



Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School (Chicago Prep) is a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school, working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

Please complete the information below to demonstrate interest in your child attending Chicago Prep. Signing this enrollment interest form <u>does</u> <u>not obligate</u> your child to attend Chicago Prep, <u>nor does it guarantee admission</u>. Students who will be entering 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 2021 will be eligible for admission. Chicago Prep will grow by one grade every year until we are a full 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade school.

Student Name	Current Grade Level	Parent/Guardian Name	Address	Relationship to Student	Signature
Alina Shelton	Afr	Anaya Maybarry		Non	aary
Marcell Jackson	5	Marcell Jackson		Father	Frankia
Derrick Brunson	54	Angela Briveon		mon	Cela
Niama Malachi	/	Dr. Nlame T. Malachi D. D. PE. YouTH		,	A.
Kamryn Tolliver	Sth	Wiana Moore		mother	(Aldor



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Diversite	v So'Leil	, XA Adyssen	V Chefoni Mitchell	1 Haige	Student Name	
					ame Current Grade Level	
5th Sulliver, Ogterre	Radiance	5th Valencia Lockhart	6th Chitavaffeeth	Air Kava Hill	Parent/Guardian Name	
					Address	
Non	Mon	Mom	motion	MOM	Relationship to Student	
m. July	Juf 2 C	Phylon	alward have	Havalte	Signature	23





Office U	se Only
Date received	
Initials	
Date recorded	

#### 2021-2022 Enrollment Interest Form

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Please complete the information and return the form to the organization where you received it (e.g., library, park). Alternatively, you may complete the form online at <u>www.chiprepmiddle.org/enrollment</u> or take a picture of the completed form and send it to chiprepmiddle@gmail.com.

	Student Info	mation	
Full Student Name:	is Nevach	Weeks	DOB
Current Grade Level:	Th Th	is pares	
/	Student Address (	No P.O. Boxes)	
Street:	A the American Production	Apt.	:
City Chicago	state: IL	Zip	Code: 60653
	Parent/Guardia		
Full Parent/Guardian Nam	e: PARIS V.	DAVIS	
Relationship to Student:	Mother		
Street:		Apt	
city Chicago	State: IL	Zip	Code: 60653
Phone 1:		Phone 2:	
Email Address:			
low did you hear about Chica	go Prep? (Circle) · Fac	ebook • Instag	gram . Word of Mouth
· Flier at: Park Dis	tact: Event:	. (	Other:
Pasie Davis			Drie 1 locks
	, am interested in		
o Chicago Prep Middle Sch	ool, a proposed charter se	chool in the Bronzevil	le community, in 2021.
Mant V	Cat	5 0:	7-07-2020
Parent or Guardian Signatur	e		ate
	/		



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Student Name	Current Grade Level	Parent/Guardian Name and Email Address Summer White	Address	Relationship to Student Mothey	Signature
Jeremy Fielder 4th	1 th	Summer white		Mother	Sun Wit
Mckinzie Stewart 4th	4th			Father	Lut
Noah Oshiga	Pure pure			Mother	luce
Africus Narcus Trousman	4th 6 th	Marcus Trouthan		Father	Al
Mc. Love Mcxander El	EAL AND	MS. Love Alexander E.L		Mother	Xalas
Alexander					



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Mckinzie Stewart 4th	4th			Father	Lut
Noah Oshiga	Pure pure			Mother	luce
Africus Narcus Trousman	4th 6 th	Marcus Trouthan		Father	Al
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Alexander					





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Aaron Stewart	5	April Stewart		REDA	alturail
Lauras Brewer	6	Michelle Ray .		Mother	
Joy Sanders	3	Monica Plaid	1	Mont -	ma



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Joei	Ambalico	Miny	Careen	Andrea 2	Student Name
5	7_	6	S	ON PH	Current Grade Level
		1	LAVELINMEREEN		Parent/Guardian Name and Email Address
		7			Address
Mam	LU OUN	11	1 AAA	Mom	Relationship to Student
Janji Danjeen	Mar Bar	Jerly	Jard	Andre	Signature



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Justur Elle	Kentrell Grick	Jorden Luckett	State from s	Student Name
St 2	st st	Th		Current Grade Level
MS-CATOLSTON	Allon Rich Str Me Intollo	Jaffrey T		Parent/Guardian Name and Email Address
	c			Address
A Ameron . Brance .	mother	fethei		Relationship to Student
Grand Manler	Betwin	[-{ frf		Signature

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	Jone	Coetez	Student Name
	A	6	Current Grade Level
	Courtney Neshit	Tamillia Smrth	Parent/Guardian Name and Email Address
			Address
	Maphie	mother	Relationship to Student
		Amplia	Signature

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Student Name	Current Grade Level	Parent/Guardian Name	Address	Relationship to Student	Signature
Joshua Rohen	a 5	JAvier Dahena		Fother	yn Re
melina Rohen	a \$	Jovier Rohenz	4 1	11 -1	yn Dh
Noch Rohen	6	Javier Rohena	v 1/		J-: 32



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Jeremigh Brooks	4	Mari Brooks		PAD	My M
Johanny Brooks	6	Marc Provilis		Pal	The Rulk
-T'NAYAH WEATHERSBY	5	ALICIA WEATHERSDI		Margreek	God Otal 2

Submitted On	ParentGuardian Name	Email	Phone	Student Addres	Student Name	Current Grade	Second S	Current C	How did you hear about Chicago Prep	Any additional questions or co	nments		
06/24/2020 13:4	Cawanna Stonewall				Crystal Stonewall	5th							
07/09/2020 11:19	Patricia Akuamoah Atekha				Skylar Akua Atekha	4th							
07/25/2020 23:30	KNashaun Lee				Christian Askew	4th			:) Founder was my former middle school	writing teacher!			
07/27/2020 14:43	Yesenia Saavedra				Kamila Winters	5th			Flyer				
07/28/2020 07:4	Khala Hands				Taraji Reed	4th			My friend Ken Dickerson	I love that this is being available f	or our children. I'm	in absolute suppo	ort
07/29/2020 22:0	Sheenah Carter				Makayla Dixon	4th			Facebook				
07/29/2020 23:5	Sham Roberts				Tristan Lewis	5th							
07/31/2020 05:43	Arneshia McConnell				A'Seiya McConnell	5th			Facebook				



1.5b: Petitions Signed by Parents and Community Members

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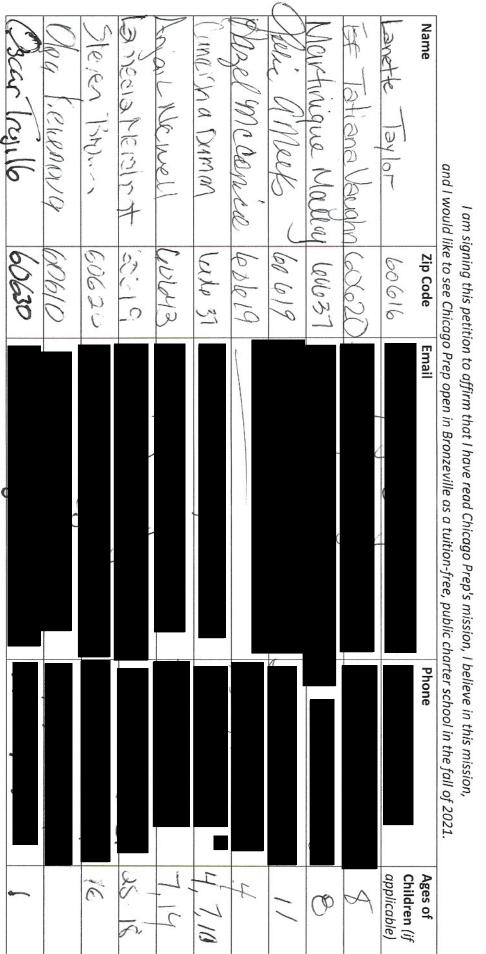
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Name ASMEZIA PARA - TAMM 24 ercedes ar Kenya eane nanno 1 A M le Janes Williams 505 Bender JUNDI ieme and I would like to see Chicago Prep open in Bronzeville as a tuition-free, public charter school in the fall of 2021. I am signing this petition to affirm that I have read Chicago Prep's mission, I believe in this mission, Address 60610 60438 200-6000 Zip Code 20616 an nag 60653 21409 20652 Email Phone

