

Chicago Board of Education Voter Guide

Our public schools exist so that all of our students learn. Our school board exists to represent the vision and values of our whole community.

Its work has the power to create a positive impact on communities and for student outcomes — their listening, focus, actions, and policies can drive shifts for the greater good, creating an equitable system that works for all.

Our move to an elected Board is a chance to do something different, and **your vote matters!** With this power comes great responsibility.

We don't support or oppose any candidate, and no endorsement of any candidate is implied. This non-political voter guide is provided for educational purposes, to arm community members with the information we need to **exercise our vote as a tool for positive change** — centering students and student outcomes, rather than adult interests, and focusing on the goals and governance, rather than promises about policies outside the board's domain. **Thanks for voting!**

Questions in this Guide:

How do you define the primary **purpose of our public schools**? How will this purpose shape your priorities, decisions, and actions if you are elected?

What do you believe is the **purpose of the Board of Education**?

Why are you running for the Board of Education?

What does **effective school board governance** look like?

How should the Board **engage the community** to find out the community's vision?

How will you **center community vision & values** in the Board's decision-making?

How will you **communicate** the district's progress to the community?

What are tangible **measures of student success** the district should use, and why?

On what criteria should the BOE **evaluate the CEO** of CPS?

How much of BOE **meeting time** should be on student outcomes vs. adult inputs?

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Why these questions?

We reviewed over a dozen other candidate questionnaires. Most questions were either about identity, affiliation, or politics; or about specific programs in the domain of the CEO, not the board. We wanted to equip voters with information about candidates' approach to the actual work of governing, so we can all make the best decision about who will represent our community as the moral owners of the district.

Thank you for your engagement in this election, and we hope you will stay involved with making our district as effective as it can be to improve outcomes for all our students!