

Vote April 3, 2012

RE ELECT KATHEE MOLUS FOR SCHOOL BOARD “MOLUS 4 CHANGE”

When I ran for school board in 2009 on the platform of “Molus4Change” little did I know how much change was actually going to occur. **We are in a different world than we were three years ago.**

Gone is Superintendent David Ewald and in place we have Superintendent Dr. Rita Olson, who not only has a strong educational background, but also a heart and soul that breathes greatness into the School District of South Milwaukee.

Changes in principal have occurred at four of our six schools.

Gone is collective bargaining and Act 10 became law to help control expenses of the district in the area of salaries and benefits. There are no contracts to negotiate. While we still have major issues with the way school districts are funded by the State of Wisconsin, at least we are starting to tackle the expense side of the equation. All the revenue in the world would never satisfy the unions that have spiraled out of control. I sat on negotiation teams during my first term and no matter what offers the district brought forward, the unions shot them down, stalling negotiations and forcing arbitration and mediation.

So now if we can get the forces that be in Madison to focus on the revenue side of the equation; we can use that new revenue to bring back programs that were cut in years past, strengthen programs that survived, and hire additional outstanding staff to keep class sizes small and manageable.

During my first term on the school board, I attended many seminars, conventions and legislative conferences through the WASB-Wisconsin Association of School Boards. I listened and learned much more than I talked. I have a keen interest in the area of school finance and even with my financial background I find the formulas and logic of school finance to be a difficult puzzle at best.

I am running for school board for the children of South Milwaukee. Those boys and girls deserve the best educational opportunities and it becomes very disheartening to see those opportunities disappear due to policies that have been in place for years and that in the current “21st Century” are completely unsustainable. **We talk 21st Century learning, then we must do 21st Century living.**

I will constantly fight to sustain music, art and theatre within the school district curriculum. It is a known fact that a well-rounded education produces a well-rounded individual and students engaged in these activities do better academically. I find that this correlates with the district’s movement into character education. We need our graduates to be ready for life beyond high school no matter what path they may take – college, military, or workforce. Those graduates need to be educated, courteous, and have the ability to make good decisions.

I will fight to limit the half days of school that are so troublesome to working parents. This is why I voted No to approval of the 2012-13 calendar.

I am endorsed by NO unions and would appreciate that on April 3 you vote for Kathee Molus and only Kathee Molus so that the accomplishments of change over the past year can continue and make every child’s educational experience in South Milwaukee the best that it can be.

I am truly humbled and honored to serve on the Board of Education **for you, the residents and taxpayers of South Milwaukee.** Should you have any questions or comments, or if you would like to show your support with a yard sign, please feel free to contact me at molus4change@gmail.com

About me

I have been married to my best friend, Ritch aka Coach Bucky, for almost 25 years. I have a BS in Accounting from Marquette University and for the last 23 years have been the owner of Molus Accounting. I have been a resident of South Milwaukee for 20 years, a member of Divine Mercy Parish and an active parent volunteer in the district since 1993. I currently serve as the treasurer of South Milwaukee Music Parents, coach volleyball at the Rec Department, and am a Girl Scout leader to Junior Troop 3011. As part of Girl Scouts I also coached a robotics team this past fall. I am very proud of the nine-year old young ladies who not only made it to the State Competition but also won the coveted Research Award and did so as one of the youngest teams in the competition. I value STEM education and look forward to the district's movement to strengthening the STEM curriculum.

My passion for every child begins with my own. I have four children ranging in age from 9 to 24 and am very pleased with the education my children received and are currently receiving. I have the unique situation to have children that have been through the system and that are also going through the system. My eldest daughter graduated from UW-Milwaukee and is now the University Conference Coordinator for the UW Union. My eldest son is on the verge of graduating from UW-Whitewater with a double major in Accounting and Finance. I am very proud that both have come back to the district – my daughter as the pitching and hitting instructor for the SM Rec, and my son as one of the summer camp directors where “everyone loves Joey.” My youngest son is a sophomore at the high school and is very involved in student senate, music, and athletics. He recently debuted as Albert Peterson in “Bye Bye Birdie” bringing tears to the eyes of his proud mom. My youngest daughter is in 4th grade at Blakewood and when she is not busy being a Junior Girl Scout and member of the award winning robotics team, “Believers”, she enjoys dancing in the SM Rec dance program, playing softball with the South Milwaukee Little League, and keeping an eye on every panda living in the United States as well as those we have given back to China.

All in all, it is all about the children and I want to give the school district back to the children because it is the children who are important.

I want to see SM as an appealing school district that will attract students to the district as well as attain and retain good teachers.

Authorized and Paid for by Kathee Molus