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Name AM 1 lichael Kobertson 60653 000 have elob unn'adjoin 60615 12 brown 60253 5NOC JUZZ and I would like to see Chicago Prep open in Bronzeville as a tuition-free, public charter school in the fall of 2021. 66(3-51909 60609 Zip Code 52400 ,06 10 120621 Email Phone applicable) Children (if Ages of 10-0

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Name cea 9 242 a a a Zip Code 60619 00009 C SO 20618 lod Email Phone applicable) Children (if Ages of

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		-	*	- \$	_	×					
Amber Speese	Elizabeth Alien	KANBY ENANS	Shakti SankofA	Carona Monur	Clynn W	Horon	ARANG W	Netre Robinson	Donna Beasley		Name
		MANS	ankora	IN DOW	ynn Williams	Garet	ARAVE Wy Manimal 60620	Cobinson	Seasley		
UK80 1	63659	60619	60619	(00410S	60615	60630	60620	40634	60615		Zip Code
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			12yr		7	3775		13115		<b>Children</b> ( <i>if</i> applicable)	Ages of

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Name partunits type Wither Colligo NANDA WUISON JINA Imp DND Irema (200 ham) 40020 anoutha MRA SHAN 11/pGME nultur 120 men 606 15 INNSUNU lark Tatleson loo 653 and I would like to see Chicago Prep open in Bronzeville as a tuition-free, public charter school in the fall of 2021. I am signing this petition to affirm that I have read Chicago Prep's mission, I believe in this mission, Zip Code 60653 1000010 Email positively impact the world Phone 570 applicable) Children (if Ages of 12-14

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Name	Zip Code	Zip Code Email	Phone	Ages of
			0	applicable)
Kandis MARTIN	60616			
Dreve Harres	60615			
Brianna Guphin	60620			N/A - NICCE
Jordan Green	100649			Nono
Jacqueline P. Rodney	60609			None
Joshine Dutts	52409			υ
Kelly Shyard	60653			hand
Nikelia Marelin	66653			Ч
Maryleshy Flowers	looler le			3 11
> LJOUIO WOITE				

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Name D hur forcin trance avera.cc NUAL 2 と見てる広く Uhma 1e Blakkyloobol IN WYWW Non Cer Caples CLORFLE Con son 100 and I would like to see Chicago Prep open in Bronzeville as a tuition-free, public charter school in the fall of 2021. 15409 60653 60617 60637 8003 Zip Code 60607 4590050 Email Phone NONE 3-496 Children (if 12-8-6 applicable) Ages of 11-16 Morre Jone none NANC 0

I am signing this petition to affirm that I have read Chicago Prep's mission, I believe in this mission,



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and I would like to see Chirano Pren l am signing this petition to affirm that I have read Chicago Prep's mission, I believe in this mission, on in Dro will. + ....+.

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					d					Zip Code Email Phone
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	C-41.					2	/(	44	W	Ages of Children (if applicable)

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Name Michael Holds North OL Mr. Col (Annan and I would like to see Chicago Prep open in Bronzeville as a tuition-free, public charter school in the fall of 2021. ALCV C/0001 Zip Code Dr has 206 4795 Email C Phone applicable) Children (if 9-B 0 Ages of Ā

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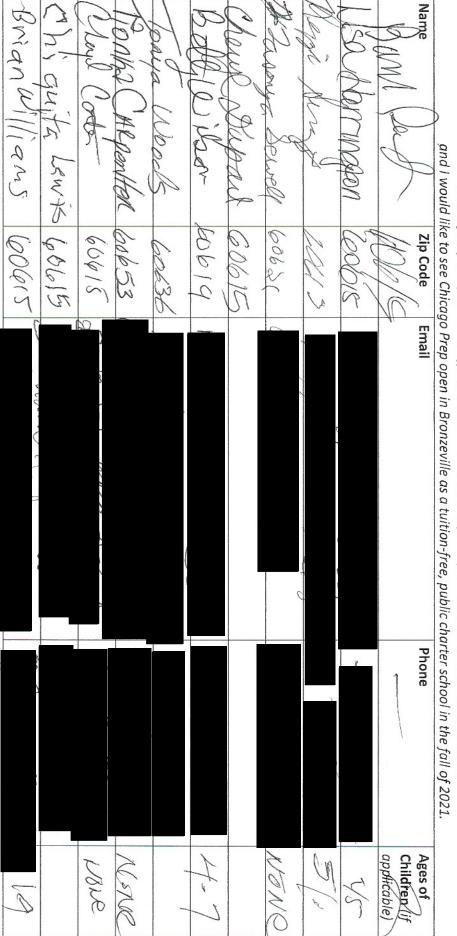
Name	Zip Code	Zip Code Email Phone	Phone	Ages of
In my Lue Lectt	loobis			Children (if applicable)
Share TAssent	60615			2 4.67.0
KENYA ATKINS	60615			
Komuren Hill	Laturs			1
Kendrana Lawra	606/5			
Section fiddland	61000			
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Valorie Tansue	21000			
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Name NIN 2 RAD 202 and I would like to see Chicago Prep open in Bronzeville as a tuition-free, public charter school in the fall of 2021. PAFNT 101622 Zip Code 60643 100615 101010 tcolt 10643 allo 3. Email Phone Ages of applicable) Children (if

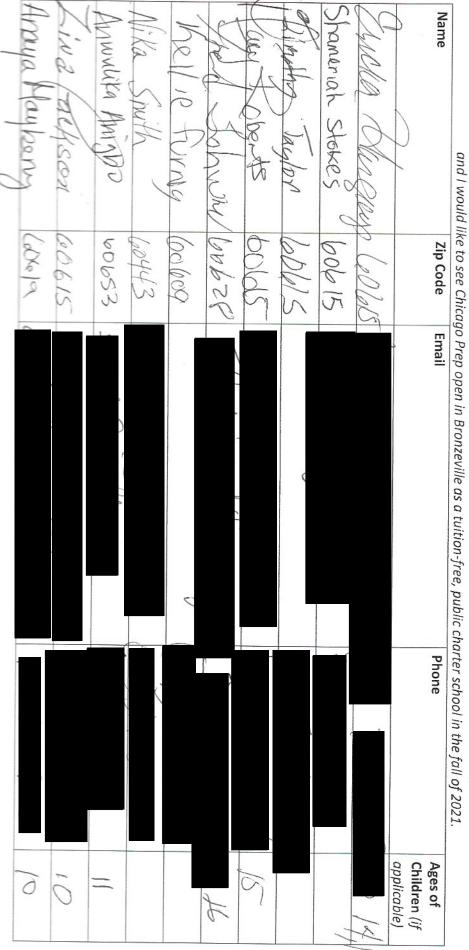
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Alicia Arshin Leourg	Unitiona Harth	Keyla Heath	Mashaune Hardy	Maria H-11	KAy Hopey	LAShon CAter	Mama Malachi	Wiana Illooxe	Aucia Cufton			Name
60649	60621	1001d7	60637	60615	60438	Sthad)	60617	10827	£6000)			Zip Code
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	Zip Code	Zip Code Email Phone	Phone
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Bardell Wilson	1:150n 60620		
RANDULE TRAININ	ANN 10653		<u> </u>
Kendrea W:	Kendrea Williams Gour		
Phylip wood ing	ding 60653		
Peocles Paul	any feologi		
Inez leeme	mer 60619		
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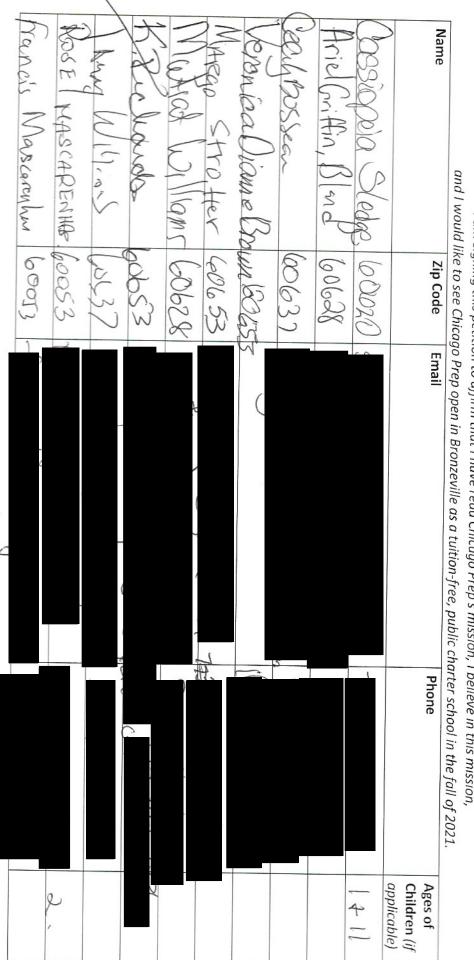
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d I would like + I am signing this petition to affirm that I have read Chicago Prep's mission, I believe in this mission, 24:0

