

RESOLUTION ON VENDORS AND CAMPAIGN DONATIONS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 34-3 of the Illinois School Code, there will be a School Board Election in the 2026 General Election on November 3, 2026 for all 21 members of the Chicago Board of Education ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, the Board endeavors to strengthen public trust; and

WHEREAS, the Board Members have a fiduciary duty to the Board and the public by avoiding conflicts of interest and the appearance of impropriety and acting in good faith; and

WHEREAS, the Board Members, in taking their oath of office, swear to respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of Chicago Public Schools' assets; and

WHEREAS, the Board Members desire to hold themselves and others accountable to their fiduciary duties and oath of office; and

WHEREAS, the Board Members disclose conflicts of interest prior to Board Meetings on a monthly basis, and where a conflict exists, Board Members recuse themselves from voting on the matter; and

WHEREAS, if Board Members accepting campaign contributions from vendors approved by the CPS Procurement Department, and outside counsel approved by the Board, would result in recusal from voting, there is a risk of fewer than a quorum of voting members, thereby impeding the Board's ability to execute on one of its primary responsibilities to Chicago Public Schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it Hereby Resolved by the Board of Education of the City of Chicago as follows:

1. That each Board Member Candidate, including any candidate who has filed nominating papers or petitions for nomination for election to become a Board Member in the 2026 General Election, is responsible for confirming that potential donors are not CPS vendors or prospective CPS vendors or outside counsel serving the Board.
2. That the Board will maintain publicly available notice of a Board Member Candidate's responsibility to adhere to the provisions of this resolution on its official website.
3. That each Board Member Candidate not accept campaign contributions in any amount from active CPS vendors or outside counsel serving the Board.
4. That each Board Member Candidate not accept campaign contributions from those who have applied to become CPS vendors and whose applications remain pending consideration.
5. That in the event a Board Member Candidate accepted a donation from a vendor prior to adoption of this resolution, that the Board Member Candidate either recuse themselves from voting or return the donation in full with written confirmation to the Board Office and the Ethics Officer.

This Resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.