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Adriana Díaz, Communications Manager

773-459-1941

adiaz@latinopolicyforum.org



Latino Policy Forum Statement on CPS Latino Advisory Committee

Chicago—February 11, 2014— Following a convening of 90 community leaders hosted by the Latino Policy Forum, Chicago Public Schools CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennet has commissioned the [district's first Latino Advisory Committee](#); a move consistent with commitments [made last summer](#).

“We’re pleased it’s finally happening,” said Forum executive director Sylvia Puente. “We are taking this as a sign of good-faith that the district will implement the recommendations derived from this committee to create a long-overdue, equitable educational system that prepares Latino students for success.”

Within Chicago Public Schools, Latinos now represent 44.3 percent of the student population, making up its largest cohort.

As a member of the taskforce, which is comprised of 13 civic and educational leaders, Puente conveyed an open-door policy to the greater Latino community in keeping the taskforce on track, “I value the feedback of teachers, parents and others working towards this common goal.” Concerns, questions or comments can be sent to spuente@latinopolicyforum.org.

About the Latino Policy Forum

The Latino Policy Forum is the only organization in the Chicago area that facilitates the involvement of Latinos at all levels of public decision-making. The Forum conducts analysis to inform, influence and lead. Its goals are to improve education outcomes, advocate for affordable housing, promote just immigration policies, and engage diverse sectors of the community, with an understanding that advancing Latinos advances a shared future. For more information, visit www.latinopolicyforum.org.

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