

March 22, 2023 Board Meeting Written Comments
Received between Monday, March 20th and Thursday, March 23rd
Submitted via Written Comments Form

1 My name is Walter Brzeski (Bres-key) and I'm a former CPS employee and lifelong Chicago resident.

I've asked for the Board's, Mr. Del Valle's, and CEO Martinez' for their help several times to get CPS to release the 2011 security video of a Steinmetz HS assistant principal choking and dragging a female student that resulted in the APs arrest and a \$10,000 settlement made to the student. CPS first denied the release of the video and then I filed a Request for Review with the IL Attorney General's Public Access Counselor (PAC) and they ruled in my favor for the release of the video. However, whereas CPS and the CPS FOIA Dept under Joseph Moriarty had refused to release the video month after month and its going on 11 months.

Here's the CPS FOIA Request for the 2011 security video: "The security video for CPS Event Detail Report #678534, submitted on Thursday, January 13, 2011 for an event on either Tuesday, January 11, 2011 or Wednesday January 12, 2011. More specifics are: A CPS Investigative Memorandum was created on March 14, 2011 for this event/incident with File #5134 and sent to James Ciesil from Michael Mahone with: Subject: Jaime Jaramillo, Type of Incident: Physical Abuse, School: Steinmetz High School, Region: 1, Area: 26. Please provide the video in a copy of the current form and available for pickup or mailing to or by myself or a representative OR electronically in a form suitable to be attached to an email response back to this FOIA Request or through the CPS FOIA Center."

I'm once again requesting the Board, Mr. Del Valle, and CEO Martinez help me to get the 2011 video released to me as well.

Also, the CPS Position Files from December 31, 2022 lists several regular teachers making over \$100,000+ per year in salary + another \$35,000+ in benefits to to work as substitute teachers under City Wide General Education and none are technically assigned to any schools. Why aren't any of these regular teachers working as subs placed into one of the 1270 position openings listed on the CPS Taleo (job opportunities) system?

Finally, I applaud the board and their CPS calendar schedule makers for working to make the week of Thanksgiving as non-student attendance days for this and next school years. As many people may or may not know the Monday and Tuesday were 'do-nothing' days.

Now, I challenge the Board and CEO Martinez to make sure 'do-nothing' days will not be tolerated anymore throughout CPS, especially at a school like Steinmetz College Prep where the last 5-7 student attendance days of the school year after finals are routinely 'do-nothing' days with very little to any students in the building while all employees earn their full salaries for those 5-7 student attendance days. In the last 10 years, Steinmetz has lost 10%-13% of their student attendance days to 'do-nothing' days, this at a CPS high school with a 68% graduation rate.

2 Good Afternoon President del Valle, Board Members and CEO Martinez.

My name is Elvira Bernal and I am a proud parent at Acero's Casas Elementary School. I have two children, [REDACTED], who are in 3rd and 5th grade. Both of my children have received phenomenal support from Casas and the network has been great at keeping parents informed and engaged in the growth and education of our scholars. This is why I'm proud to be representing Acero Schools today.

I enrolled my students in 2016 and have been an engaged parent during my time at Casas. The support and engagement from the teachers and principal have truly made a difference in the lives of my family. Casas is a welcoming environment and a home away from home for students and parents. Acero makes a conscious effort to always communicate and hear from families on how to better support us and welcomes our feedback. My children are excelling academically. I found a community at this school.

Casas and Acero staff encourage me to engage and participate in activities. I am growing alongside my children. I have been a parent ambassador for our BAC parent committee, a volunteer for school events and learned several new skills through the Padres Comprometidos program. Padres teaches parents how to navigate the education system and we are given tools and resources to better support our children. This year, Acero incorporated Digital Skills for Life in Padres Comprometidos helping us to learn more digital literacy skills. Acero is offering this program across the network.

Acero Schools has been an incredible network to be a part of and I am happy to have chosen Casas as our second home for my sons to learn and grow. Acero is built for family and scholar success. I'm proud to be a part of Casas and Acero Schools. I thank you for your time. Acero parents would love to see you come out to learn more about our schools. Thank you.

Buenas tardes Presidente del Valle, Miembros de la Junta Directiva y CEO Martinez.

Mi nombre es Elvira Bernal y soy una orgullosa madre de la Primaria Casas de Acero. Tengo dos hijos, [REDACTED], que cursan 3º y 5º de primaria. Mis dos hijos han recibido un apoyo fenomenal de Casas y la red ha sido genial para mantener a los padres informados y comprometidos con el crecimiento y la educación de nuestros alumnos. Por eso estoy orgullosa hoy de representar a Escuelas Acero.

Inscribí a mis estudiantes en el 2016 y he sido una madre comprometida durante mi tiempo en Casas. El apoyo y compromiso de los maestros y la directora han hecho una verdadera diferencia en la vida de mi familia. Casas es un ambiente

acogedor y un hogar lejos del hogar para estudiantes y padres. Acero hace un esfuerzo consciente para comunicarse siempre y escuchar a las familias sobre cómo apoyarnos mejor y agradece nuestros comentarios. Mis hijos están sobresaliendo académicamente. He encontrado una comunidad en este colegio.

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Escuelas Acero ha sido una red increíble y estoy feliz de haber elegido Casas como nuestro segundo hogar para que mis hijos aprendan y crezcan. Acero está construido para el éxito familiar y escolar. Estoy orgullosa de formar parte de Casas y de Escuelas Acero. Le agradezco su tiempo. A los padres de Acero les encantaría que vinieran a aprender más sobre nuestras escuelas. Gracias.

ATTACHMENTS

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**PRE-COLLEGE
& CAREER
EXPLORATION**
A NOBLE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

SY2223 - Noble Schools Dual Enrollment Information

Noble Campuses that currently house Dual Enrollment Programs:

Baker College Prep
Gary Comer College Prep
Johnson College Prep
Noble Street College Prep
Rauner College Prep

Dual Enrollment Courses Offered:

African-American Studies
College English ¹
Admin Criminal Justice
Basic Speech
Biological Science Survey
Intro to Business
Intro to Literature
Intro to Psychology
Intro to Statistics

¹ Johnson College Prep is running a pilot program in conjunction with Kennedy King College. There are currently 15 students enrolled in the course, and all 15 students are passing. Students take this course remotely in a classroom at Johnson.

SY2223 - Noble Schools Dual Credit Program Information

Noble Campuses that currently house Dual Credit Programs:

Campus	Course Name
DRW College Prep	Dual Credit Math 140
Gary Comer College Prep	Dual Credit English
Johnson College Prep	Dual Credit: Business 111
Muchin College Prep	Dual Credit Psychology
Rowe-Clark Math & Science Academy	Dual Credit English 101
ITW: David Speer Academy	Dual Credit English
UIC College Prep	Dual Credit Chemistry

Dual Credit College Partnerships

City Colleges of Chicago: Harold Washington College
City Colleges of Chicago: Malcolm X College
City Colleges of Chicago: Kennedy King College

Remarks

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