

May 27, 2020

**RESOLUTION REGARDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROMOTION IN RESPONSE TO THE  
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, there is an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and infections are being reported internationally, including the United States and the City of Chicago;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the Health and Human Services Secretary, Alex M. Azar II, declared a public health emergency ("PHE") for the United States;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a nationwide emergency under the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C 5121-5207) in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, on April 1, 2020, and again on April 30, 2020, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a disaster proclamation (state of emergency) for the State of Illinois in response to the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker issued Executive Order 2020-05 ordering the closure of public and private pre-K-12 schools for educational purposes from March 17, 2020, through March 30, 2020;

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, Executive Order 2020-18 extended Executive Order 2020-05 in its entirety for the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamations. Further, on April 30, 2020, Executive Order 2020-33 reissued Executive Order 2020-05 with an extension through May 29, 2020;

WHEREAS, this is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation of public health concern and the top priority of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago ("Board") is the health and safety of CPS students and staff and their families and community;

WHEREAS, the Board is following and will continue to follow the guidance of local, state, and federal health officials, including the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), the Illinois Department of Public Health ("IDPH") and the Chicago Department of Public Health ("CDPH") to protect the health of the community, respond to the outbreak and minimize transmission;

WHEREAS, in-person instruction has been suspended since March 17, 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, CPS canceled end-of-year assessments including NWEA, which is administered to students in grades 2 through 8 and is used to help inform summer school and promotion decisions for 3rd, 6th, and 8th graders; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes the disruption to learning for the 2019-2020 school year has been so substantial as to render the process of using student academic performance data to promote or retain elementary school students untenable;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board hereby directs as follows:

1. All students in grades K-8, during the 2019-2020 school year, normally retained under the Elementary School Promotion Policy, Board Report 09-1028-PO2 will be promoted to the next grade.
2. Students who are identified as needing further academic support will be prioritized for possible interventions including summer school, personal learning plans, or others as developed.
3. This Resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.