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# WILLOUGHBY ANNOUNCES RE-ELECTION FOR COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

***Willoughby plans to run a re-election campaign focused on how we can come together united as a community to continue the improvement of our educational system for ALL students.***

Columbia, MO - Current Columbia Public Schools' Board of Education member, Blake Willoughby, announces that he will be running for re-election for a second term in the April 2022 Municipal Election.

*"I am committed to the value of community and this will be a campaign focused on how we can come **together united** as a community to continue the improvement of our educational system for ALL students."  
- Blake Willoughby*

Since being elected in April 2019, Blake has achieved many of his original campaign goals:

-Blake advocated for a new goal for the district's 10-year Long Range Facilities plan that incorporates **ADA excellence** in the physical structures of our buildings, which was approved by the Board..

--The Board approved the 2020 Bond language that Blake advocated for, stating that **\$2 Million of the funds would be utilized for the new ADA excellence goal**. This helped solidify the work on **Jeff Middle School's elevator project**.

--Blake has held **over 50 hours of open forum community listening sessions** in coffee shops, the local library, in outdoor spaces, and virtually.

*"I want to see the continued progress we are making as we welcome a new superintendent, address the impacts of Covid-19, and reimagine the district's goals as a Board with the majority (6 of 7) in their first term. My understanding on the importance of community input and how to effectively govern as a board member are necessary attributes on the Board to ensure the success of our progress." - Blake Willoughby*

Willoughby has been a resident of Columbia, MO for 5-years. He began serving on the CPS Board in April 2019 and he currently serves as the chair of the Board's Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee and is a member of the Board's Policy Committee. He teaches and prepares undergraduate students to be K12 educators. He is an educational researcher and doctoral student. Beyond serving as a CPS board member, he has served as the Vice Chair of the city's Substance Abuse Advisory Commission and currently serves on the city's Housing & Community Development Commission as the 6th ward representative.

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If you would like more information or to schedule an interview with Blake Willoughby, please contact him by phone at (706) 442-0530 or via the campaign's email: blake4como@gmail.com.