

Marchh 28, 2023

A message from CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear CPS Families and Staff,

We are all mourning the loss of life that occurred yesterday at an elementary school in Nashville, Tennessee. Our hearts go out to this entire school community, especially the families who were directly impacted by this tragedy.

We know that gun violence raises many concerns and emotions among our students and staff, especially when that violence is focused on a school. I want everyone in our CPS family to know that we take the responsibility of keeping our school communities safe extremely seriously. Our approach [is grounded in proactively providing for the physical and emotional safety of our students](#) and creating a culture that is centered on building trusting relationships between students and staff.

We are also fully committed to meeting the social and emotional needs of our school communities. In the wake of the tragedy in Nashville, we will encourage staff to use our [The Day After guidance](#), which creates a safe space for students to voice their concerns and speak openly about their feelings.

Please know that school safety remains our absolute top priority, and that we will do everything we can to help our District heal in response to this tragedy. We appreciate your support and thank you for your continued partnership as we work to meet the needs of all students during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Pedro Martinez

Chief Executive Officer

Chicago Public Schools