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Chicago Prep provides academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars to succeed in college and positively impact the world.



CHICAGOPREP MIDDLE SCHOOL

# Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School Petition

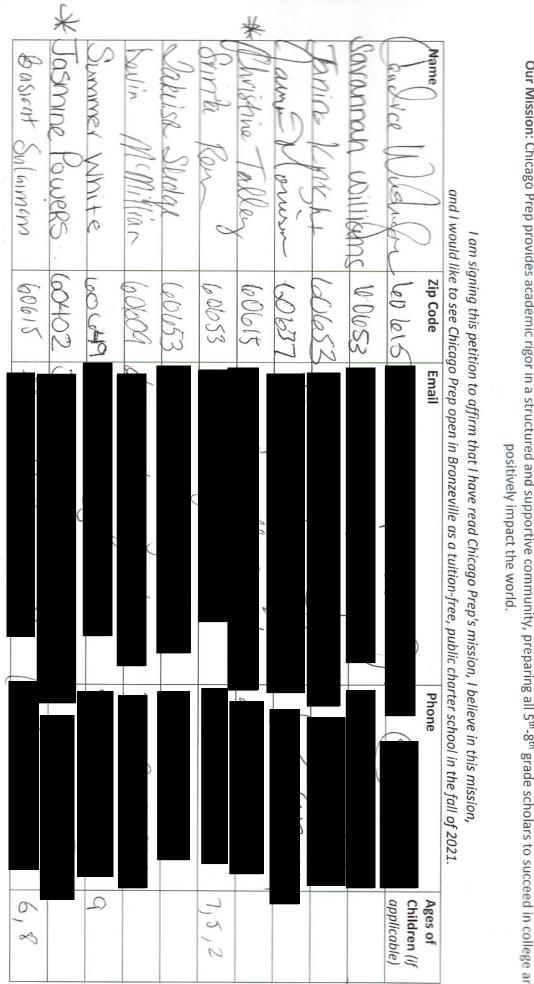
Chicago Prep is a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school for the students of Chicago. We are slated to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. We will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy and entrepreneurship. We believe in leveraging family and community partnerships.

Our Mission: Chicago Prep provides academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars to succeed in college and

positively impact the world.

I am signing this petition to affirm that I have read Chicago Prep's mission, I believe in this mission,

Chicago Prep provides academic rigor in a structured and supportive community, preparing all 5th-8th grade scholars to succeed in college and positively impact the world.



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## Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School Petition

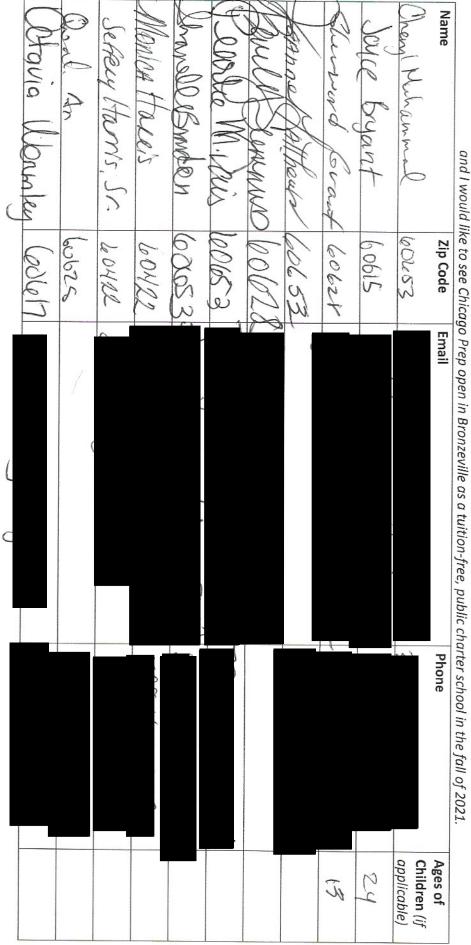
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	1 0		21909	Tiery bostien
9-12			6305	Andrew Duncan
11-15			60409	Anthony Ninks
10-12			60653	Greg Marton
N/A		N	60402	Issac Harris
rnone Ages or Children ( <i>if</i> <i>applicable</i> )		Email	Zib Code	Name



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Submitted On	Name	Email	Phone	Zip Code	I have a 3rd or 4	I have a rising 4	th or 5th grade s	tudent in my fam	ily
11/22/2019	Jon Fox			60660	No				
11/22/2019	Amanda Szramia			60631	No				
11/26/2019	Bradly Johnson			60637	Yes				
1/17/2020	Salvador Duenas			60608	No				
1/17	Martin Sherrod			60616	No				
1/17/2020	Derek Swank			60640	No				
1/17/2020	Christina Ahme			60637	No				
1/22/2020	Geneva Johnson			60653	No				
1/22/2020	Sade Watson			60406	No				
1/22/2020	Sharon Neely			60615	No				
1/22/2020	Karan Patel			60614	No				
1/26/2020	Kelly McCartney			60657	No				
3/7/2020	Amanda Keller			60653	No				
4/20/2020	Reginald Scrugg			60642	No				
4/21/2020	Beth Melendez			60153	No				
4/23/2020	Cawanna Stonew			606	Yes				
5/16/2020	Wardean Patters			60610	No				
5/28/2020	Rhonda Woodso			60653	Yes				
6/4/2020	Deborah Perssor			60610	No				
6/12/2020	Lisa Jones			60653	No				
6/17/2020	Laurie Bryant			60653	No				
6/26/2020	Sabrina Wilkins-			60653	No				
06/30/2020 18:0	Kevin Wadycki			46321	No				
06/30/2020 18:1	Scott Steward			60643	No				
06/30/2020 22:3	Michael Nash			60617	No				
06/30/2020 23:2	Tim Jones			60615	Yes				
07/01/2020 0:11	Yvette Love			60628	No				
07/01/2020 3:16	Teresa Rice			60620					
07/01/2020 5:22	Dorothy Dodd			34224	No				
07/01/2020 6:31	Kemba kelly			606419	Yes				
07/01/2020 7:48	Lathon Williams			60619	No				
07/01/2020 11:5	Allen McNealy			60471	No				
07/01/2020 14:3	Patricia Cunning			60440	No				
07/01/2020 20:4	Joy Terrell-Hearr			69643		No			

07/02/2020 10:43 Steve Waithe	60608	No		
07/03/2020 05:33 Leroy Palmer	60619	No		
07/03/2020 21:37 Meghan Schmidt	60077	No		
07/07/2020 19:4{ Tasha Richardso	60608	No		
07/09/2020 21:34 Nicole Murad	60654	No		
07/13/2020 14:23 Malcolm Miller	60619	No		
07/15/2020 11:2: Vergil Stewart II	60619	Yes		
07/17/2020 12:21 Melone Shurney	60615	No		



## **1.5c: Elected Officials Communication**

### **Mary Griffin**

From:	Mary Griffin <mgriffin@bes.org></mgriffin@bes.org>
Sent:	Friday, May 29, 2020 11:37 AM
То:	ward03@cityofchicago.org
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed Middle School in Bronzeville



Dear Alderman Dowell,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

I have included Mitchell Newsome, Application Sales Manager at Oracle Corporation, who is a lifelong resident of the Bronzeville and North Kenwood/Oakland neighborhoods and one of eight Founding Board Members of Chicago Prep. Since August 2019, our founding team has been deeply engaged in the community, listening and learning from key stakeholders to better understand the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. To date we have had over 275 conversations with families, nonprofit leaders, and business owners and have received invaluable feedback that has directly informed our school model. In fact, the idea to focus on financial literacy was inspired by local parents, as we heard this desire expressed countless times.

