

NTA VOTER GUIDE

At National Teachers Academy, we teach our children the NTA Way values of COURAGE, COMMITMENT, AWARENESS, and INTEGRITY. Who are the Chicago leaders who have shown these values and earned our vote?

As the NTA family knows, true leaders are those who stand up against injustice, even when it's not convenient. These candidates have spoken up for NTA and our students, even in the face of incredible political pressure from machine politicians who stand to gain from the proposed closure of our high-performing, majority-black elementary school.

This list does not intend to tell you who to vote for, but instead is a collection of candidates who have proven their commitment to NTA. If you find this information useful, share with a friend! And stay up-to-date at wearenta.com.

NTA ALLIES

The following candidates have been supportive of NTA and our efforts to keep our elementary school open.

GOVERNOR

✓ **CHRIS KENNEDY/RA JOY**

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION

✓ **KARI STEELE**

COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER

✓ **ALMA ANAYA**

1ST DISTRICT STATE REP

✓ **AARON ORTIZ**

3RD DISTRICT STATE SENATOR

✓ **MATTIE HUNTER**

6TH DISTRICT STATE REP

✓ **SONYA HARPER**

5TH DISTRICT STATE REP

✓ **SAMEENA MUSTAFA**

14TH SUBCIRCUIT JUDGE

✓ **BEATRIZ ANA FRAUSTO-SANDOVAL**

NTA OPPONENTS

These candidates have been silent, ignored requests for support, or have spoken in favor of our closure.

GOVERNOR

✗ **J.B. PRITZKER/JULIANA STRATTON**

Stratton has 301 NTA students in her district, yet she has refused to publicly support NTA.

8TH SUBCIRCUIT JUDGE

✗ **RISHI AGRAWAL**

As a member of the Local School Council at South Loop Elementary School, he has spoken at meetings to support converting NTA into a high school.

5TH DISTRICT REP

✗ **LAMONT ROBINSON**

Endorsed by Ald. Pat Dowell, who was the originator and vocal supporter of the plan to close NTA.

COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER

✗ **BOB FIORETTI**

In 2013, Ald. Fioretti wrote to CPS CEO Barbara Byrd Bennett advocating for closing NTA and converting it into a high school.

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NTA ALLIES

The Democratic Party machine has not stood up for NTA, against school closings, or for the rights of communities of color in Chicago. This election season, we looked for candidates challenging the old guard and supporting #WeAreNTA.

GOVERNOR

✓ CHRIS KENNEDY/RA JOY

Our students challenged the gubernatorial candidates to stand with NTA — and the Kennedy/Joy campaign was the first one to stand up. Ra Joy has visited NTA, met with our students, and spoken at the Board of Education calling out Rahm Emanuel on the impact of school closings on black neighborhoods. Kennedy's team has shown that not only do they talk the talk, but they will also walk the walk in standing up to the biggest threat to NTA's future.

METROPOLITAN
WATER RECLAMATION

✓ KARI STEELE

Kari Steele has visited NTA, spoken to our families, and her husband, Maze Jackson, has repeatedly shown support for NTA and called out Pat Dowell on his radio show on WVON. Maze's support of NTA has made Pat Dowell push back hard on Commissioner Steele, who is a trained chemist and environmentalist up for re-election to a second 6-year term.

COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER

✓ ALMA ANAYA

Before announcing her campaign, Alma was already working on identifying the racial impacts of the school closing proposal at NTA. She opposes the plan to close NTA and has visited the school with her current boss, Commissioner Chuy Garcia, who forced Rahm Emanuel into a runoff in 2015.

1ST DISTRICT STATE REP

✓ AARON ORTIZ

Aaron Ortiz is opposed to closing NTA and also supports NTA parent Beatriz Frausto-Sandoval. He is a teacher and coach at Back of the Yards High School and is looking to unseat Rep. Dan Burke of the powerful Burke political family.

3RD DISTRICT STATE SENATOR

✓ MATTIE HUNTER

Senator Hunter began meeting with NTA parents almost a year ago and has since visited the school two times to meet with parents and students. She has formally expressed support for NTA to stay open as an elementary school.

6TH DISTRICT STATE REP

✓ SONYA HARPER

State Representative Harper has met with parents and students and has formally expressed support for NTA to stay open. She has sponsored a bill to restrict future school closing actions.

5TH DISTRICT STATE REP

✓ SAMEENA MUSTAFA

Mustafa is running for US Congress in Edgewater — meaning she has very few votes to gain by helping NTA, but she did it anyway. She visited the school and then worked with parents to help get media attention. If you know someone in her district, share this information.

14TH SUBCIRCUIT JUDGE

✓ BEATRIZ ANA FRAUSTO-SANDOVAL

Beatriz is an NTA Parent and has come out strong against this school closing plan.

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