FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Support Grows Even Stronger for Noble Southwest Campus Ahead of Tomorrow's Vote

Thousands of Neighborhood Residents, Local Elected Officials, CPS CEO, and Local Editorial Boards All Call for a Noble SW Campus

CHICAGO, IL – The chorus of support from across the community for the proposed Noble campus on the Southwest side grows louder heading intotomorrow's vote. Parents and community leaders have spent recent months on the phones, knocking on doors, and online sharing the success stories of students and families that have seen the positive impact a Noble education can have and the growing support for Noble has been seen by the number of neighborhood residents submitting letters of support, and from the local officials and media outlets who have endorsed the proposal citing the need for high quality education options like Noble delivers.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Over 1,800 local neighborhood residents have signed letters of support

Nearly 2,400 families from the Southwest side already choose to send their children to a Noble School in another part of the city

250 official public comments have been submitted calling for the Noble SW campus at each of the public hearings

40 Speakers have addressed the Board of Education in the last 10 months

Greg Harris, a father of a senior at Gary Comer College Prep and a retired police officer:
"Every parent should have the opportunity to feel as proud as I am. No one should have to send their child to a school that is overcrowded, where they know they are not going to receive the best education they

can, where they cannot say for sure that their child is safe."

Carmen Torres, a longtime resident of the neighborhood and the parent of a Golder College Prep alumnus:
"There are children like my daughter all over this city and on the southwest side that can achieve their dreams if given the opportunity. That's what we are asking for here access to the opportunity for our children. The southwest side deserves to have a school that can help more children get a great education and make college a possibility."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Broad Award

In June, Noble was awarded the Broad Prize for top public charter school system in the country.
Paul Pastorek, a member of The Broad Prize for Public Charter Schools review board:
"Noble is clearly on to something because they've been able to scale and sustain their academic achievement. They have demonstrated that all students have the ability to perform at college-ready levels."

Awarded Major Federal Grant

The $8.4 million dollar grant awarded by the Department of Education recognized Noble's academic excellence and was won as part of the government's Replication and Expansion for High-Quality Charter Schools program.

CHICAGO EDITORIAL BOARDS ENDORSE SW CAMPUS

Chicago Tribune:

"The list of proposals includes several operators, such as Noble Street Charter and KIPP Chicago, that have outstanding performance records. CPS has every reason to build on a record of success."

The Chicago Sun-Times:

"Three months ago, we argued against the relocation of a Noble charter high school to the North Side for three key reasons — community leaders were almost unanimously against it, five quality and improving public schools already existed, and none of the schools were overcrowded. Today, we support the establishment of a Noble charter high school on the Southwest Side, at 47th Street and California Avenue, precisely because the facts on those same three criteria now stack up entirely differently."

CHICAGO OFFICIALS ENDORSE SW CAMPUS

Elected Officials Who Represent Where the New Campus Would be Built:

Alderman Edward Burke

State Senator Tony Muñoz

State Representative Dan Burke

Chicago School District:

CPS CEO Forrest Claypool: "The District is also recommending the approval of Noble Campus #17, which will provide an additional quality option on Chicago's southwest side to meet unmet demand."

Additional Information about Noble:

The Noble Network of Charter Schools is Chicago's largest and highest performing network of public high schools. Last year, Noble campuses were eight of the top 10 open enrollment public high schools in Chicago and more than 90 percent of graduates matriculated to college this year. Noble Network of Charter Schools was recently named the 2015 winner of the Broad Prize for Top Public Charter School System in the nation.

Noble is a non-selective network serving more than 11,000 students throughout Chicago at 16 campuses. Noble campuses are located in some of Chicago's highest need communities and serve a student population that is 89 percent low-income and 98 percent minority. As a public non-selective high school, there are no testing requirements for enrollment at any of Noble's campuses.

Noble offers support throughout high school through programs like its College Seminar class, Summer of a Lifetime programs at colleges during the summer after sophomore year, scholarships for undocumented students and the College Completion Standards, which help Noble students reverse an alarming national statistic – 11 percent of low-income students in the country are expected to graduate from college. Currently, Noble alumni – who are 95 percent African American or Latino, with more than 89 percent having qualified for federal free or reduced price meals – graduate college at three times the rate of comparable student groups.

With thousands of alumni in college, Noble has developed a variety of support services that will help students earn their college degree through personalized support which is offered to Noble alumni for six years after graduation. All Noble campuses with graduates now have at least one full-time alumni coordinator, whose sole job is to support graduates in college. And, starting this fall, 14 colleges across the country, including five in Illinois, have agreed to partner with Noble to close the financial aid gap for 70 undocumented Noble students in the Pritzker Access Scholarship program.

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Education in southwest Chicago

More than

1,800

community members have signed letters demanding a new Noble public school on the southwest side of Chicago.

It is easy to see why...

7 out of the 9 high schools within 2 miles of the proposed site are already over capacity.

This year Hancock high school became selective enrollment, further reducing the number of open-enrollment options.

There are currently 6,000 more 5th through 8th graders than there are high school age students in southwest Chicago. In the next four years those students need high school options.

