

Marcelia Nicholson

Passionate elected officer and manager with experience working in urban education, in grassroots organizing, and social justice advocacy.

EXPERIENCE

Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, Milwaukee — County Supervisor, District 5.

April 2020 - PRESENT

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors is a body of 18 legislative representatives who are elected to two-year terms.

- Adopts Milwaukee County's \$1.2 billion+ Annual Budget
- Presides over Board meetings
- Makes assignments to the standing committees and special subcommittees
- Handles the department's daily business
- Public Speaking (interviews and speeches)
- Determines Policy/ Adopt Resolutions and Ordinances
- Establishes programs, services and laws
- Manages County Board Staff
- Analyzes community needs and find solutions
- Meets with community leaders and organizations
- Plans district events and community meetings

Trainer, Progressive Governance Academy National—

August 2019 - PRESENT

The PGA is a new pilot project between three organizations committed to building and developing the leadership and governance skills of progressive state and local elected officials across the country.

- Learns and relays relevant skill-building curriculum created by State Innovation Exchange (SiX), Local Progress, and re:power
- Trains progressive state and local elected officials in states across the country to have the resources, assets, tools, and skills needed to become powerful and effective leaders
- Trainings in person or virtually with support of a co-trainer

Chair, Yes for MPS Referendum Coalition, Milwaukee —

July 2019 - April 2020

A coalition to support proper funding for our Milwaukee Public Schools so that every student receives the highest quality education regardless of income, zip code, or what they look like.

KEY SKILLS

Excellent interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills

Planning/ Event Planning

Press and Media Advisory

Policy

Managing Teams/Managerial Skills

Organizing Skills

Media/ Interviewing

Decision Making/Problem Solving

Team Building Skills

Microsoft Office Skills

Resilient

Teamwork

Conflict Resolution

AWARDS/ Recognition

Milwaukee Area Powerbroker from *Milwaukee Business Journal* for the ability to get things done

Rising Star Award from *Democratic Party of Milwaukee* for recent political achievements

Downtown Playmaker Award

- Built a diverse coalition of parents, community members, teachers, grassroots organizations, business leaders, religious groups, and labor
- Oversaw fundraising and budgeting
- Worked to make sure every classroom has a certified teacher and the basic materials students need to succeed
- Worked to expand Career and Technical Education Programs so that our schools can better prepare students for post-school success
- Worked to staff schools with full time, certified art, music, and physical education teachers as well as librarians.
- Worked to increase access to supportive services including nurses, psychologists, therapists, and social workers
- Successfully passed referendum by 78% garnering \$87 million in additional funding for these measures

Vice Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, Milwaukee — County Supervisor, District 5.

April 2016 - PRESENT

The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors is a body of 18 legislative representatives who are elected to two-year terms.

- Adopts Milwaukee County's \$1 billion+ Annual Budget
- Public Speaking (interviews and speeches)
- Vice-Chair of Parks, Energy and Environment Committee.
- Vice-Chair of Intergovernmental Relations Committee.
- Economic and Community Development Committee
- Determines Policy/ Adopt Resolutions and Ordinances
- Establishes programs, services and laws
- Manages Legislative Aide
- Persuades board to adopt policies
- Analyzes community needs and find solutions
- Meets with community leaders and organizations
- Plans district events and community meetings

Vice-President & Political Organizer, Milwaukee Area Service and Hospitality Workers Organization, Milwaukee

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April 2017 - PRESENT

The Milwaukee Area Service and Hospitality Workers Organization (MASH) is an organization of service and hospitality workers in Milwaukee focused on improving employment and workforce standards in our industries. MASH addresses the challenges facing workers and employers in order to transform employment, industries, our community, and our lives.

- Organize political leadership around platform
- Leading workers in struggle, building organization, fighting the

from *Downtown Milwaukee Bid #21* for Downtown playground innovation

Inaugural Trailblazer Award from *Young Elected Officials Network* for my national advocacy and political work.

Wisconsin Progress Local Progressive Champion from *Wisconsin Progress* for my achievements through local policy and my drive to get others elected

Sid Hatch Outstanding Leader Award from *Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association* for organizing, and campaign work during elections

Woman of Achievement Award from *National Association of Professional Women* for community advocacy.

Top 30 under 30 from *National Education Association* for social justice teaching

Woman of Excellence Award A-LEGO

TRAINING

Train the Trainer by *Progressive Governance Academy* anchored by *Local Progress, Re:Power, and State Innovation Exchange (SiX)*

Rethinking Schools Early Career Teacher Project (Critique 2nd edition of the *New Teacher Book*. Exchange strategies for influencing early career educators around social justice unionism. Writing workshop, approaching op-eds, articles)

Working Families Party

boss, and winning.

- Conducting broad and intensive outreach efforts to political leaders.
- Building one-on-one relationships with workers.
- Identifying and developing relationships with organizations and political leaders.
- Conducting individual and group meetings with political and organizational leaders to move organizing campaigns forward.
- Engaging, motivating and mobilizing workers to take action. Planning and carrying out actions and events to support worker organizing efforts.
- Developing rank-and-file organizing committees.
- Identify and create opportunities for campaigns in line with the organizational vision

Political Campaign Organizer, Milwaukee-

April 2012-PRESENT

As a candidate for elected office, I ran and managed my own political campaign. Additionally, I have worked on campaigns for other candidates and elected officers.

