



# WEST CHICAGO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

— Reach Higher. Achieve Together. —  
— Alcanzando más. Logrando juntos. —

**TO:** Board of Education  
**FROM:** Lea Pizinger, Assistant Supt. of Teaching and Learning, and Sarah Norton, Director of Partnerships  
**DATE:** 7/23/2026  
**RE:** Childhood Victories Service Contract

**This memo is:**

- ☐ Information only  
☒ Information with a recommendation and a request for Board approval by vote.

Date by which a Board decision is needed: 7/23/26

Previous memos on this topic can be found:

- ☐ in previous Board packet(s) dated.  
☐ or attached to this memo

## Basic Information:

Erin's Law is codified in 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13 of the Illinois School Code. Erin's Law requires that all school districts provide age-appropriate education to help children recognize, prevent, and report child sexual abuse.

District 33 would like to hire Childhood Victories, an organization that specializes in student and parent presentations that fulfill the Erin's Law Requirements. The proposed programming will provide age-appropriate lessons to students in grades K-8, caregiver education, and staff training. Erin's Law allows parents to provide written permission to opt out of these lessons.

During the 2026-2027 school year, student presentations will take place the week of January 4th, 2027, in classrooms. The district will host an in-person parent night on December 7th. The presentation will provide an overview of the student lessons and an opportunity to have parent questions answered. If parents cannot attend the in-person session, a detailed letter and video will be sent home before student presentations. Staff will be required to watch training videos from Childhood Victories before class presentations. Teachers and student service team members, including social workers and counselors, will be present during classroom presentations. Community partner organizations specializing in mental health will also be available at the schools on the day of the presentations if students need immediate follow-up care.

**The total cost for the annual programming is \$11,997. The detailed proposal can be found [here](#).**

## Background/Historical Context:

In previous school years, D33 contracted the YWCA to provide in-person lessons on childhood sexual abuse for all 3rd and 7th graders. All other grade levels received lessons provided by D33 teachers during

SEL or Health classes. These lessons have helped educate children and help those impacted by sexual abuse come forward, make a report, and get connected to services. The total cost of the YWCA program in the 25-26 school year was \$9,800. The YWCA does not have the capacity to expand student programs to other grade levels beyond 3rd and 7th grade due to funding and staffing restrictions.

We believe that expanding in-person student presentations, taught by Childhood Victories, to all grade levels K-8 will provide a more proactive and aligned approach in teaching children age-appropriate skills to recognize sexual abuse.

Other school districts that use Childhood Victories include:

- Lombard School District 44
- CCD93 - Bloomingdale, IL
- West Northfield District 31 - Northbrook and Glenview, IL
- Union School District 81 - Joliet, IL
- School Districts 118 & 128 - Palos Heights, IL
- Crystal Lake Consolidated School District 47
- Community Consolidated School District 21 - Wheeling, IL
- And more

You can read more about the organization here:

- [Website](#)
- [Info Packet](#)
- [D33 26/27 Proposal](#)

#### **Previous decisions, actions, or parameters that relate to this topic or issue:**

For the past several years, D33 has contracted the YWCA to provide Erin's Law presentations to 3rd and 7th graders. The remaining grades received sexual abuse awareness and prevention lessons led by D33 teachers during SEL and Health Classes. Parents may opt out of these lessons.

#### **Recommendations:**

**Option 1:** Continue working with the YWCA to provide lessons to 3rd- and 7th-grade students, and have the remaining grades receive lessons from D33 teachers. Total cost is \$9,800.

**Option 2:** Contract with Childhood Victories to provide lessons for all students K-8, staff training, and parent education. Total cost is \$11,997.

**Recommendation:** District 33 contracts with Childhood Victories to provide lessons for all students K-8, staff training, and parent education on childhood sexual abuse awareness and prevention. Total cost is \$11,997.