Amidst the challenges of the pandemic, we continue to seek feedback from community leaders to help us design a highly responsive, collaborative school. I would love to schedule a time to speak with you to share more about our progress so far and receive any feedback that you may have for us.

Please let me know if you may be available for a phone call or virtual meeting. I am flexible and can work around your schedule, which I'm sure must be incredibly busy under the current circumstances.

If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
То:	ward05@cityofchicago.org
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed college-prep middle school
Date:	Monday, July 6, 2020 1:50:00 PM
Attachments:	image002.png



Dear Alderman Hairston,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Please let me know if you may be available for a phone call or virtual meeting. I am flexible and can work around your schedule, which I'm sure must be incredibly busy under the current circumstances.

If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
То:	Ward04@cityofchicago.org
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed Middle School in Bronzeville
Date:	Friday, May 29, 2020 11:34:14 AM
Attachments:	image002.png



Dear Alderman King,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
То:	ward25@cityofchicago.org
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed college-prep middle school
Date:	Monday, July 6, 2020 1:58:32 PM
Attachments:	image001.png



Dear Alderman Sigcho-Lopez,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Please let me know if you may be available for a phone call or virtual meeting. I am flexible and can work around your schedule, which I'm sure must be incredibly busy under the current circumstances.

If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

lle school
6:10:16 PM



Dear Alderman Thompson,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
То:	jeanette.taylor@cityofchicago.org
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed college-prep middle school
Date:	Monday, July 6, 2020 1:55:32 PM
Attachments:	image002.png



Dear Alderwoman Taylor,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
То:	Buckner@illinois26.com
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed Middle School in Bronzeville
Date:	Friday, May 29, 2020 3:42:34 PM
Attachments:	image001.png



Dear Representative Buckner,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Thank you, Mary

Mary Griffin
repsonyaharper@gmail.com
Mitchell Newsome
Proposed college-prep middle school
Thursday, June 18, 2020 11:55:35 AM
image002.png



Dear Representative Harper,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Thank you, Mary

Mary Griffin
rep.theresamah@gmail.com
Mitchell Newsome
Proposed college-prep middle school
Wednesday, June 17, 2020 6:43:47 PM
image002.png



Dear Representative Mah,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
To:	lamont@lamontjrobinson.com
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed Middle School in Bronzeville
Date:	Friday, May 29, 2020 3:37:40 PM
Attachments:	image001.png



Dear Representative Robinson,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
То:	office@repcurtisjtarverii.com
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed college-prep middle school
Date:	Monday, July 6, 2020 2:20:04 PM
Attachments:	image001.png



Dear Representative Tarver,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

Mary Griffin
senatorhunter03@sbcglobal.net
Mitchell Newsome
Proposed Middle School in Bronzeville
Monday, July 6, 2020 2:26:39 PM
image001.png



Dear Senator Hunter,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

I have included Mitchell Newsome, Application Sales Manager at Oracle Corporation, who is a lifelong resident of the Bronzeville and North Kenwood/Oakland neighborhoods and one of eight Founding Board Members of Chicago Prep. Since August 2019, our founding team has been deeply engaged in the community, listening and learning from key stakeholders to better understand the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. To date we have had over 300 conversations with families, nonprofit leaders, and business owners and have received invaluable feedback that has directly informed our school model. In fact, the idea to focus on financial literacy was inspired by local parents, as we heard this desire expressed countless times.

Amidst the challenges of the pandemic, we continue to seek feedback from community leaders to help us design a highly responsive, collaborative school. I would love to schedule a time to speak with you to share more about our progress so far and receive any feedback that you may have for us.

Please let me know if you may be available for a phone call or virtual meeting. I am flexible and can work around your schedule, which I'm sure must be incredibly busy under the current circumstances.

If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

ary Griffin	
info@munozforstatesenate.com	
tchell Newsome	
Proposed college-prep middle school	
Wednesday, June 17, 2020 9:02:27 PM	
age003.png	



Dear Senator Muñoz,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Amidst the challenges of the pandemic, we continue to seek feedback from community leaders to help us design a highly responsive, collaborative school. I would love to schedule a time to speak with you to share more about our progress so far and receive any feedback that you may have for us. Although Chicago Prep does not plan to open in the 1<sup>st</sup> District, we would very much like to welcome students from the 1<sup>st</sup> District, and your perspective on community needs and assets is invaluable.

Please let me know if you may be available for a phone call or virtual meeting. I am flexible and can work around your schedule, which I'm sure must be incredibly busy under the current circumstances.

If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary

From:	Mary Griffin
То:	info@senatorrobertpeters.com
Cc:	Mitchell Newsome
Subject:	Proposed Middle School in Bronzeville
Date:	Friday, May 29, 2020 3:56:57 PM
Attachments:	image001.png



Dear Senator Peters,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. My name is Mary Griffin, and I am a former middle school teacher and principal here in Chicago and the current Lead Founder of Chicago Prep Middle School. We are a proposed 5th-8th grade public charter school working to open in the Bronzeville community in August 2021. With a focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, Chicago Prep is on a mission to prepare students to succeed in college and positively impact the world.

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Amidst the challenges of the pandemic, we continue to seek feedback from community leaders to help us design a highly responsive, collaborative school. I would love to schedule a time to speak with you to share more about our progress so far and receive any feedback that you may have for us.

Please let me know if you may be available for a phone call or virtual meeting. I am flexible and can work around your schedule, which I'm sure must be incredibly busy under the current circumstances.

If you'd like to learn more about our program, you can find us online at chiprepmiddle.org.

Thank you, Mary



1.5d: Letters of Support: Parents, Community Members, and St	takeholders
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	Name	Position	Affiliation
1	David Bender	Owner and President	The UPS Store, Lake Meadows Shopping Center of the Bronzeville community
2	Laurie Bryant	Owner and Center Director	Mathnasium of Chicago Hyde Park; Bronzeville resident
3	Diane Burnham	Executive Director	South East Chicago Commission (SECC)
4	Gachelle Coffey	Former Radio Personality	Bronzeville resident
5	John Cook	Owner	Bronzeville Community Clubhouse; Bronzeville resident
6	Diane Devroe	Owner	Lady Di's Bakery
7	Debbie Frisch	Founder and Executive Director	HelloBaby
8	Andre Guichard	Owner	Gallery Guichard; Mayor of Bronzeville
9	Ken Harris	Director of Casino Marketing	Ameristar Casino Hotel
10	Robert Hazzard, Jr.	Managing Director	The Hazzard Group, LLC; Bronzeville resident
11	Darrel and Robin Hernandez	Community Members	Bronzeville residents and parents
12	Stacy Jackson	Executive Director	Chicago Lights
13	Danyelle Jones	Middle School Art Teacher	CICS Avalon
14	Gwynda Jones	Retired Senior Global Project Manager at PepsiCo, Inc.	Bronzeville resident
15	Lisa Jones	Community Member	Bronzeville resident
16	Dr. Sokoni Karanja, Ph.D.	President	2016 MA'AT
17	Nicole Kwasigroch	Middle School Math Teacher	CICS Avalon
18	Gerald S. McCarthy	Owner	Law Office of Gerald S. McCarthy; Bronzeville resident
19	Mell Monroe	Owner	Welcome Inn Manor; also Bronzeville resident and Founder/former President, Bronzeville Area Residents & Commerce Council
20	Dr. Scott Nasatir, Ed.D.	Executive Director	NFTE
21	Deborah Persson	Director of Content and Coaching	Teachers Supporting Teachers
22	Clarence Phillips	Community Member	Former Bronzeville resident
23	Dr. Barrington Price, PsyD	Vice President, Student Success and Engagement	Dominican University
24	Greg Richmond	Community Leader in Education	Former Chief Officer for New School Development, Chicago Public Schools; Founder and former CEO, National Association of Charter School Authorizers