- Recruits and manages campaign volunteers, canvassers, and kitchen cabinet
- Creates and manages website and social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, WordPress)
- Manages mail lists
- Designs email and e-newsletters and uses email marketing service (MailChimp)
- Implements fundraising operations, calls lists, and online donations via fundraising technology
- Creates and manages campaign budget
- Access and manage voter software (VAN)
- Writes and delivers speeches
- Coordinates voter registration and voter contact
- Schedules events and coordinates schedule
- Phone Bank Coordinator
- Maintains financial records, sets budget, approves expenditures

Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee — 4th Grade Teacher

August 2012 - June 2018

District with 88% students of color, 80% economically disadvantaged, 20% special needs.

- Rated Proficient Teacher
- Designs and delivers lessons in math, science, social studies, and reading
- Excels in culturally responsive teaching
- Creates an environment conducive to learning

Academy Delegation to Madrid Spain (international training with left-politicians, formations, organizers, and advocates to build national engagement around social movements)

Emerge Wisconsin (trains Democratic women to run for office)

National Education Association Minority Leadership Training (trains educators to be public education advocates and leaders in their cities)

National Education Association Message Media Training (training to give interviews, share promote organization messages and priorities)

Wisconsin Progress Training (Local candidate training-running for local office)

- Builds rapport with students and families
- Collaborates with colleagues
- Seeks out professional development opportunities in addition to district Professional Development
- Teacher leader
- “First to call” resource around lesson planning, social restoration activities, and technology based items

Milwaukee Teacher Education Association, Milwaukee- Member Organizer

Summers August 2013- August 2015

- Recruited members to the MTEA
- Organized and mobilize members
- Attended regular meetings with NEA and MTEA staff to discuss progress and plan activities
- Made phone calls, one on one home visits, meetings and other interactions with members and potential members
- Entered data in database using Excel
- Reported to NEA staff

Milwaukee Public Schools, Milwaukee — *Parent Engagement Coordinator*

August 2012 - August 2014.

- Planned monthly school wide activities
- Planned weekly opportunities for parents such as resume building and healthy parenting workshops
- Guided parent engagement strategies and activities
- Guided parents who are interested in helping with parent engagement at their child’s school
- Provided tips for helping to increase student achievement and supporting children at home
- Tracked school based activities through microsoft word
- Organized parents around school based issues and how to use the power of their voice

EDUCATION

Lakeland College, Milwaukee — *Teacher’s Certification Program, Master’s Level Coursework*

May 2014 - September 2016

3.8 GPA

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee — *Bachelors of Communications*

May 2014

Communications Advisory Board, Dean’s List, 3.7.GPA.

Professional Experience

Non-Profit and National Board Activity

Milwaukee Public Museum Board of Trustees

General management of the museum President and staff, oversee budget and services. Create vision and support growth, fundraise, and market through social media platforms.

Milwaukee Art Museum Board of Trustees

General management of the art museum staff, budget, and services. Create vision and support growth, fundraise, and market through social media platforms.

Milwaukee Public Library Board of Trustees

General management of the libraries staff, locations, and regulation and control of the library and its budget and services.

Local Progress National Board & Executive Committee

Responsible for governance of the network: Oversee programming, advisory board, set vision and strategy and operation guidelines, supporting growth, represent network in the press, fundraise and fuel membership, plan and attend convenings

Milwaukee Continuum of Care Executive Board

responsible for designing and maintaining a coordinated entry system to improve effective access to homelessness prevention, shelter diversion, community case management, emergency shelter, transitional housing and other services to support housing stability.

A-Lego Board of Governance

(African American Ladies Empowered to Grow Opportunities)

Governance of the network, recruit and retain members, serve on committees to impact change, plan city wide events and educational workshops, fundraise, manage budget, set vision and support growth)Panelist, Facilitator, Speaker

Young Elected Officials Network, Panelist- New Orleans, LA

PolicyLink Equity Summit, Panelist- Chicago, IL

Local Progress Convening, Speaker, Panelist, Moderator- Austin, TX.

Working Families Party, Panelist- Philadelphia, PA.

Young Democrats of Wisconsin, Panelist- Milwaukee, WI

Public Policy Forum, Panelist- Milwaukee, WI.

Working Families Party Champion (July 2016-present)

Endorsed candidate, travels on behalf of organization to meet with potential donors. Meet with organizations and activists to build relationships and potential affiliation. Promote organization and build following. Help to build new chapters.

Democratic National Convention (July 2016)

Bernie Delegate

Served as Bernie Delegate at the DNC in 2016 on behalf of the state of Wisconsin. I conducted several TV, print, and radio news interviews with national, international and local news stations and publications. Sat at round table featuring Bernie Sanders with

a group of elected officials to share city priorities.

**National Education Association Annual Meeting and
Representative Assembly (July 2016, July 2017)
State Delegate**

Work with state of Wisconsin representatives to propose, debate, and take action on new business items for the National Association and other association policies, and vote by secret ballot on proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws. Served 2 year term.

**Wisconsin Education Association Council Representative
Assembly (April 2016, April 2017)**

Work with state of Wisconsin representatives to propose, debate, and take action on new business items for the State Council and other association policies, and vote by secret ballot on proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws. Served 2 year term

Mentor

Annual Girls Day, Milwaukee, City Hall
Youth Group, Milwaukee, Pierce Elementary School