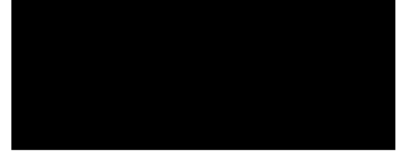


Jessica Fitzwater
County Executive
12 East Church Street
Frederick, MD 21701

December 2, 2025

Jess Douglass



Dear County Executive Fitzwater,

I filed to run for the Frederick County Public Schools Board of Education in March 2025 for the 2026 election. With a seat now vacant, I am formally declaring my interest in serving sooner. I believe I am the strongest candidate, bringing 17 years of public school teaching experience, a background in special education across diverse settings, four children in FCPS, and nearly a decade of advocacy in local and state politics.

Our county government has consistently supported our public schools, but Frederick County's growing needs require even stronger advocacy. My work in Annapolis — fighting for school funding with MSEA and for gun violence prevention legislation with Moms Demand Action — has prepared me for the challenges ahead. As the fastest-growing county in Maryland, we are disadvantaged every time the state uses outdated enrollment data. I would bring experience, strong relationships with state lawmakers, and determination to securing a more equitable funding formula that reflects current and projected student populations.

I have seen this county's dedication to providing equitable opportunities for every child. Still, the requirements of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future will push our nearly one-billion-dollar FCPS budget to its limits. Meeting those obligations will require steady, thoughtful oversight that supports our students and honors commitments to our educators. My experience on the County Executive's Transition Team on Public Safety has strengthened my understanding of how interagency collaboration and evidence-based policy shape safer, healthier communities. My work developing a successful magnet program, collaborating on effective IEPs, and understanding firsthand how school-based programs serve our community has prepared me to make informed, student-centered decisions.

I am ready to serve. As a veteran educator, parent, and advocate, I will bring practical knowledge, strong collaboration, and an unwavering focus on ensuring that every child in Frederick County has the opportunities they need to thrive. I would be honored to fill this seat and continue working on behalf of our students, families, and educators.

Sincerely,

Jess Douglass