



March 7, 2017

Dear CPS Families,

During the month of March, International Women's Day and Women's History Month will provide unique opportunities to acknowledge and honor the contributions of women from the past, present and future.

This Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, there are demonstrations and actions planned throughout the country to bring further attention to these issues. While we commend all students and families for supporting the issues they believe in, we strongly encourage all parents to send their children to school Wednesday so they can continue receiving the education that will prepare them to become our country's next generation of leaders.

Our classrooms are and should be places where students can learn about women's history and issues facing women today. The district has provided information so your student's teachers can guide productive discussions in their classrooms and facilitate this dialogue in an educational space.

We also want to underscore that if students are absent from school, their absences will be considered unexcused against their attendance records (unless their absences are related to illness, a doctor's visit, etc).

We look forward to seeing all children in school on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, and we appreciate your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janice K. Jackson".

Dr. Janice K. Jackson  
Chief Education Officer  
Chicago Public Schools

