

July 25, 2018

Attention CPS Board

Re: Intrinsic School

Dear CPS Board:

My husband and I first learned of Intrinsic in January 2018. A friend told me about a wonderful school that her son attended and that he excelled. He was accepted to 14 universities and received a large sum of scholarship money. I wanted to hear more about this school, because I am skeptical by nature. Both my husband and I attended Catholic schools and that's what our children are attending. In our mind there were no other options for our children, it was going to be Catholic schools all the way. Little did I know that this innocent conversation with a friend would change our thinking drastically. Her passion for the school made me want to learn more about it. I came home and told my husband about our conversation and soon he was on Intrinsic's website finding out more information. This was just the beginning. We did a lot of research, as we do for all of our important decisions – especially concerning our children.

I have to start off by saying that we love that Intrinsic has blended technology. Every student has a Chromebook. No carrying around heavy book bags filled with textbooks. Teachers communicate with students and parents electronically. Parents get to see updated grades and know exactly how their child is doing. No surprises at report card pick up. We love the concept of the "pods." The "pods" are broken down into 3 smaller learning environments and rotate. This creates more one-on-one learning. "Pods" address the issue that no two people learn the same way. We see that with our boys firsthand. One of many mindsets that Intrinsic has really hit home for us "we teach until students learn." How often are students pushed along without mastering their studies? We love that the school is diverse. They have strict rules, but they also have a great reward system. Students are recognized for their accomplishments and their peers support them. Intrinsic focuses on guiding students to become responsible for their own success with the guidance of their instructors and parents. They focus on preparing the students for college and their careers after college. If they are having a problem learning something, they have to speak up and tell the instructors. These are all qualities that we want for our children and skills that will make them successful in the workplace. Our guidance alone will not make that happen, we need that reinforcement from the school they attend. These qualities exceed what the Catholic school can provide as a foundation for our children.

There were signs everywhere. We would see students wearing Intrinsic spirit wear and would go up to them and their parents and ask how they liked it. Another family on my son's baseball team has a daughter that goes to Intrinsic. A former classmate of ours has a son that just finished 7th grade as well. We always received enthusiastic responses about how much they loved Intrinsic. We specifically were looking to hear from the students themselves. The students couldn't stop raving about the school and all the wonderful programs they have, the recognition system, acceptance of diversity, sports programs and extracurricular activities.

In addition to the testimonials from our friends, their children and our research, our decision is solidified. We decided that we are going to enter into the lottery next year when my oldest son is in 6th grade. We couldn't have imagined that such an amazing school existed. Fingers crossed that we're picked in the lottery!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michele Ortiz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michele Ortiz
4323 N. Marmora Ave.
Chicago, IL 60634

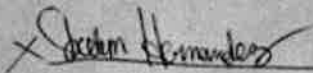
July 16th, 2018

CPS Board, I have heard many great things about Intrinsic High school. They have a lot to offer their students and truly care for their future. They have programs that teach and prepare students for college. The teachers and staff are genuine and give each student 100% of attention and care they need. This is the High school I would love for my two children to go to some day.

I have a family member that graduated from this school. He participated in the baseball program the school offers. They also have a National Honors society, which prepares students for college tremendously. It helped him to stay motivated and to progress through out the school year. On graduation day, I can see how loving and caring the teachers were to their students. It felt as if they were family.

This has made me trust in the school system. To know that my children will be in good hands. I want what's best for them, as any parent would agree. Our children deserve the best education and an amazing environment to grow. I want my children to be apart of the Intrinsic family.

Thank you
Jocelyn Hernandez
2610 N. Mont Clare
Chicago, IL 60707

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jocelyn Hernandez", is written over a horizontal line.

July 18th, 2018

To Whom it May Concern at CPS,

I am a parent of a potential student at Intrinsic School. When I heard of the possibility of an expansion of Intrinsic I was really excited. My daughter is on the waitlist. Her number is in the hundreds which shows me that it is a great school in the neighborhood. I have a nephew that graduated from there and that is where I first learned about the school. I immediately was drawn to their way of teaching and their safety standards.

Intrinsic is a technology focused school which is the way of the world and they prepare the kids for college unlike any other school that I've seen or heard of. Expanding this school would give an opportunity for families like mine to be able to attend Intrinsic. They teach kids about the importance of their education and their future. We need more schools like these in our city. We hope to hear positive news about Intrinsic's growth.

Thank You,
Krystle Hower
[6038 W Barry Ave](#)
[Chicago, IL 60634](#)
224-247-9124

July 23, 2018

Chicago Public Schools,

Based off of what I have heard from friends at work, Intrinsic is a great school for today's young people. I am a father of two young men and reside just 3 blocks from Intrinsic and this school has already made a great impact in my community. I see the kids all the time walking around and they are all so well mannered in their approaches. They wear their school uniforms and spirit wear all the time. This has made me more curious to what magical things are happening on that campus.

I have looked into their way of teaching on their website and I am very impressed with their individualized learning process. My boys are very different in learning and processing and I believe as a parent this would be the perfect place for them to learn and grow to be men.

I hope nothing but good things for this small school that has such huge potential.

Angel Santana
4843 W. Barry
Chicago, IL 60641

July 10, 2018

Hello CPS,

My name is Amelio Gonzalez, I am writing today in support of Intrinsic expanding their program by opening a new school.

As a cook county Sheriff safety is critical to me as I find a school for my son. I have heard nothing but praise in regards to Intrinsic. I've come across some amazing students who implement values that are hard to find in this day and age. Key values such as respect, compassion, loyalty and passion. Nowadays students lack these simple values and to know that my son can learn and put into practice what I myself teach at the home is crucial to me in my search for a potential school.

I Amelio Gonzalez, a community member and potential prospective parent of a son who can attend Intrinsic in the future implore you to consider expanding an amazing school such as Intrinsic. Our neighborhoods need a school where our children can attend and have the tools to succeed in life and not be concerned of their safety while learning. A school where they can call their second home and feel peace knowing that they will be given an opportunity to grow and have the confidence to become our future leaders.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Amelio Gonzalez

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