25	Karen Riley	Lawyer	Bronzeville resident
26	Danielle Rosenbach	Middle School Special	CICS Avalon
		Education Teacher	
27	Chanel Sims	Community Member	Bronzeville resident and CPS parent
28	Scott Steward	Founder and CEO	Genius Lab, Inc.
29	Stephanie Tarr	Faculty, Radiography	Malcolm X College; Bronzeville
		Department	resident
30	Joy Terrell-Hearns	Assistant Professor of Early	Richard J. Daley College
		Childhood Education	
31	Kevin Wadycki	Middle School Science and	CICS Avalon
		Social Studies Teacher	
32	Erin Walsh-Hagan	Assistant Director of the BES	BES
		Fellowship	
33	Robin Whaley-Smith	Community Member	Bronzeville resident
34	Sabrina Wilkins-Brown	Business Owner	The Law Office of Sabrina Wilkins-
			Brown, P.C.; Bronzeville resident
35	Rhonda Woodson	Community Member	Bronzeville resident



Lake Meadows Shopping Center 3473 South Martin Luther King Drive Chicago, IL 60616 312.567.9090 Tel 312.567.9079 Fax

April 24, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>3dbinc@gmail.com</u> or by phone at (312) 567-9090.

Sincerely,

Riold

David B. Bender, Owner/President 3DB Inc. d.b.a. The UPS Store #3261 Lake Meadows Shopping Center 3473 S. King Dr. Chicago, IL 60616 (312) 567-9090

The UPS Store<sup>®</sup>



June 30th, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation

**Chicago Public Schools** 

42 W. Madison St.

Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

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As a resident of the Bronzeville community for over 20 years and neighbor to Ken Dickerson, I am confident that with Mr. Dickerson's leadership as a member of the Founding Board, the new school will be a tremendous success and welcome addition to the neighborhood. Ken brings a wealth of knowledge from the business world as well as in the role of an entrepreneur. He has high moral and ethical standards and the integrity needed in which to be entrusted with a project of this stature. Any student fortunate enough to be guided by the values and experiences that he, as well as others of the Board will bring, I believe will graduate from the school fully equipped to achieve success. The Bronzeville community is primed for an educational opportunity such as this. Additionally, as Chicago Prep will be focusing solely on middle school students, its unique structure will affect students at just the optimal time of their educational attainment. Accordingly, I fully support the vision of Chicago Prep and as an educator myself, I will do all that I can to help it succeed.

Again, I would like to extend my unyielding support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>mathnasiumhydepark@gmail.com</u> or (773) 831-6789.

Very kind regards,

Laurie A Bryant Owner/Center Director Mathnasium of Chicago Hyde Park 1326 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street Chicago, IL 60615





May 20, 2020

### **Board of Directors**

Elvin Charity President

James R. Poueymirou 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Danita Childers 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Rev. Peter Lane Treasurer

Maya Hodari Assistant Treasurer

JoAnn Newsome Secretary

Jourdan Sorrell Assistant Secretary

Ben Anderson Sandra Bivens Andre Brumfield Djenne Clayton Susan Freehling Elizabeth Gardner Bernita Johnson-Gabriel Shirley J. Newsome David Nuckolls Jourdan Sorrell Joann Cobb Tate

Diane Burnham Executive Director Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5th-8th grade college preparatory school, working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with the Proposed Head of School Mary Griffin, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5th-8th grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. To achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

The South East Chicago Commission has been working in the surrounding community for the past 68 years, which includes Kenwood, Oakland and Washington Park, all of which are captured by the Bronzeville community area. It is refreshing to see a new approach to education and is important for Bronzeville families to have educational options for their middle school aged children that can prepare them for high school, college, and beyond.

We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>diane@secc-chicago.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Diane Burnham Executive Director

July 10, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member Ken Dickerson, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

I'm ecstatic over the mission of Chicago Prep to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world with its focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. This will offer students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. The Bronzeville Community, once known as the "Black Metropolis" is a historical treasure of Chicago that contributed to the pride and upward mobility of African Americans before its decline. Once again Bronzeville is rising to reinstate its position as an undeniable and sustaining pillar of Chicago in its cultural development and business diversity. The environmental culture of the Bronzeville community is so relevant in being suited for breathing life into the transitional stage of a middle school student.

As many blacks migrated to the north from the south from the 1920's through the 1950's, my mother was one also who landed in Bronzeville and resided in the Rosenwald Housing Development. Many years later I also made my transition from Chatham to Bronzeville to reside. There is great pride to live in this historical community and become a resident of this jewel that carries the roots of many prominent African American artists, intellectuals, social and political activists, journalists and many jazz and gospel great influencers of the world. There is a great investment of organizational and business interests groups that continue to work diligently to rebuild the "city within the city" to once again become a national center of urban African American commerce and the arts.

I believe trees of life grow to astounding heights among other trees when they are planted in rich soil. To have the Chicago Prep Charter school planted in Bronzeville will give its students an overwhelming sense of pride and ambition to excel in their educational and emotional character development of becoming a product of such deep and influential roots. As we examine and stand for "Black Lives Matter" among all lives that matter, an educational center that focuses particularly on character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship is paramount to establish today in soil that will produce fruit for the needed leadership of our future generation.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>coffeymakers@gmail.com</u> or mobile #773.593.7717.

Best,

**Gachele Coffey** 

May 19, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community. I have known Ken for at least 20 years, and he has an affinity for our young people. He personally proved it to me of this when, he helped begin the Bronzeville Little League, a similar demographic we targeted which at the time was critical to its success. Ken did what many people are not willing to do. He made himself available DESPITE working a full-time job and running an essential business in our community.

Who does that? Ken Dickerson that is who. That is why I am taking this time to formally thank him for his dedication not only to young people but for the community at large. His desire to see that young people receive the kind of education he did which is critical at this stage in their lives as we know. Therefore he is not only making another tremendous sacrifice in his life he is doing Bronzeville a favor by offering his invaluable time and service.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to say thank you Ken Dickerson for looking back and extending your hand to give young people the opportunity to achieve the success you have as a black man, mentor, and humanitarian, and I extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at johncookpes@sbcglobal.net and you may reach me at (773) 548-7724.

Sincerely,

John A. Cook Owner of the Bronzeville Community Clubhouse and Resident



## Lady Di's Bakery

April 14,2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

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Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at Ladydisbakey@aol.com

Sincerely,

Diane Devroe Owner

Lady Di's Bakery Chicago IL. 60652 4356 W. Ford City Dr. (773) 885-4817

## hellobaby

May 19, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with the Proposed Head of School Mary Griffin, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

The mission of HelloBaby is to level the playing field in Chicago. I'm happy to see that Chicago Prep is stepping up to do the same.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at debbie@hellobabychgo,org.

Sincerely,

Lubber Junch

Debbie Frisch Founder and Executive Director

GALLERY GUICHARD ATT THAT TOUCHES THE SOUT www.galleryguichard.com 436 E. 47th Street Chicago, Illinois 60653 773-791-7003, 708-772-9315

4/14/20

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5--8- grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5--8- grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (773)791-7003.

