

Brower for Spokane Public Schools

Mike Campbell

Over the course of the last two months, members of the Spokane Education Association have been busy recruiting, interviewing and training candidates for our school board. There is one open position as Garrett Daggett is not seeking re-election and we have great news! We have a Spokane Education Association recommended candidate. Her name is Deana (pronounced "Dee-na") Brower, and she is already well on her way with her campaign. To explain who she is and why she is our selected candidate, here are her credentials and efforts so far to improve the Spokane school system.

Deana has worked as a classroom educator for 12 years and during that time she gained a deep appreciation for all that it takes to help students succeed in public schools. While she is not a teacher currently, she continues to remain involved in our school system through her work as chair of the Human Growth and Development Committee, as a member of the Middle School Advisory Committee, the Jefferson PTG, and the site selection committee for the reconstruction of Jefferson Elementary School. In addition to this work, Deana is also active in civic organizations that benefit the children in our schools and our city. She serves as a commissioner on the Chase Youth Commission, and she serves on the YWCA Board of Directors. Deana also understands the importance of supporting our schools and our kids from the perspective of a parent having one child in Sacajawea, and one at Jefferson.

Deana has gained skills in two other significant ways that uniquely qualify her as a great school board candidate, augmenting all the work she has done in our schools and our community. First, she has the experience of running for school board before, and while not successful in that campaign, she acquired invaluable experience as a candidate and learned the process very well. She knows the importance of getting started early and already has several important components of her campaign in place. One of which is a website where voters can learn more about her and her views. It can be found at <http://www.browerforspokaneschools.com>.

The second way Deana has gained skills as a candidate is through a joint SEA/WEA program created specifically to train school board candidates. This program was provided to Deana and several other candidates from around the state in an effort to encourage people with education experience to run for school board. The training developed by WEA in conjunction with two political consultants, Wellstone Action and Progressive Majority, was an intensive 3-day training providing Deana and two members of the SEA (Mike Miller and Mike Campbell) will all the tools and knowledge necessary to be a very well prepared candidate and help support a successful campaign.

"It was so wonderful to work with these professional people and to have the full support of the SEA and the WEA. I feel I have learned so much and I'm ready to be a school board member who is in touch with what is happening in the classroom and in

our schools.” When asked if she now feels better prepared for the upcoming campaign, she said, “Bring it on! I’m confident I will succeed in this campaign and am eager to serve the students, parents, and staff of our district.”

All we can add to her comments is “way to go, Deana. And good luck with your campaign!”

If anyone wishes to help support Deana through volunteering your time or donating to her campaign please contact her on her website or by contacting us by phone or email. Here is our contact info:

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