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Chicago Public Schools and UChicago Impact Launch New Website to Help Students Explore CPS High Schools and Programs

High School Bound Website Allows Students to Research High Schools Based on Interests, Location, School Data, Eligibility, and Program Type

Chicago (December 5, 2016) - Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and UChicago Impact today announced the launch of High School Bound (HSBound.org), a new website that allows Chicago students to explore and learn more about the many public high schools and programs offered at CPS. Using HSBound.org, students can easily look up and sort schools based on their individual interests, location, school data, eligibility, and program type.

“We understand that applying for high school can be a complicated process, which is why we are proud to partner on the High School Bound web site that can help simplify choices,” Dr. Janice K. Jackson, CPS Chief Education Officer. “High School Bound will help increase accessibility and transparency in the high school application process, as well as help ensure all students from every neighborhood have access to the same information as they make a decision on where to go to high school.”

CPS offers a wide variety of high schools, including neighborhood, magnet, dual credit and dual enrollment, charter, STEM, International Baccalaureate (IB), selective enrollment, military, Career and Technical Education (CTE), and others. That is why the High School Bound website was designed, so students will have access to the information they need to consider all of the CPS high schools available from one, online hub.

“An educational experience that enables students to explore their interests and feel excited by and connected to their school is essential for our students’ success in Chicago,” said Elliot Ransom, Co-Chief Executive Officer of UChicago Impact. “Through the High School Bound website, students will be able to learn more about all of the high schools and programs that Chicago Public Schools offers, and make the best decision for their future.”

By logging onto HSBound.org, visitors can learn about high schools in Chicago and sort through programs based on:

- **Distance:** The website will allow students to map out various routes so they can better understand how long it will take for them to travel from their home to the school they are researching.

- **Student interests:** Students can use the tool to search for high schools and programs that are designed to focus on their specific interest areas or future careers, including art, science, technology, and more.
- **School data:** This search feature will provide students with data on schools' student attendance, Freshman On-Track, and high school graduation rates, as well as a snapshot view of their student cultures.
- **Eligibility:** This sorting feature will allow students to make sure they meet any necessary requirements for the schools that interest them.

By helping middle grades students identify the high schools that are the best fit for them, the website also aims to reduce mobility in students' first year of high school. When students transfer schools during their freshman year of high school, it can not only disrupt their education but can also have long-term effects on school funding and graduation rates.

The application period for CPS schools with academic criteria for the 2017-2018 School Year ends December 9, 2016. Students can continue to apply to all other CPS high schools and programs through Spring 2016.

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About UChicago Impact

UChicago Impact, the Urban Education Institute's not-for-profit LLC, designed the To&Through Online Tool and partners with districts and schools across the country to provide other empirically based tools and support services that foster reliably excellent schooling. UChicago Impact currently works in more than 4,500 schools across 60 major cities in 33 states, and more than 2.8 million students nationwide have used its tools.