



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Mayor's Press Office 312.744.3334 press@cityofchicago.org

CPS Office of Communications 773.553.1620

MAYOR EMANUEL AND CPS CEO BYRD-BENNETT ANNOUNCE 86 SCHOOLS TO RECEIVE AIR CONDITIONING FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR

CPS to Complete Installation of 57 Air Conditioning Systems Under Budget, Allowing an Additional 29 Schools to be Included in the First Phase of Five-Year Installation Plan

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Chicago Public Schools (CPS) CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett announced today that 86 schools will receive air conditioned classrooms for the 2014-2015 school year. In April, Mayor Emanuel and CPS CEO Byrd-Bennett announced the first phase of the five-year plan to provide air conditioning to every classroom.

As part of the plan, 57 air conditioning installations will be completed under budget this August, prior to the start of the school year, allowing another 29 schools to be added to the first phase of the plan. The additional schools will receive air conditioned classrooms by the end of October. With this investment, a total of 154 schools have received air conditioning in the past two years.

"Air conditioning is an important investment to establish a comfortable learning environment for our children," said Mayor Emanuel. "With the first phase of the five-year plan completed on time and under budget, we will be able to increase the number of schools receiving air conditioning so our students and teachers can focus on their studies and not the temperature in the classroom. This plan is part of ensuring that every CPS student is 100 percent college ready and 100 percent college bound."

The increase in the number of schools is the result of lower-than-expected electrical costs for the first phase of this project, which is included in the FY15 capital budget. The first phase of the plan will cost approximately \$20 million and is estimated to cost approximately \$20 million each subsequent year. The electrical savings allows CPS to expand the air conditioning investment to 29 additional schools for the same total funding.

"As we continue to elevate the quality of instruction CPS students receive in the classroom, it is imperative that we simultaneously work to improve the quality of our learning environments," said CPS CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett. "Expanding air conditioning to more schools on an accelerated timeline is an important step forward for Chicago Public Schools."

The 57 schools included in the initial investment announced in April either had no air conditioning or only partial air conditioning in their classrooms. With today's announcement, an additional 29 schools will also receive new air conditioning for the coming school year because a majority of those schools already had partial air conditioning, requiring a lower infrastructure investment. These schools represent a geographic balance across the district so all communities will benefit from the initial investment and expansion. This investment will add to air conditioning that Mayor Emanuel and the Board installed in 2013 at 68 schools, including the 55 welcoming schools.

List of additional schools:

Phillip D Armour Elementary School Albert R Sabin Elementary Magnet School Henry H Nash Elementary School Washington High School Sauganash Elementary School Charles P Caldwell Academy of Math & Science ES **Edgebrook Elementary School** William E B Dubois Elementary School James Hedges Elementary School Brighton Park Elementary School Franklin Elementary Fine Arts Center Alcott High School for the Humanities Foster Park Elementary School Cesar E Chavez Multicultural Academic Center ES **Ernst Prussing Elementary School** Carl von Linne Elementary School John Greenleaf Whittier Elementary School Mark Sheridan Elementary Math & Science Academy Rowe Elementary School Alexander Hamilton Elementary School Joshua D Kershaw Elementary School Joseph Jungman Elementary School Orville T Bright Elementary School Richard J Oglesby Elementary School Wolfgang A Mozart Elementary School Frank W Reilly Elementary School **DeWitt Clinton Elementary School** Anna R. Langford Community Academy Daniel Webster Elementary School

A full list of schools receiving air conditioning is available here.

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