currently faces demands that we use every means available to avoid disruption to our schools and our families.

We very much hope that you will give this offer your serious consideration. We would be most appreciative if we could have your response by April 27, 2016.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Forrest Claypool
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Joseph T. Moriarty

James C. Franczek

Robert Bloch

