Twitter Thread by Illinois Families for Public Schools

Illinois Families for Public Schools
@il_fps

Press conference starting shortly calling on @DonHarmonIL to let the elected school board bill have a floor vote in the Senate like he promised. We'll live tweet it here.

Labor leaders standing with elected, parents, community orgs and teachers @AFTunion, @J1Ramann, @SigchoFor25, SEIUHC,

@brothajitu of @KOCOmmunity & @J4J_USA: Mayor Lightfoot who said she would be different and support an elected board wants a hybrid that she controls

Brown: The senate president @DonHarmonIL who said he would be different and would stand with labor is refusing to call a bill

Next up Bob Reiter, @chicagolabor: the appointed board just represents the mayor's office. There is no reason why this school district should be different than any other district in IL. Parents need to elect their representatives

Reiter @chicagolabor: The time is now to rectify not just the restriction of bargaining rights [that passed yesterday]; this is a century old travesty in Chicago that the board is not elected.

Next up @rweingarten, @AFTunion: I have been around for a long time & seen reforms cycle around the country. But mayoral control stifles democracy and doesn't create resources or allow community voices to be heard

@rweingarten: It shouldn't have taken a hunger strike to get Dyett HS the resources parents and students wanted and needed

@rweingarten: The elected school board was intended to go side-by-side with the bargaining bill. These two bills need to go together.

@rweingarten: @DonHarmonIL was terrific on the bargaining bill, but the business community is influencing him to block this bill and preventing parents from having rights

@brothajitu: the overwhelming number of districts that don't have democratic control with an elected board are majority Black & brown. This is voter suppression #hb2267

Next up Alderman @J1Ramann of the 20th Ward: what we have said for two decades is that Black and Latinx families don't deserve to have control over their schools

@J1Ramann: District is currently ignoring communities most impacted by pandemic. Taxpayers and parents who look like me aren't valued.

@J1Ramann: We need an elected representative school board *yesterday*. I have been fighting for this for 10 years. others on this call have been fighting for 25 years #ERSBnow Call your legislators!

@brothajitu: Why are Chicago politicians afraid of democracy? It is the business community. Same people who had Daley put it into place in the first place

@brothajitu: Opportunity gap has grown under this form of school governance. Equity must be determined by those who are most impacted by inequity