Sincere Andre Guichard

Owner, Gallery Guichard



April 16, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ken Harris Director of Casino Marketing 777 Ameristar Boulevard East Chicago, IN 46312 ken.harrispngaming.com 219-378-3111 (office) 219-802-9079 (mobile)



www.thehazzardgroup.com

July 9, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5th-8th grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

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I've lived in the Bronzeville area for over 15 years and know the positive impact this school would have on the community.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>Robert@thehazzardgroup.com</u> or Office: 773-620-5022.

Warm regards,

Robert Hazzard, Jr. MANAGING DIRECTOR

1

COM.

Darrel & Robin Hernandez 4527 S. Drexel Blvd. Chicago IL, 60653

7/29/2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to express our support for Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville fall of 2021. After exhaustive discussion with Mitchell Newsome my spouse and I were in complete favor of Chicago Prep being here in our Bronzeville community.

Chicago Prep's mission is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will create invaluable experiences for its students, including education in financial literacy and entrepreneurial thinking, social and emotional learning, and daily small-group tutoring.

The world is changing and there are more paths to success available today than ever before and we believe that Chicago Prep is taking the right steps toward that change. As the parents of a recent 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduate and future YouTube influencer we found ourselves having to fill in many of the gaps that the current school system does not provide. The knowledge on financial literacy, financial independence, and entrepreneurial guidance are assets our children need to be able to flourish in this new world. Therefore we strongly feel Chicago Prep would be an amazing investment for the children in our Bronzeville Community.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>darr.dez@gmail.com</u> or 773-988-7233

Sincerely,

Darrel & Robin Hernandez

**Building Brighter Futures** 

126 E. Chestnut Street Chicago, IL 60611 312.787.4570 chicagolights.org



**Chad A. Tischer, President** DiMeo Schneider & Associates, L.L.C.

Elinor Hite, Vice President HR Consultant/Executive Coach

Andrea Person, Vice President Publicis Re:Sources

Amy M. Gulinson, Secretary Assistant General Counsel, Aon

Nicholas VanDerSchie, Treasurer Morningstar Investment Management, LLC

**Cindy Hull, Assistant Treasurer** Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Ken Walker, Past President Bank of Montreal

Kathryn Bates Bates Development Services

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Joseph Feldman Joseph Feldman Associates

Amanda Felt University of Chicago Booth School of Business

Lafayette Kyle Ford Merrill Lynch

Ellen Gignilliat Community Volunteer

**James Gould** Horizon Hotel Group

**Cynthia Joho** Community Volunteer

Naresh Koka SPR

Bill Patterson Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP

Virginia J. Pillman Virginia M. Johnson & Associates, Inc

Joseph E. Tyler III Bank of America, N.A.

Brian Van Klompenberg Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Stacy Jackson (ex officio) Executive Director, 312.981.3562 May 27, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5th–8th grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with the Proposed Head of School Mary Griffin, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

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Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at sjackson@chicagolights.org or 312.981.3562.

Sincerely,

acy Jackson

Stacy Jackson Executive Director

July 22, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. I know the Proposed Head of School, Mary Griffin, from being a teacher under her direction as Principal of a Middle School on Chicago's Southside. I believe in her leadership as well as the mission and vision of Chicago Prep.

Chicago Prep's mission is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will create invaluable experiences for its students, including education in financial literacy and entrepreneurial thinking, social and emotional learning, and daily small-group tutoring. The historic Bronzeville neighborhood produced our nation's first Black-owned bank (Binga State Bank) and was once the center of Black journalism. The education that students will receive at Chicago Prep will be an asset in continuing Bronzeville's legacy of creating future leaders, creatives, and intellectuals that make indelible impacts on the world.

During my time working with Mary, she proved to be a great Principal, because she was first a teacher, and had not forgotten where she'd been. As Principal she gave me the respect and flexibility to provide instruction that was meaningful for the students in my classroom. Mary was able to disaggregate data schoolwide and give the teachers a "big picture" understanding of instructional needs to promote student growth. I am confident that Mary, with the support of a strong Founding Board, will create a positive learning environment at Chicago Prep that prepares students for long-term success.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 614-571-4290.

Sincerely,

Danyelle Jones Middle School Teacher Gwynda Jones

May 16, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my complete support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>n</sup>-8<sup>n</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>\*-8<sup>\*</sup></sup> grade and positively impact the world. Preparation for college begins before High-school. High-school prepares the student in being accepting but it is the years prior to high-school that lays the foundation for succeeding. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family, and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

As a Bronzeville homeowner of more than 22 years where I raised my daughter and who now has graduated from Arizona State University with plans of attending grad-school at Georgetown University; but due to the lack of choices and opportunities in Bronzeville during earlier years, she attended private schooling at Francis Xavier Warde through 8th grade and later graduated from the 1<sup>st</sup> contract public high-schools in Bronzeville, ChiArts which brought a high caliber of quality education and exposure to our community. Their relocation left a gap in academic excellence in our community. To regain it, we must start in the middle school providing students with diverse cultural experiences, academic excellence, choices, and opportunities to compete in Chicago's high-school process. A charter school provides innovation, introduces choice and supports Bronzeville's revitalization efforts. The freedom to choose provides access to compete and competition produces success. Let us give our students the opportunity to succeed by opening the Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School in Bronzeville.

Again, I would like to extend my full support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>gwynda.jones26@gmail.com</u> or 312 497-8804.

Sincerely,

Gwynda Jones Retired Sr. Global Project Manager Officer PepsiCo, Inc. June 11, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>lisal jones@yahoo.com</u> or (708) 212-0295.

Sincerely,

Lisa L. Jones



June 29, 2020

Main Office: 3763 S. Wabash Ave.	To whom it
Chicago, IL 60653-2616 Tel: (312) 342-8161	I am writing proposed fo community
<b>Mail/Deliveries:</b> 3757 S. Wabash Ave. Chicago, IL 60653-2616	and challen knowledge step to acad
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Mac Gordon

**Carlton Guthrie** 

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Chicago Prep a nascent 5th to 8th grade middle school proposed for Bronzeville. This proposed new middle school led by a strong committed community board and skilled, passionate staff leadership is focused on creating exciting and challenging education for the children of Bronzeville. It also has within its ranks the knowledge and skill to do the fundamental work necessary to help students move step by step to academic excellence.

Expectations more often than not determine reality. Much of the lack of success we have seen with students of our community is what is set out as the institutional vision and the level of work and skill each teacher in each classroom is able to inspire and extract from them. Creating the opportunity for each student to dream and then laying down the daily steps they must take to see their dream become them and their reality.

S Over the past nearly 50 years of living in Bronzeville and working in multiple Community schools (private and public), I have seen children fail miserably when resources and expectations are not in place. I have also had the opportunity to see strong committed administration and clear expectations head and heart teaching cause the most challenging students to believe in themselves and become what that teacher helped them to dream and then helped them take the fundamental steps to become their dream. I call this the agriculture of academic excellence planting, pruning, weeding and watering. I believe the Chicago Prep community board and the staff leaders are committed to making this transformation happen for each of the students who they will enroll.

This work is hard and not everyone can see the genius coming through their doors and in turn help each of them achieve and exceed their potential. This requires the work/cooperation of administration, teachers, parents and community. Dr Mindy Fullilove calls this process "education alchemy" which creates the space that causes all to grow and go far beyond their dreams.

I believe based on my interaction with the administration and the board of directors that they are committed to excellent outcomes. Based on their past records they have the experience and commitment to get the children they are privileged to enroll over the goal line. I therefore strongly endorse the Chicago Prep Middle school.

