

PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Shawn Mitchell is an educator dedicated to the success of the Maryland State Educational System. He is poised and ready to assist in the betterment and advancement of the quality of our educational system by ensuring that Maryland's mission to be safe, effective, and innovative is fully implemented. Mr. Mitchell believes that we have some of the most talented educators and students in the Nation and this can be demonstrated through the use of objective, data-driven measures to improve inclusivity and, most importantly, accountability as we strive to enhance learning for every child.

Mr. Shawn Mitchell is currently in the employment of Prince George's County Public Schools. He has been a dedicated educator for over 20 years and has a vested interest in not only his local community but in the success of all Maryland schools. Mr. Mitchell holds a Maryland Advanced Professional Certificate, with certification in Chemistry grades 7 – 12. He has an aptitude for leading through instruction, supervisory policy adjudication, community involvement, and partnership with parents and stakeholders in both the immediate community and at large. His educational accomplishments include a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Hampton University and a Master of Science in Education from Walden University. These educational attributes have afforded him the opportunity to hold teacher leadership positions in his field such as Professional Development Lead Teacher, School Based Leadership Management Team, Science Fair Coordinator, and school system curriculum writer. In short, Mr. Mitchell's passion is to foster a lasting impact on the education of the children in our community and to help every child reach their full potential. Mr. Mitchell's passion is only outshined by his skillful ability to collaborate, with a posture of servitude to all humanity, in order to establish

educational policies, budgets and standards that move Maryland students successfully forward on a competitive local, socio-emotional and global marketplace.

Shawn L. Mitchell

Objective

Seeking the position as the Maryland State Board of Education Teacher Member

Education

Walden University – Minneapolis, Minnesota
M.S. Ed. (Technology in Education K-12)

Hampton University – Hampton, Virginia
B.S. in Chemistry (American Chemical Society Accredited Program)

Certifications

Maryland Educator APC (Advanced Professional Certificate)
Chemistry 7 – 12

National Federation of State High Schools Associations (NHFS) Accredited
Interscholastic Coach

Teaching Assignments

PGCPS
Chemistry Teacher
9/04 – present

Prince George's County Public Schools
DuVal High School
Lanham, MD

Newark Public Schools
Newark, NJ
Per Diem Teacher
5/99 – 7/04

Leadership and Community Involvement

- PGCPs Professional Development Lead Teacher (DuVal High School)
- School Based Management Leadership Team (DuVal High School)
- PGCPs Secondary Science Professional Educator Induction Program
- Chemistry Curriculum writer for Prince George's County Public Schools Maryland
- PGCPs Science Fair Coordinator
- Bowie Lions Club
- Varsity Girls' Soccer and Girls' Lacrosse Coach

PERSONAL STATEMENT

When reflecting upon why I am seeking to be elected to the State Board of Education, I am reminded of the time I completed my first schoolwide professional development activity.

After completing my presentation, I simply returned to my classroom to work on my regular activities; however, I was soon bombarded with positive accolades from the staff and administration. The comments I received from participants explained how they usually dreaded professional development activities and found them tedious; but, somehow, I had renewed their interest in the common goal we were trying to achieve. Participants also detailed how I made the acquisition of a new goal-associated skill both palatable and useful to their practice.

These conversations brought me to the realization that I was not only a classroom teacher, but also a leader of educators, who work to inspire, advance, and ensure teacher and administrative effectiveness for the betterment of our diverse student population.

It is because of my passion to assist students, educators, and community stakeholders that I, Shawn Mitchell, am seeking to be elected as the teacher constituent to the Maryland State Board of Education. Additionally, my boots on the ground educational perspective and skillset will provide a useful framework for assisting with the production, review, and augmentation of educational policy and standards. It is my vision to contribute to the Board in a meaningful way that results in the return of the Maryland Public School system back to its heyday of being number one in the nation. This, along with upholding the current mission and vision of the board, is why I am in pursuit of this honorable position.

Notably, I would be a valuable asset to the Board from my experience in producing effective system-wide, county curriculum and from my experience in serving both as a Professional Development Lead Teacher (PDLT) and a School-Based Leadership Team (SBLT) member.

As a lead chemistry curriculum writer for the county, I oversaw a team that addressed the learning styles of today's diverse student populations. I led my team through the process of developing, executing and adopting science standards that kept the academic rigor while ensuring for the potential success of all.

Through my participation and influence in the SBLT and PDLT realm, I coordinated and executed a technology use learning system that had participants not only master the objective concept, but ensured that they were able to teach and expand their knowledge to others. This ensured that a network of perpetual mastery and use were able to take place on a continual basis.

