

Process Paper

We decided that the Chicago Teacher Revolt of 1933 was a good topic to do a history fair on because it relates to current events. Students and teachers in CPS schools are losing time in the building because of unresolved debates. Our topic relates to the theme of this year because it showcases the debate surrounding the way the administration and CPS treated the teachers. It also demonstrates how there was diplomacy in the fact that the CTU was formed.

We conducted research in a number of different ways. We started with some simple Google searches, but also dug a little deeper by looking at the city and national archives. There was also a website database called "JSTOR" that we found journal articles from. Finally, we checked out a book from a Chicago Public Library called "Teachers and Reform" by John F. Lyons, to educate ourselves on the topic.

We constructed our project by researching the Chicago Teachers Revolt of 1933. Through analyzing newspaper articles and historical journals we found primary quotes and images. Then we gathered everything onto a board to create our final exhibit.

Our argument is that through public debate and its resulting diplomacy, the Chicago Teacher Revolt of 1933 changed the way Chicago Public Schools functioned by relieving harsh conditions, instituting a reliable compensation system, and unifying teachers across the district.

Our topic is significant because it resulted in the creation of the Chicago Teachers Union. This union gives Chicago Public School teachers an outlet where they can be heard. It changed the way schools in Chicago function as well as how the Board of Education governs the schools.