



ILRaiseYourHand.org

Raise Your Hand:

We are a growing coalition of parents and concerned citizens who advocate at the state and local level to improve public education in Chicago and Illinois.

Our Mission:

To improve the quality of public education in our schools, improve funding, and give parents a voice in the policies that affect children's education.

Significant Accomplishments:

- ✓ Sent over 150,000 emails to Illinois legislators in 2010, which played a critical role in halting a \$1.3 billion budget cut.
- ✓ Created and hosted the only mayoral candidate forum on education, December 2010
- ✓ Successfully advocated for the return of \$200 million of tax increment financing money (TIF) to CPS
- ✓ Built consensus with CPS and CTU, developed toolkit and provided technical assistance to bring recess to more than 8,000 CPS students for the first time in decades in 2011

Current Initiatives:

- Represent parent points of view on CPS extended day task force
- Advocate for well-rounded school day balanced with arts, recess, language and physical education
- Empower parents across Chicago and Illinois with information and viable actions to affect positive change in education
- Ensure parent voice in policy decisions related to the quality of education for our students
- Influence and advocate for overhaul of TIF program; annual return of surplus to CPS

Join "Raise Your Hand" Today!

- Strength in numbers: lend your voice to help improve schools
- Join the party of parents – over 500 Chicago schools and hundreds more statewide are part of the RYH "voice"
- Become part of the decision making process at CPS, and at your school
- Help schools and other organizations effectively mobilize their own parents & citizens, using their own member distribution lists & communication methods
- We will never sell or give away your email address
- Membership is free!

Click on the "join us" tab and enter your email at www.ilraiseyourhand.org

Raise Your Hand: Empowering Parents, Advocating for Children