Ms. Courtney Avery Administrator Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 W. Jefferson St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Springfield, IL 62761

September 13, 2019

Re: Provident Hospital of Cook County Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I submit this letter in support of Cook County Health's (CCH) Certificate of Need application to construct a modernized replacement Provident Hospital facility.

As school community and a partner to Provident Hospital in the Washington Park community, we recognize the need to bring a new modern facility to fulfill the medical needs of our students as well as other residents on the South Side of Chicago.

Provident Hospital has been a good community partner, and has provided access to many of our students, helping them attain medical compliance.

We understand that the existing Provident Hospital building is dated and requires significant financial investment to modernize. However, building a replacement Provident Hospital facility with expanded inpatient and outpatient services will allow Cook County Health to better invest limited financial resources while continuing to provide patients with comprehensive, high-quality healthcare and increasing access to care close to where they live.

It will also help ensure that many get the medical care that they need because Provident will be closer to them than would be Stroger Hospital.

Health is an integral part of our students' success. We look forward to their access to quality care in their community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lauren Norwood
Lauren Norwood - Principal
Burke Elementary School