

We are *all* Chicago!

Cincinnati Federation of Teachers (CFT) know that high quality public education is the best way to ensure that *all* children have the opportunity to get ahead in life and contribute to our common future. But across the country our elected leaders repeatedly prioritize tax cuts to the wealthy, corporate profits and privatization over public education. Are schools starving while the rich line their pockets.

The Chicago Teachers Union (CTU), parents, students and community allies have been demanding justice for students and families for years. We know that student learning depends on what happens outside the classroom as well as inside the classroom.

That's why we stand with CTU as they fight for a fair contract that demands the mayor put equity and justice in writing:

Smaller Class Sizes

All students need individual attention from their teachers. When there are more than 40 students in a kindergarten or any other classroom that level of attention is not possible.

Schools with Nurses, Librarians, Social Workers and Clinicians

Our students need social workers, a nurse and librarian in every school, and more bilingual and special education teachers and staff. Absolutely no more eliminating essential staff positions in schools. Educators deserve staffing commitments and good working conditions in all areas that impact children's learning.

Justice for Students and Families

Student learning also depends on what happens outside the classroom. CTU is calling for justice in the areas of affordable housing, sanctuary schools for undocumented students, sustainable community schools and restorative justice.

Fair Wages and Benefits

The people who make our schools work and help our students achieve their full potential should be treated fairly and respected. It is unacceptable to make excuses for continued neglect of teacher, clinician and paraprofessional and school-related personnel.

We, the undersigned organizations, stand with the Chicago Teachers Union. We know that the fight being waged in Chicago is *our* fight, whether we live in Pennsylvania, Florida, California or Ohio. We are *all* Chicago.

Signed,

Cincinnati Federation of Teachers – Local 1520