Sincerely,

Sokoni Karanja, Ph.D. President

07/29/2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. I know the Proposed Head of School, Mary Griffin, as my previous school principal. Her leadership proved to be supportive to me as a new staff member. Ms. Griffin supported me with developing and planning lessons tailored to the needs of our student population. Her support throughout the school year enhanced my professional skills as a teacher and her feedback gave me the opportunity to become an innovative educator. Ms. Griffin's dedication, hard work and passion served as an expectation that I was able to sustain. I admire her passion for making a difference in children's lives. I believe in her leadership as well as the mission and vision of Chicago Prep.

Chicago Prep's mission is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will create invaluable experiences for its students, including education in financial literacy and entrepreneurial thinking, social and emotional learning, and daily small-group tutoring. In order for students to become well rounded citizens in today's society, providing financial literacy at an early age is crucial because it will help students to understand retirement, how to avoid high levels of debt and learn the importance of saving. Providing invaluable experiences such as financial literacy resonated with me because I understand this is a key concept in today's economy and it is our youth that can make a difference in our economy.

During my time working with Mary, her natural leadership skills and cheerful attitude influenced our school culture. I was impressed by Mary's work ethics, drive and passion for our students to succeed. I am confident that Mary, with the support of a strong Founding Board, will create a positive learning environment at Chicago Prep that prepares students for long-term success.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <a href="mailto:nkwasigroch@cicsavalon.org">nkwasigroch@cicsavalon.org</a> and/or (714) 381-5571

Sincerely,

Nicole S. Kwasigroch 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher

## LAW OFFICE OF GERALD S. M<sup>C</sup>CARTHY

601 S. California Avenue

CHICAGO, IL 60612 TELEPHONE: (312) 635-1800 TELECOPIER: (312) 635-1800 gerald@mccarthy.legal

April 17, 2020

Chicago Public Schools Office of Innovation and Incubation 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support for Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School (Chicago Prep), a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school that is striving to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member and long-time friend, Ken Dickerson, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare their students to succeed in college and to have a positive impact on their community. Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship. The school will offer students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep and Ken Dickerson.

I, without hesitation, recommend Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter to serve the students of Bronzeville. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 635-1800 or via email at gerald@mccarthy.legal.

Sincerely,

#### LAW OFFICE OF GERALD S. MCCARTHY

And McCatt

Gerald S. McCarthy Principal

gsm/ms

MELL-INNKEEPER WELCOME INN MANOR-CHICAGO BED & BREAKFAST-<u>WWW.WELCOMEINNMANOR.COM</u> 4563 S MICHIGAN AVENUE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60653

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

7/12/20

To Whom It May Concern:

I've known Ken Dickerson for over 15 years and have witnessed his leadership as a passionate business owner, corporate executive and community volunteer.

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am encouraged about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community and the Near South Side of Chicago. This middle school would be a welcome addition to our Bronzeville neighborhood.

I endorse and support the mission of Chicago Prep which is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success.

Chicago Prep is progressive approach to teaching. These innovative ideas and concepts most importantly is committed to excellence in education while involving community partnerships and to make certain the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville as a particularly unique cultural experience.

As a proactive community leader and small business owner in the Bronzeville community for over 20 years, I am confident about the benefits and opportunities the school will provide for all students regardless of race, gender, cultural and ethnic differences.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at mell@welcomeinnmanor.com or 312-493-2953.

Sincerely Yours,

Mell Monroe Principal- Welcome Inn Manor Past Founder/President- Bronzeville Area Residents & Commerce Council



April 20th, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with the Proposed Head of School Mary Griffin, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

The Network For Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE), is dedicated to empowering youth in underserved communities though our entrepreneurship curriculum and are excited to be an integral part of Chicago Prep to further equip youth to be successful in the workforce of the future.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>scott.nasatir@nfte.com</u> or at my cell, 773-297-9730.

Sincerely,

Dr. Scott I. Nasatir

**Executive Director, NFTE** 

July 28, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. I know the Proposed Head of School, Mary Griffin, through our work together as principals in the Chicago International Charter Schools network, and I believe in her leadership as well as the mission and vision of Chicago Prep.

Chicago Prep's mission is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will create invaluable experiences for its students, including education in financial literacy and entrepreneurial thinking, social and emotional learning, and daily small-group tutoring. Working in education, I often see students who are not experiencing success transform into engaged, invested learners when given small-group care, attention, and academic support.

During my time working with Mary, I have seen had the pleasure of seeing her lead her students and her school to the highest levels of achievement, truly changing the trajectories of those within her school community. Mary values being a life-long learner, and this will serve her well in this role, and will help her to continue to create change for students and families for generations to come. I am confident that Mary, with the support of a strong Founding Board, will create a positive learning environment at Chicago Prep that prepares students for long-term success.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at Deborah.Persson@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Deborah Persson Director of Content and Coaching Teachers Supporting Teachers Monday, June 22, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success.

As a young Catholic, I visited Bronzeville to attend mass at Holy Angels on occasion. Father Clements spent much of his life to focus greater recognition of social problems that African American children face still today. I believe Chicago Prep will address those issues by providing a learning experience that promotes self-reliance and a great education.

I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at clarence.phillips@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Clarence E. Phillips Jr.



7900 W. Division Street (708) 366-2490 o dom.edu River Forest, Illinois 60305 (708) 524-5990 f

July 30, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with the Proposed Head of School Mary Griffin, I feel assured that Chicago Prep will challenge and push our students from foundational skill development to higher order thinking which is interweaved throughout the educational script her team has crafted.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. As educators we must be keenly aware of the imprint left on student lives by the learning that took place during their time with us. I see the mission and vision of Chicago Prep serving as a guide to address learning through a developmental lens that positions the student well to engage with core learning objectives.

It is with a lens towards equity that Chicago Prep seeks to create a base of understanding positioning all students to learn and engage. Chicago Prep and its leaders have a distinct focus on student's awareness of themselves which will drive their student's volition towards the creation of good trouble in our society, serving as moral agents in their communities, and a pursuit of their own truth.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <a href="mailto:bprice@dom.edu">bprice@dom.edu</a>.

Sincerely,

Barrington Price, PsyD Vice President, Student Success and Engagement

### Greg Richmond 10867 South Hoyne Avenue Chicago, Illinois

June 23, 2020

Members of the Board of Education and Chief Executive Officer Janice Jackson c/o Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 West Madison Street Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Dr. Jackson and Members of the Board,

I am writing support Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021.

The Chicago Public Schools is dear to me and its mission to prepare our city's youth for a successful future is paramount. From 1994 to 2005, I had the privilege of working at CPS with Paul Vallas, Arne Duncan, Gery Chico, Michael Scott, Cozette Buckney, Barbara Eason-Watkins, Carlos Azcoitia, and hundreds of others to strengthen Chicago's public education system.

We launched and I led CPS's Charter Schools Office which later grew into the Office of Innovation and Incubation. I worked with charter schools, small schools, and other new schools, including an inspiring team that launched AI Raby High School led by a talented educator, Janice Jackson. Every day, I was inspired by the passion, commitment, and hard work of the educators launching and leading these schools.

Twenty years later, talented and passionate educators like Mary Griffin continue to step forward to create quality educational options for Chicago students. I thank you for providing her and the Chicago Prep team with this opportunity and urge you to approve Chicago Prep so that more children may have the opportunity to attend a school that meets their particular needs and interests, and prepares them for success in life.

Sincerely,

#### Greg Richmond

Former Chief Officer for New School Development, Chicago Public Schools Founder and former CEO, National Association of Charter School Authorizers



K.Riley@klrilaw.com • 312.961.7663

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

July 27, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school organizing for a fall 2021 opening in Bronzeville. After discussing the project at length with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am optimistic about the positive impact Chicago Prep will afford the young people in the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. The mission and the programming Chicago Prep proposes encourage me: focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to secure excellent teachers that reflect the structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to include the strengths and assets of Bronzeville. I believe the vision of Chicago Prep can be realized and will provide exponential benefits to the Bronzeville community.

Again, as a Bronzeville resident, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep to be granted a charter to open in the fall of 2021 to serve the continuing need of middle school students in Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>k.riley@klrilaw.com</u> or by phone 312.961.7663.