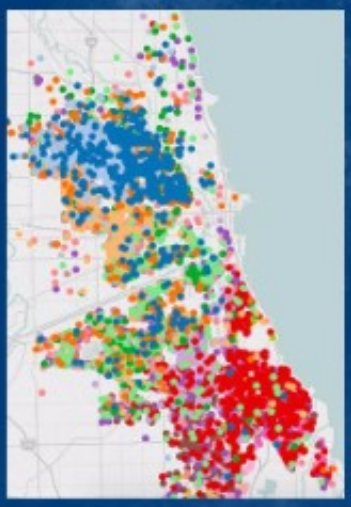
Noble schools are the top performing schools in Chicago.

Top ACT growth in the city, top ACT overall score for non-selective schools.

Winner of the 2015 Broad Prize for best public charter network in the USA

The 1,580 members of the class of 2015 earned 18,488 acceptances and $325 million in college scholarships

Noble created a scholarship for its undocumented students. This year 78 DREAMers benefited from the scholarship and are currently in college.

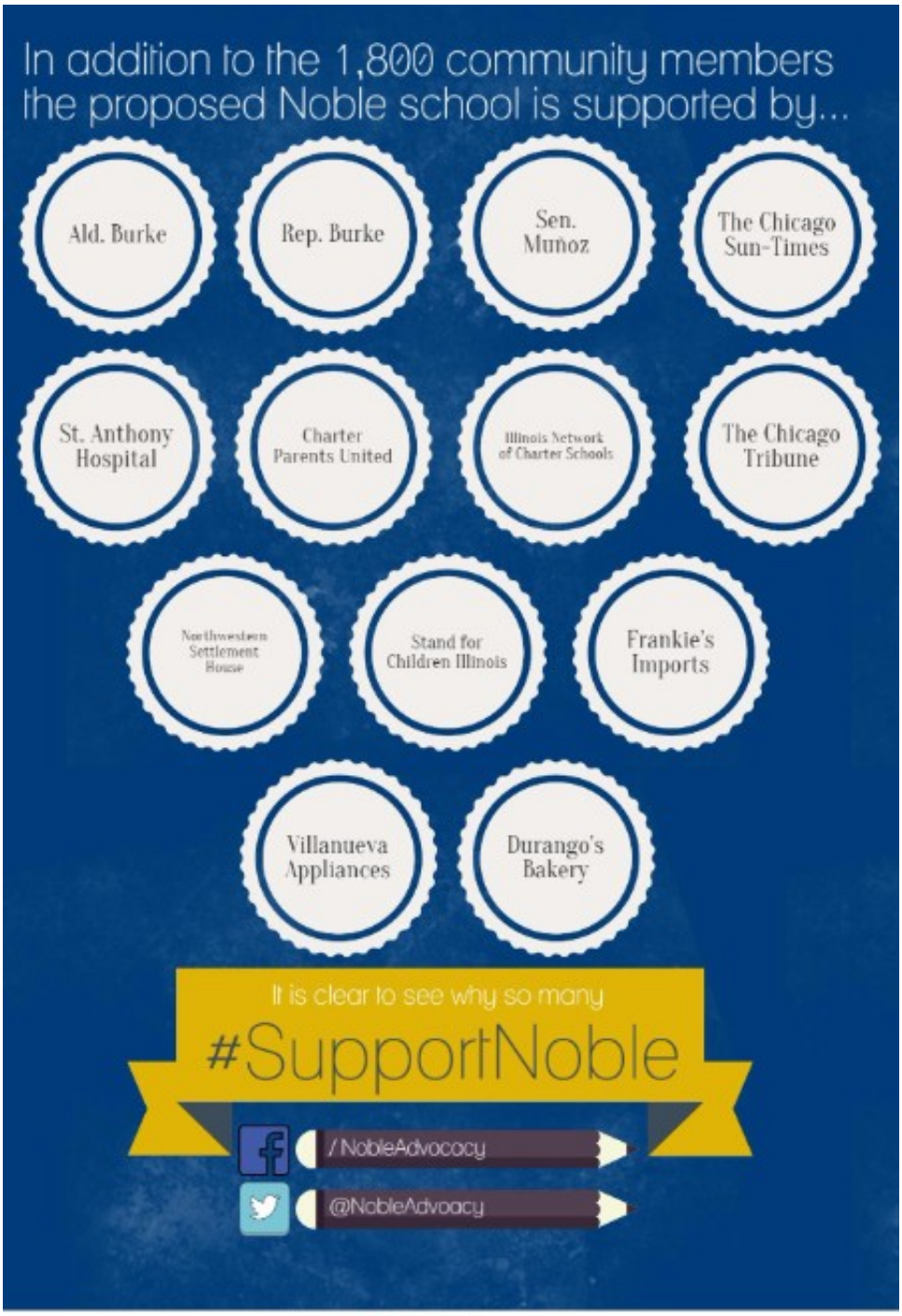


2,400

Every day more than 2,400 students have to travel from the southwest side of Chicago to attend a Noble public school.

The proposed Noble school will bring millions in community investment and turn a vacant lot into a beautiful community resource.

Built with philanthropic support, grants and without CPS start up funding, the project doesn't impact the budget of any other school.



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