

Top 10 Reasons to Vote for Betty Patu for Seattle School Board!



1. **BETTY PATU** is the only candidate with over **30 years of extensive experience with Seattle Public Schools**. She has firsthand knowledge of the district's communities, challenges, successes and goals.
2. **BETTY** knows the job. With 8 years of experience overseeing the district's \$1 billion budget through good times and lean, she brings valuable knowledge and continuity to the Board.
3. **BETTY** is focused on equity and results. She voted for the District's groundbreaking Racial Equity Policy, supported a moratorium on K-5 nonviolent suspensions, helped to align school start times to better meet student needs, and has brought programs like International Baccalaureate to Rainier Beach High School and Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) to Cleveland High School.
4. **BETTY** has deep roots in the communities she represents. A native of American Samoa, she has lived and served in Southeast Seattle for decades.
5. **BETTY** has skin in the game. All five of her kids graduated from Seattle Public Schools and she now has grandchildren following in their footsteps.
6. **BETTY** has a proven commitment to student success. As a founder of intervention programs that helped hundreds of at-risk students, her work was featured in the [New York Times](#), and earned the United Nations' Humanitarian Award, Patty Senator Murray's "Golden Tennis Award," and many other honors for her valuable community service.
7. **BETTY** is a proven civic leader. She has served as Seattle School Board President, Vice President, Chair of the Executive and Operations Committees, and the District's City Liaison.
8. **BETTY** is highly qualified. She has a Master's degree in education administration, a degree in nursing, and experience working as a teacher.
9. **BETTY** is endorsed by a broad coalition that includes: *The Stranger*, the *Seattle Weekly*, *The Medium*, Democratic and labor organizations, including the 32nd, 34th, 37th, 43rd and 46th District Democrats, the King County and the Metropolitan Democrats, Local 609; State Senators Maralyn Chase and Bob Hasegawa, State Representative and House Education Committee Chair Sharon

Tomiko Santos, King County Councilmember Larry Gossett, Head of the City's Dept. of Early Learning, Dwane Chappelle, five of her six colleagues on the School Board, education leaders including Estela Ortega (El Centro de la Raza), Rita Green (NAACP), Sebrena Burr (Seattle Council PTSA), parents, teachers and students district-wide.

10. **BETTY** is committed to public education. Unlike her opponent, she does not support diverting resources to charter schools.
11. ***BONUS REASON!*** BETTY is the only candidate in the race not [funded by corporate sponsors of charter schools and Teach for America, Inc. \(Leaders in Education\)](#).

VOTE FOR BETTY!

What colleagues, parents, former students & media say about Betty Patu

"As an African American Male who attended Rainier Beach High School in the 90's, Betty Patu has always helped not only my African American peers but all kids who needed help with resources and opportunities. She didn't see color, she saw students as a mother tending to her children. She dedicated her life to ensuring we graduated from high school on time and I am proud to let everyone know what she did for me. I am forever grateful and love this woman! She will represent your voice on the Board in a spirit of excellence!" – Jamal Crawford, NBA Sixth Man of the Year (3x) Minnesota Timberwolves

"Betty Patu is a goddamned legend. As a South Seattle high-school teacher and tireless advocate for minority students, Patu waltzed into local gang meetings to get her students to go back to class and once even barked down a student who held another peer at gunpoint. NBD! Her work directly lowered high-school dropout rates in the community. Despite spending nearly a decade on the school board—seen by many education advocates as the soul-sucking home of single-issue candidates—Patu hasn't wavered in her commitment to equity." – The Stranger

*"Betty Patu has been one of the most determined and effective leaders in Seattle when it comes to working for every child in our schools and dismantling the structural, pervasive racism in this district."
– Sebrena Burr, parent, activist and President, Seattle Council PTSA*

"We are fortunate as a district to have someone of Betty's integrity and experience as a public servant. What is especially remarkable about Betty is that her experience is real. She has helped get kids off the streets, encouraged them to stay in school. I am convinced she has saved lives. Even now, former students come to her and tell her their lives took a different path because of her. She is a woman of courage and conviction, an honest voice that speaks from the heart but with a solid sense of common sense. She has the strength of character to be humble, but is also fierce in her dedication to meet the needs of all the children of Seattle's public schools."

– Sue Peters, parent, activist and President, Seattle School Board

Betty Patu for Seattle School Board, District 7

<http://bettypatu.com/>

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