In closing, these are but a few of the ascriptions that qualify and quantify why I believe I am an excellent fit for the State Board of Education as we all endeavor to produce a world class educational system for all our children. I am the candidate that will help push our agenda to the forefront and make it a reality for our students, parents, stakeholders and the general public of the great state of Maryland.

To: The 2022 State Board of Education Teacher Member Nomination Committee

Date: January 15, 2022

Subject: Letter of Reference for Maryland State Board of Education Teacher Member

Esteemed Nomination Committee Members,

I am contacting you concerning my enthusiastic recommendation for Mr. Shawn Mitchell in his pursuit of being appointed to the Maryland State Board of Education as the teacher member. I have known Mr. Mitchell in the capacity of working with him as an assistant principal at DuVal High School. During my professional evaluations of him, he exhibits the qualities of a leader that sees things through, with vigor and innate skill, on a level that is unmatched by his peers. This in my opinion would allow him to seamlessly integrate into and with the Maryland State Board of Education protocols as well as mesh with the remaining board members in a positive and productive working mode. His active involvement with the school leadership team, curriculum writing for the county school system, and professional development of the staff indicates that he has a passion for promoting an orderly and successful environment for teaching and learning.

Representation is important on the Maryland State Board of Education. As a teacher in a diverse school district, Mr. Mitchell has successfully worked with a variety of student and adult stakeholders. Mr. Mitchell has a passion for advocating for English language learners and students who live in low socioeconomic households. His efforts at DuVal High School have directly led to an increased number of minority students pursuing STEM majors at state universities throughout Maryland. This is the type of insight that is needed as the student demographics in Maryland continue to change.

In summary, from my vantage point, Shawn Mitchell's impassioned and proven attributes for education will be a valued addition to the Maryland State Board of Education's vision of readying students for post-secondary learning, rewarding work, and success in society and life. I nominate him for this position without reservation.

Educationally yours,

Melissa Nankin
Assistant Principal
DuVal High School



To: The 2022 State Board of Education Teacher Member Nomination

Committee Date: January 9, 2022

Subject: Letter of Recommendation For Maryland State Board of Education Teacher Member

Respected Nomination Committee Members,

I am pleased to be writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Shawn L. Mitchell for the position of Maryland State Board of Education Teacher Member. Mr. Mitchell is one of the most hardworking and reliable persons that I have had the pleasure of not only working with as a colleague, but also as a parent of my daughter that he has educated in advanced science. As PGCPs's current Teacher of the Year, I can assure you that he has the mental fortitude and dedication to be an asset to the board by consistently performing his assigned duties. As a Professional Development Lead Teacher, he has cultivated many skills that allow him to effectively communicate with adults, collaborate with diverse populations, and resolve conflicts. These skills will allow him to continue to support and create policies that promote positive changes in the education community. His empathetic nature will allow him to close the gap between policy and practice by critically analyzing the needs of all stakeholders within the community. His passion for students will allow him to support the mission of closing the opportunity gap that exists for many students.

In summation, I believe that Mr. Mitchell would be an asset and exceptional contributor on your board. He is a compassionate leader whose innovation will truly allow Maryland to offer every student a world class education and every teacher an ideal place to work. I recommend him to be elected.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to read this letter for my endorsement and recommendation of Mr. Mitchell for the state board of education teacher member position.

Sincerely,

Ms. Adrin Leak

2021 PGCPs Teacher of the Year

To: The 2022 State Board of Education Teacher Member Nomination Committee

From: Brian Taylor

Date: January 13, 2022

Subject: Letter of Reference for Maryland State Board of Education Teacher Member

Distinguished Nomination Committee Members,

I am writing this letter to endorse and recommend Mr. Shawn Mitchell to be elected to the State Board of Education as the teacher member. As one of his direct supervising administrators and Assistant Principal at DuVal High School for six years, I can assure you that he has the leadership lineage and qualities to assist in setting policy for our state public schools in an impartial and fair manner. His ability to analyze and assess problems, in order to produce viable solutions to meet the needs of all parties involved on a small or large scale are equitable and unbiased when all considerations are taken into account. These accolades come from his actions serving as Professional Development Lead Teacher and School Based Management Leadership team member at DuVal High School.

In closing, I can assure you that if elected, Mr. Mitchell will be an effective, prompt and professional Maryland State Board of Education Teacher Member with an eye on supervisory educational interests that will be beneficial to our state public school systems in an exemplary fashion.

Brian Taylor, M.Ed.

Assistant Principal

DuVal High School

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]