All the Best,

KLÍ

Karen Riley, Esq.

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. I know the Proposed Head of School, Mary Griffin, as my former boss and mentor at CICS Avalon, and I believe in her leadership as well as the mission and vision of Chicago Prep.

Chicago Prep's mission is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will create invaluable experiences for its students, including education in financial literacy and entrepreneurial thinking, social and emotional learning, and daily small-group tutoring.

After working at Avalon for the last 3 years, I can understand why Bronzeville is a community that would benefit from a data driven school. In order to create a society that is fair and just, we need to empower our youth to advocate for their own educational needs and success. Mary is the best person to lead the school and inspire future leaders!

During my time working with Mary, I learned about the role of data driven instruction and how to leverage individual student needs in a classroom with a wide variety of needs. Mary taught me a lot about rapid feedback and making sure that students are receiving rigorous instruction. Mary also helped me form strong relationships and bonds with many of my students and their families.

I am confident that Mary, with the support of a strong Founding Board, will create a positive learning environment at Chicago Prep that prepares students for long-term success.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>daniellerosenbach@gmail.com/</u> 13106255361.

Sincerely, Danielle Rosenbach Special Education Teacher June 29, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member Ken Dickerson, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

As a community stakeholder, CPS alumni and current parent of Chicago Public Schools students, I promote community expansion and quality educational options within Bronzeville. Chicago prep mission aligns with my vision of building people and building community by first investing in our future leaders.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at simschanel8@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Chanel Sims Bronzeville Resident /CPS Parent



July 20, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

#### To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with the Proposed Head of School Mary Griffin, I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. With how the world has changed right before our eyes, especially in education, I see this mission as exactly what is needed to direct today's youth towards living productive lives as they begin adulting. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>scott@geniuslabchicago.com</u> or at 312-823-9367.

Sincerely,

Scott L. Steward Founder and CEO, Genius Lab, Inc.



May 23, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at <a href="mailto:starr@ccc.edu">starr@ccc.edu</a>,

Sincerely,

Stephanie Tarr, M.Ed., R.T. (R) Faculty, Radiography Department Department Co-Chair: Health Sciences Malcolm X College-City Colleges of Chicago School of Health Sciences May 30, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school, working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community. Based on the information I have seen; I am convinced the Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School will bring significant value to the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide for the students and their families.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at joy\_hearns@yahoo.com or by phone 773-350-5121.

Sincerely,

Joy Terrell-Hearns Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education Richard J. Daley College July 20, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. I know the Proposed Head of School, Mary Griffin, through her work as my former Principal with ReGeneration Schools where I witnessed how students and staff members flourished under her leadership. I believe in her leadership as well as the mission and vision of Chicago Prep.

Chicago Prep's mission is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will create invaluable experiences for its students, including education in financial literacy and entrepreneurial thinking, social and emotional learning, and daily small-group tutoring. Teaching in 3 different cities over my 10 year career, I have seen various methods used in schools to attempt to close the achievement gap. I believe the financial literacy and entrepreneurship focus of Chicago Prep's vision is essential to empowering people of color to take control of their financial future, start to build generational wealth, and ultimately break the chains of poverty.

During my time working with Mary, she did tremendous work to increase academic rigor at CICS Avalon by constantly pushing teachers to be their best. At the orientation when joining the team, I was impressed by how Mary forged a high functioning team and led intense training sessions on the teaching methods used at CICS Avalon. Throughout the school year, Mary was deeply involved in every teacher's instruction in the most positive, supportive way I had ever seen from an administrator. She provided excellent feedback to me from observations and helped craft reteach lessons to ensure that scholars were closing gaps in their understanding in my classroom. Our work together led to CICS Avalon achieving the highest NWEA attainment in the CICS Network and a Level 1 SQRP score for the 2017-2018 school year. I am confident that Mary, with the support of a strong Founding Board, will create a positive learning environment at Chicago Prep that prepares students for long-term success.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at kwadycki@cicsavalon.org or (219) 512-3037.

Sincerely,

#### Kevin Wadycki

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science and Social Studies Teacher



July 24, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that we support the charter application for Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School and the leadership of Lead Founder and proposed Head of School, Mary Griffin.

BES is a nationally recognized non-profit, whose flagship program, the BES Fellowship, trains high-capacity individuals to design, found, lead, and sustain high-performing schools. Mary, a Fellow with BES, is a serious and driven leader who has a deep commitment to the students and families of Bronzeville. Prior to joining the Fellowship, Mary spent seven years as a teacher and school leader in Chicago. She has the knowledge, skills, and mindsets necessary to implement an academically rigorous, structured and supportive school model that will prepare all scholars to succeed in college and make a positive impact in their community and the world.

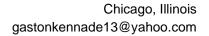
Mary has spent the Fellowship year deeply immersed in studying high performing schools nationally and has spent a month-long residency at a high achieving middle school incubated through BES - Collegiate School of Memphis in Memphis, TN - where she was part of the leadership team and immersed in all daily operations of the school.

Mary is steadfast in her commitment to founding, leading, and sustaining a high-achieving school for the students of Bronzeville. Her clear vision, proven track record as a teacher and leader in Chicago, and her ability to engage a variety of stakeholders position her to lead a rigorous, supportive school model guided by the belief that all students can achieve academic excellence.

It has been an honor to work alongside Mary and we have the utmost confidence in her leadership and the intentionally designed model proposed for Chicago Prep. It is without reservation that we support Mary and the application for Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School.

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Regards, Erin Walsh-Hagan Assistant Director of the BES Fellowship <u>ehagan@bes.org</u>





June 30, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family, and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville.

I trust in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe that the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide from being able to influence and enrich the lives of the next generation. If we sow a seed today, we can transform a life forever.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me anytime at 312-498-0806 or gastonkennade13@yahoo.com

With gratitude,

Robin Whaley-Smith

# The Law Office of Sabrina Wilkins-Brown, P.C.

70 East Lake Street, Suite 1220 Chicago, Illinois 60601 Phone (312) 374-8970 Fax (312) 374-1599 E-mail: Sabrina.wilkins@att.net

June 26, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

The mission of Chicago Prep is to prepare all 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students to succeed in college and positively impact the world. In order to achieve this mission, Chicago Prep will focus on academic rigor, character development, and financial literacy & entrepreneurship, offering students a well-rounded education that motivates and prepares them for long-term success. In addition, Chicago Prep is committed to ensuring excellent teaching within a structured and supportive community, leveraging family and community partnerships to ensure the school reflects the strengths and needs of Bronzeville. I believe in the vision of Chicago Prep, and I believe the Bronzeville community will benefit from the opportunities the school will provide.

I have lived in Bronzeville since 1999 and raised my daughter in the Bronzeville community. However, due to the lack of quality Chicago public schools in the Bronzeville area at the time, my daughter attended a magnet elementary school on the Northside (Newberry Math and Science Academy) and later a Catholic elementary school (St. Thomas the Apostle in Hyde Park). While there have been some positive public school changes in Bronzeville, the concept and mission goal of the Chicago Charter Middle School in the Bronzeville area is long overdue and much needed.

Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. I sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter to open in the fall of 2021 to serve the Bronzeville student community as well as other students in Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the e-mail address and phone number referenced in this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Sabring Wilking - Brown

Sabrina Wilkins-Brown, Bronzeville Community Resident

May 28, 2020

Office of Innovation and Incubation Chicago Public Schools 42 W. Madison St. Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of Chicago Preparatory Charter Middle School, a proposed 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade college preparatory school working to open in Bronzeville in the fall of 2021. After meeting with Founding Board Member, Ken Dickerson I am excited about the impact Chicago Prep will have on the Bronzeville community.

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Again, I would like to extend my support and recommendation for Chicago Prep. We sincerely hope that the school will be granted a charter and open in the fall of 2021 to serve the students of Chicago. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at rwoodson23@gmail.com/773-633-8489.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Woodson