



HYDE PARK-KENWOOD COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

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March 20, 2013

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HPKCC is a 501c(3) nonprofit
in good standing

Resolution on Deferral of CPS School Closures

Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference

Drafted by the Schools Committee and approved by the Board of Directors

March 2013:

Whereas: The public schools in Hyde Park and Kenwood and in every neighborhood in the City of Chicago are key assets and community centers, and

Whereas: We do not want to see school buildings abandoned, torn down, or repurposed out of public use, thus setting back our neighborhoods, and

Whereas: The teachers, administrators, staff, teams of volunteers, parents and various community organizations and organized school support groups have, through tremendous effort, helped these schools make great strides, and

Whereas: Children should have the option of being able to walk to good public schools in familiar settings without having to cross into danger zones or to endure inconvenient transport, and

Whereas: The closure and consolidation of schools, as done in the past by CPS, even in small batches, has been disruptive for children, families, schools and communities, and has not resulted in the children displaced going to schools that are better but to schools that are further away, and

Whereas: The yearly threat of closures sets schools and communities against each other and makes it impossible for parents to plan their children's education or for schools to be assured of a stable population for long-term planning, and finally

Whereas: We believe that CPS's stated goals for the closures, including to reduce building operations costs and to sell assets, are based on inaccurate assumptions and data, and that closures will be detrimental to families, schools and neighborhoods,

Therefore be it resolved that the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference and its Schools Committee seeks deferral of school closings in our neighborhood and Chicago pending development of a sound and equitable plan that incorporates the input and takes into account the needs and concerns of children, parents and communities.

Dated this 19th day of March, 2013

Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference,

/s/ Anita Hollins, President _____ and for the Board of Directors