



42 West Madison Street, 3rd Floor • Chicago, IL 60602

Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

April 17, 2015

David Vitale, President
Chicago Board of Education
1 N. Dearborn, Suite 950
Chicago, IL 60602

Dear David,

This week I learned of an investigation being conducted by federal authorities in Chicago. I have retained counsel to represent me in connection with this investigation.

In light of the attention given to my position as Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools, I believe that my continuing as CEO at this time would be a distraction. Although this is a very difficult decision for me personally, it is one that I believe is in the best interests of the children of CPS that I am so fortunate to serve. I remain deeply committed to the mission of CPS but believe my taking a leave of absence under these circumstances best serves the interests of the children and the District.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Board of Education grant me a leave of absence, effective April 20, 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Byrd-Bennett".

Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer
Chicago Public Schools