



Janice K. Jackson, EdD
Chief Executive Officer

Chief Executive Office

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Dear CPS Parents and Guardians,

As we start another great school year, we want to reflect all the excitement we've seen in classrooms in every part of the city – and begin another year of exploration, discovery and achievement. We are excited to once again provide you with an update on the incredible progress your students are making in the classroom as they prepare for their next steps.

Attached is the CPS Academic Report Card (cps.edu/reportcard) in both English and Spanish. It shows that students from across Chicago are making record-breaking progress.

In 2011, only 56.9 percent of Chicago's youth graduated from high school.

Today, that number is 78.2 percent – and we're especially proud that African American and Hispanic men drove the increase. Also this year, a historic 89.2 percent of freshmen are on track to graduate, which tells us that our graduation rate will only continue to improve.

More CPS graduates than ever are enrolling in college, and nearly half of them earned college or career credits while in high school. That's to say nothing of the fact that the Class of 2018 earned a record-high \$1.3 billion in scholarship offers.

Not to be outdone, more than 60 percent of our elementary school students beat the national average for attainment in Reading on the NWEA's Measure of Academic Progress, and a record-high 56.6 percent beat the national average for attainment in Math.

This report card also shows our commitment to educating the whole child. More CPS schools than ever are receiving exemplary ratings in health, the arts, and social-emotional learning. Because the safety of your children is always our top priority, we have expanded our Safe Passage program to include 80,000 students in 160 schools.

Looking at this report card, it's easy to see why Chicago has become a national leader in urban education. While we are proud of the progress we have made, there is still much work ahead – continuing to invest in proven programs like International Baccalaureate, STEM, early college prep and more. We look forward to hearing from you in the coming months, and wish you and your children another safe and productive school year.

Sincerely,

Janice Jackson, EdD
Chief Executive Officer
Chicago Public Schools

Rahm Emanuel
Mayor