



STATE OF ILLINOIS
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Letter-to-the-Editor
by Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn

(245 words; electronic version available)

“Support Your Local School Council”

Dear Editor:

As a former Local School Council (LSC) member, I urge every Chicagoan interested in education to consider running for the Local School Council in their neighborhood. It is imperative that all of us work together to improve the lives and education of our children.

Research indicates that Local School Councils significantly improve relations between schools and surrounding communities. Elementary schools are showing major improvements resulting from school-level initiatives implemented by this unique partnership of the principal, teachers and LSC.

Despite LSC's proven effectiveness, participation in this critical unit of education unfortunately has declined among schools, parents and the community in recent years.

This year, however, the Chicago Public Schools are making it easier than ever to run for the LSC. Nomination forms are streamlined and now available at many government offices, schools, public libraries, and community organizations. For an online application, please visit our website www.StandingUpforIllinois.org. You can also call (773) 553-1400. The deadline for filing is Friday, March 17.

In our society, there are two forces: “the movers and the shakers” and “those who are moved and shaken”, and the difference between them is education. Good jobs follow brain power.

Local School Councils combine a balance of teachers, parents and community representatives in the best tradition of American grassroots democracy. I personally urge those citizens who care about the future of our kids to consider running for their Local School Council. Our schools and children need you!

Sincerely,

Pat Quinn
Lieutenant Governor