

CPS Update February 2022

Our position has been and will continue to be that there needs to be stricter safety mitigations in Chicago Public Schools to protect staff, students, and families. The decision made by the CEO to cancel instruction last minute has put undue hardship and burden on our members, especially those with children in CPS. These last minute decisions have been frustrating and confusing for many of our members.

We understand the need to stand in solidarity with the Chicago Teachers Union, as teachers are locked out and facing no pay during this time, in the fight for safe schools. We also understand that coming out of the holidays, many of our members cannot afford to take zero days or need to save the benefit time they do have. That is why we have issued the options for members to take during the past two days. [Please fill out this survey](#), so we can gauge where our members are at across the district. Whether you took a zero-day, benefit day, or reported to work - we want to provide opportunities to stand in solidarity with the teachers union. See below for action steps you can take. Additionally, we have filed an all-affected grievance against CPS because we believe the past two days have violated our agreement with the district. The grievance process is slow; however, we believe we will win. If your principal is threatening you or refusing your personal days, you should reach out to your union representative immediately.

Solidarity Action Steps:

- Take a photo in purple if possible and with a sign. Submit your solidarity [photo here](#). Here are some possible examples: “SEIU 73 supports CTU”, “SEIU 73 Solidarity with CTU”, “SEIU 73 & CTU United for Clean & Safe Schools”.
- Send an email to elected officials [here](#).

We have heard rumblings that some schools may open to students tomorrow based on staff ratios, nothing confirmed or official of which schools yet. This is of great concern to us, as our members **should not** be responsible for teaching, instructing, or providing general supervision of students. We will be sending out standard language for all of you to utilize if you are directed to work outside your job description. We will continue our conversations with the district to protect our members as best as possible during these uncertain times. The situation is fluid and changes day by day, but we will work to keep you all updated.