Michilla Blaise

Dear Neighbor
My name is **Michilla Blaise**, and I am running to retain my seat on the Chicago Board of Education in District 5B. I am excited to have the opportunity to be part of this inaugural year of the first fully elected school board.

So many Chicagoans fought hard to have a say in their children's educational options, and this campaign is the culmination of those efforts.

I am a lifelong Chicagoan, and 4 generations of my family live on the west side.
I was raised in a union household, and my dad was a shop steward at Newark Electronics on Lake and Pulaski - Teamsters Local 743. My brother was in the Carpenters (Local 1) Union until he started with the City of Chicago as a Laborer (Local 1001). Labor made sure the men in my family earned a wage that allowed them to provide for their families. My mother was a district sales manager for Avon products for over 20 years. She literally helped thousands of women, who were unemployed or underemployed, start and grow their own businesses. Equity and access to opportunities are core values that I was raised with.

Personal Experience with CPS

As one of the longest-standing members of the school board, I witnessed the transition from a fully appointed school board to this historic election that will take us to a fully elected representative school board, ERSB. So many Chicagoans fought hard to have a say in their children’s educational options, and this November’s election is the culmination of those efforts.

As the mom of two teenage daughters in Chicago Public Schools, I have experienced the excellence and challenges of CPS, and I am dedicated to ensuring a quality and enriching education for all students. In 2024, I returned to school to pursue my Master's in Public Policy at the University of Chicago to understand the data that helps to inform policy and to better assess CPS’s budget.