

**August 14, 2024, Agenda Review Committee Meeting Written Comments
Received between Monday, August 12th and Thursday, August 15nd Submitted
via Written Comments Form**

1	See Attachment
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ATTACHMENTS

CPS Board Meeting Remarks | August 14, 2024

Good afternoon, President Shi, CEO Martinez, and distinguished board members.

I'm Ivette Esparza, Director of Community Affairs and Advocacy at Acero Charter Schools. I was here in April and June, showcasing the incredible work at our Acero Charter Schools.

I'm here again because, despite charter parents actively participating in numerous budget discussions, community engagement sessions, and CPS outreach meetings, their concerns remain unaddressed.

We want to know how our charter schools will fit into the CPS Strategic Five-Year Plan and we want longer renewals because our students and families deserve it. Our teachers and staff work hard every year to make sure that our students become lifelong learners, discerners, and doers.

At Acero, we've launched the Civics for All program from UnidosUS this summer to ensure our parents are fully prepared for Election Day and the upcoming Board elections. Our goal is to **empower** parents with the tools and knowledge they need to become **strong advocates** for their students and the charter community, helping them understand their rights and how to champion their causes effectively.

Our charter schools and families are vital, and I urge the Board once again to acknowledge the outstanding work being done at schools like Acero. I invite you to visit our schools and witness firsthand how much our schools, students, and families mean to our community.

Thank you, and I really look forward to your visit.