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Why I Ran — and Why You Should Too!

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Running for school board was one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of my life. I didn't come from a political background. I'm a mom, a substitute teacher, and someone who genuinely cares about kids, education, and the direction our schools are heading. That was enough to get started.

The process was a whirlwind. I had to learn everything on the fly, from campaign paperwork to school policies and budget to public speaking. But what surprised me most was how much support was out there. Friends showed up to help knock on doors. The local Democratic Party offered so much encouragement and tons of resources. People want to help. They just need someone willing to step up.

Along the way, I grew so much. I became more confident, more informed, and more connected to my community. I learned how to have tough conversations, how to listen better, and how to stay grounded in my purpose even when things got stressful.

Was it hard? Absolutely. But it was also incredibly fulfilling. Even though I didn't win, I know I made a difference just by showing up and speaking up. And I'd do it again in a heartbeat.

If you've ever thought, "Someone needs to fix this," maybe that someone is you. You don't have to be perfect or have all the answers. You just need to care and be willing to try. Running for school board reminded me that change starts with us. It's messy, it's real, and it matters. And I promise, it's worth it.

Thinking about running for office? Find out more at the [Lee County Dems website](https://www.lee-county.com/2025/06/01/why-i-ran-and-why-you-should-too/).