



Matt Lyons
Chief Talent Officer

March 24, 2016

Dear CPS teachers and PSRPs,

As you are aware, yesterday the CTU's House of Delegates approved a proposal by CTU leadership for a one-day strike on April 1, 2016. We know many of you have questions about what to expect that day and I'm writing to begin addressing some of those concerns.

Our priority is always to provide a structured learning environment for our students. And while there are teachers who have committed to being in their classrooms on the 1st, we cannot accurately determine the number of staff absences we will face and, therefore, cannot operate as we would on a regular school day.

We are encouraging parents with the option of keeping their student(s) at home or attending at a non-CPS facility to do so. However, because that option does not exist for all families, CPS will join with the Chicago Park District and the Chicago Public Library to operate more than 250 contingency sites across the city. CPS' contingency sites will be supervised by CPS union and non-union employees, and will provide an environment where students are safe, fed, and engaged.

As a precaution, every school buildings will be staffed by the principal or assistant principal, and other essential staff, so that any students who arrive at a non-contingency location can be welcomed.

As a CPS employee represented by CTU, if you work on April 1, you will be paid as usual. Please arrive at your school, swipe in, and spend the day supervising students that are present, preparing for the following week, or providing support for other school needs. Please be sure to let your principal know that you are present.

If you choose to participate in the strike and do not work, please know that you will not be paid. Attempts to use benefit time fraudulently violates CPS' policies and will result in discipline.

If you are also a CPS parent, you should expect to receive information on Tuesday, March 29th about your child's contingency site.

Please know we remain committed to supporting you in your critical work on behalf of Chicago's students.

For additional questions, please contact your principal or direct supervisor.

Sincerely,

Matt Lyons
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