



For Immediate Release:
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**STATEMENT FROM ILLINOIS LATINO AGENDA:
Latino Leaders Urge Mayor Johnson to Stop Any Efforts to Oust CPS CEO Pedro
Martinez**

media interviews available

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda](#) in response to the [potential dismissal of CPS CEO Pedro Martinez](#):

“The Illinois Latino Agenda is deeply concerned by reports that Mayor Johnson is working to oust Pedro Martinez, CEO of Chicago Public Schools (CPS). As a CPS graduate and a parent of two CPS students, Martinez has a personal and deeply-rooted commitment to the success of Chicago’s diverse student body, embodying exactly what CPS educators strive to cultivate in their students.

“The reality is that Martinez’s tenure as CPS’s CEO has been positive for our students and educators, bringing stability to a school district that’s had nine Superintendents since 2009. Martinez has strategically allocated resources to ensure these schools are funded appropriately, giving students access to extracurricular activities and ensuring schools have the resources they need. His approach has been fiscally responsible while prioritizing equity and the empowerment of all students, regardless of their zip code.

“Under his leadership, CPS has navigated the challenges of the pandemic to help students recover academically, achieved top reading gains among the largest urban districts in the nation, and expanded opportunities for students through early college credit programs. Importantly, Martinez has championed the needs of CPS’s nearly 50 percent Latinx student population, ensuring increased funding for multilingual and multicultural education and growing support for English Learners.

“We strongly urge Mayor Johnson to reconsider any efforts to remove a qualified Superintendent who is bringing much-needed stability to our city’s public schools and delivering tangible, positive outcomes for students. The Illinois Latino Agenda stands in strong support of Pedro Martinez for his track record and commitment to Chicago’s students.”

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The Illinois Latino Agenda (ILA) is a coalition that advocates for the representation of Latinos across all sectors and works to advance the economic, political and social prosperity of Latino communities throughout Illinois.