



Board of Education CITY OF CHICAGO

Office of the Board
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February 13, 2020

Dear CPS Community:

Thank you for your participation at the Chicago Board of Education Early Childhood Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2020. Your passion is inspiring and your feedback is invaluable to our city's plans for early childhood education.

As we promised at the Committee Meeting, the materials are now posted on the Chicago Board of Education website. We want to be completely transparent as we continue the dialogue about early care and education in the city of Chicago. You can find the presentation, transcript, and other materials under "News and Announcements" on our website at www.cpsboe.org. Please feel free to share this information with people in your networks who were unable to attend the meeting.

I want you to know I heard you loud and clear. While we have made great strides in providing high-quality early childhood education to families across the city, we must do more to meet the needs of our children and families. We need stronger collaboration with families, teachers, community-based organizations, and other community partners, and we must ensure our services are linguistically and culturally responsive to the communities we serve. We need to improve the application and enrollment processes and address the significant and complex workforce challenges in early childhood, particularly for bilingual and special education. While I cannot promise we will resolve these and other issues raised right away, it will be the priority of the Early Childhood Committee to continue this conversation and promote stronger collaboration with you and our community partners. I am confident that with your continued engagement, we will improve early care and education in our city. Please monitor your emails and check our website for future engagement efforts.

If you have any questions, please call the Chicago Board of Education at (773)-553-1600 or email BOEECC@cps.edu. On behalf of the Chicago Board of Education, thank you again for sharing your insights and contributing to this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luisiana Meléndez R." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Luisiana Meléndez
Early Childhood Committee Chair
Chicago Board of Education