Board of Education | City of Chicago

BSAC Black Student Advisory Committee Written Comments

November 12, 2026

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November 12, 2026 BSAC Black Student Advisory Committee Written Comments Received between Tuesday, Nov 10th and Friday, Nov 13th Submitted via Written Comments Form

1	I've volunteered in Chicago for over 51 years. Most of that time was spent in the Austin Community as well as various other schools and organizations. I've also spoken at the Board Meetings for over 20 years. Today, I would love to have some students assist me with a special historical project. We want to give them some positive things to do over the Christmas holidays. We will be celebrating Christmas and Kwanzaa in the Austin Branch Library on December 18, 2026. We'll have Arts, Crafts, Christmas music, refreshments and other surprises. Our Announcement about the historical project will be presented there. For safety purposes, we would like the seniors from Austin, Douglass and Michelle Clark High schools to attend, with parental consent and chaperones. It will be a fun, historical gathering. One of the goals is to get the students to assist with a special project while learning and earning small stipends by the end of the school year in May. We do intend to get sponsors to assist us. Sincerely, Mrs. Diondai Brown-Whitfield
2	Look in one direction — the kids. Every person at the table wants what is right in their own way. Grant that first, then fight to be right about the answer, not each other. Those very children will lead the way back home. They can tell us all we do not know — in kindness and grace, not in malice and hate. Education now. Teach children why they respect a child, not just to obey a rule. It only takes a couple tablespoons of water to drown a newborn — that is how fragile a child is, and how much the why matters. And the money must be there, because the kids need it. — Don H Harris