Effective May 28, 2013, House Joint Resolution 0001 (HJR 0001) created the Truancy in Chicago Public Schools Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force is to examine issues and make recommendations related to current State Board of Education and City of Chicago School District 299 policies regarding truancy and excessive absences. As part of its examination and in the course of its duties, the Task Force shall:

1. Identify different strategies and approaches to help educators and the City of Chicago School District 299 administration address the truancy and excessive absences epidemic in the City of Chicago,

2. Promote ongoing professional development to equip school personnel with the skills and knowledge necessary to reduce contributing factors to truancy and excessive absences,

3. Support community-based organizations and parents in their ongoing efforts to encourage youths to adopt and practice positive social behaviors that will allow them to be successful in school and in their communities,

4. Hold public hearings in the City of Chicago, and

5. Report its findings to the General Assembly.

Public hearings will be held as follows. We encourage all parents, students, educators and community members to attend one of the public hearings to provide insight, recommendations, and experiences in addressing truancy in Chicago Public Schools. Information regarding truancy, attendance, and special topics will also be distributed to those in attendance.

**March 10, 2014**

**Time:** 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Public Hearing begins at 5:30 p.m.

**Host:** L.E.A.D.E.R.S Network

**Venue:** New Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church (Lower Level Auditorium)
4301 West Washington Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60624

**April 28, 2014**

**Time:** 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Public Hearing begins at 5:30 p.m.

**Host:** Senator Jacqueline Collins

**Venue:** Urban Partnership Bank (Community Room)
7801 South State Street
Chicago, Illinois 60619

**May 3, 2014**

**Time:** 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Doors open at 2:00. Public Hearing begins at 2:30 p.m.

**Host:** Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago

**Venue:** Pilgrim Baptist Church of South Chicago (Lower Level Hall)
3235 East 91st Street
Chicago, Illinois 60617

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