

## Handout 4: Making Connections to Today

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Per \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR OBSERVATIONS** on the realities facing Chicago public schools today.  
Complete each section and discuss in small groups or all together.

### YOUR FIRST THOUGHTS

What do you think are some of the **biggest issues or problems** in your school system?

1.

2.

3.

### SCHOOL EQUITY

Is there student **segregation** among and within different schools?  
Are there **unequal resources** for students based on race, class, and/or gender – e.g., new books, good technology, supplies, student clubs, food, field trips, guest speakers, and more?

### LEARNING

Do you feel your **classroom learning** is challenging, important, relevant, creative, and/or interesting to you?

---

## TEACHERS

Do teachers and school staff have **good relations** with students?

Are teachers being supported in order to best prepare students for success?

## SCHOOL SITE

Is the school **safe** and inviting? Is it full of programs, after school teams / clubs, & student opportunities for college, career, and community service?

## PARENTS AND COMMUNITY

Are your parents / guardians and community members involved in the school? Does the school serve as a center of the community where people come together?