

My name is Meagan Monreal, and I am currently a 6th grade teacher at Northwood Elementary School. I have dedicated over a decade of my life to the field of education, serving in roles as both a paraprofessional and a classroom teacher.

My unique journey in education, having worked as a paraprofessional before becoming a classroom teacher, has given me a comprehensive view of our school system. This diverse experience has reinforced my belief that educators' voices are crucial in decision-making processes that affect our schools. Teachers and support staff are indeed the backbone of education, and our perspective is invaluable when it comes to understanding how schools should be run and how resources should be allocated.

In my various roles at Northwood Elementary and in previous positions, I've witnessed numerous instances where input from teachers and paraprofessionals could have significantly improved board decisions. Our on-the-ground experience provides insights into the practical implications of policies and resource allocation that may not be immediately apparent to those outside the classroom.

It's worth noting that many educators, myself included, already attend school board meetings regularly. We are engaged, we are informed, and we are deeply invested in the success of our schools and students. By formalizing teacher representation on the school board, we can ensure that this valuable perspective is not just heard but also integrated into the decision-making process.

Moreover, having teachers on the school board sends a powerful message to the entire education community. It tells us that our expertise is valued, that our voices matter, and that we are important stakeholders in the governance of our schools. This inclusion can boost morale, increase staff retention, and ultimately lead to better outcomes for our students.

Educators bring a unique blend of practical classroom experience and educational expertise to the table. We understand the day-to-day realities of implementing policies, the challenges our students face, and the resources needed to support effective teaching and learning. This insight is crucial for making informed decisions about curriculum, resource allocation, and school policies.

In conclusion, I urge you to support the inclusion of teachers on our school board. This step will not only enhance the quality of decision-making but also strengthen the connection between the board and the classroom, ultimately benefiting our students, our schools, and our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mrs. Meagan Monreal
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Speech Coach