

# NEWS



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## FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOHN FRITCHEY

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### **Rep. Fritchey Applauds Saving of Prescott School** *Prescott Elementary Granted One Year Reprieve*

(Chicago) - State Representative John Fritchey (D-Chicago) today commended the Chicago Public School Board for reversing their earlier decision to close Prescott Elementary School. Rather than seek to close Prescott at the end of the school year, CPS has decided to provide Prescott a one-year reprieve to show increased enrollment numbers and improved student scores.

“I want to thank Mr. Huberman and the many CPS staff and employees who put considerable time and thought into this process, and in my opinion reached the right and equitable decision,” stated Rep. Fritchey. “Most of all, I want to commend the Prescott community. If it was not for their efforts, this never would have happened.”

While Prescott Elementary has historically been a less than stellar school in the DePaul community, over the last couple of years, significant efforts have been made by parents, staff, and community members to enhance community involvement and student performance. In addition to hiring a new principal and teachers, the Prescott community has raised a large sum of money from independent donors, as well as spent countless volunteer hours improving the physical structure of the school. All of their efforts have led to an increase in applications from the surrounding neighborhood for Prescott’s Pre-K for All Program and Kindergarten as well as increased test scores by the students.

“I would like to thank Rep. Fritchey for being instrumental in ensuring that CPS heard all the facts and the community's concerns surrounding the closing of Prescott Elementary,” stated Jenn Lister of Prescott Parents. “We knew that after CPS heard the facts and what the community had to say, they would reverse their original decision to close Prescott Elementary and we were right.”

“Closing a school just as it is about to turn around doesn’t make much sense, and I’m glad that CPS recognized that was exactly what they were about to do,” replied Rep. Fritchey. “I have been working with the Prescott community for over a decade to try to provide additional quality educational choices in our neighborhood. And while there is still work to be done, I look forward to continuing to help the school in its efforts to be one of those choices.”