

MEDIA ADVISORY FOR: WEDNESDAY, August 22nd at 9:30 AM

Contact:

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CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS, BUS AIDES, CUSTODIANS, & SECURITY TO SHOW UP IN FORCE OUTSIDE CPS BOARD MEETING TO SEND A LOUD & CLEAR MESSAGE: “NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH WITH US, RESPECT US, RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF OUR WORK, DO GOOD BY OUR STUDENTS”

CPS workers will rally at CPS Headquarters on Madison Street to show that they are vital to education

What: Workers who provide needed services to special needs students, make bus rides safe for students, clean the schools, and assure the security of children in schools are showing up to make a powerful statement outside the CPS Board meeting, that they are a vital link to education. It simply isn't possible for quality education to happen without them. Negotiations are currently underway with CPS and these workers have identified key areas that will address the problems: staffing levels, fair wages, and safety & respect. Staffing levels must be increased so that all students learn in clean, safe environments and have the support they need to succeed. School employees with years of dedication and experience must be compensated a fair wage. Wages aren't just about money. Many of these workers are also parents of current CPS students. When parents have a good job, their children have the stability at home that they need to succeed in school. The education of our children is also about the examples that we set for them. We can do this at our schools by fostering work environments where all employees are safe and respected. If the CPS Board does not get the message, if the stonewalling continues, make no mistake; the fight will continue.

When: Wednesday, August 22, at 9:30am

Where: CPS Headquarters, 42 W. Madison St.

Who: SEIU Local 73 members

Visuals: Participants chanting and holding instruments of their work (mops, brooms, etc.)

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SEIU Local 73 represents more than 29,000 workers, primarily in public service and publicly funded positions in school districts, municipalities, social service agencies, and many other job classifications in Illinois and Indiana. We are dedicated to improving the lives of workers and their families.