

**June 20,2023 and June 21, 2023 Budget Hearings Written Comments
Received between Tuesday, June 13th and Thursday, June 22nd
Submitted via Written Comments Form**

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

This is now my 10th request, plus several emails, for the following information from the Board and CPS:

I've asked for the Board's, Mr. Del Valle's, and CEO Martinez' for their help to get CPS Law and FOIA Dept to release to me the 2011 redacted 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 16 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."

Please have this video provided to me ASAP. The IL ATG PAC's letter will be attached to the written comments section.

2 We have a comprehensive bilingual non generic books series and program that is culturally relevant that resonates with the youth and promotes student achievement. We offer an academic curriculum at NO COST to CPS that addresses social and emotional learning and helps the students with their critical thinking skills and bridges the educational gap.

The books "From the Barrio to the Board Room, graphic novel Mi Barrio and activity coloring books teaches our teens and at-risk youth that gang banging and violence is not a life style but a death style and that the ultimate weapon is not a loaded gun but an educated mind.

Given the current climate facing our youth and communities we ask that you take a hard and closer look into these teaching tools that are being taught in classrooms across the country and in over 25 other countries around the word.

The Barrio books and program was initially launched in 2008 and we have seen over the past 15 1/2 years that it is having a social impact on hundreds and thousands of students in real time and the qualitative data is unquestionable and undeniable.

We have nothing to lose and everything to gain by bringing this program into CPS so the we can provide teaching tools that are changing and saving lives!

The Barrio books are being taught in middle schools, high schools, colleges, higher education, libraries, youth detention centers, jails, prisons, police, probation, substance abuse programs, homeless shelters, battered women's shelters, mental, health, churches and a multiple of after school programs.

This entire book series and curriculum was self funded as an investment in our children's future, we respectfully ask that we have a conversation to discuss various ways we can collaborate.

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- 3 I would like to propose that the Principals in each of our schools regain their authority over the cleaning and maintenance functions in our schools. Passing the authority to outside organizations such as Sudexo and Aramark and coordinating the cleaning through CPS central office has created a disservice to the cleanliness and sanitation of our schools. But don't just take my word for it. I suggest that POLLS be taken of the Principals, students, and Local School to get their input on this proposal.
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