



Dashuna M. Robinson

President, Benton Harbor Area Schools Board of Education

Q: What office/s do you currently hold? What office/s have you held in the past?

A: I am a Benton Harbor Area Schools Board of Education Trustee. I am currently serving my third year as the President of the Board of Education and served previously as the Secretary of the Board.

Q: What inspired you to run for political office?

A: Stable, experienced and effective leadership is necessary for efficient growth and progress for any organization. As a proud Tiger- 2003 graduate of Benton Harbor High School- and parent of a Benton Harbor Area Schools student, I am vested and wanted to contribute to the turn-around efforts and overall success of our district. I have grown to understand the significance of political governance and policy, and understood that the greatest impact that I could make would be as a Board of Education Trustee, prompting a journey into community and political leadership. I am committed to the uplift of disenfranchised populations and lead in spaces that seek to accomplish such; economically, educationally, and politically.

Q: What is your proudest accomplishment while serving in an elected office? and/or What is your current priority during this term of office?

A: One of my proudest accomplishments while serving as a Board of Education Trustee has been the development of our strategic plan, and redefined mission, vision and goals, as I understand they are pivotal in determining the roadmap for success for Benton Harbor Area Schools. Additionally, I am proud of the district's ability to achieve a balanced budget, an accomplishment that hadn't been achieved in over 14 years. I have three current priorities during this term of office, increasing academic performance and student achievement, improving the climate and culture of our district, and finalizing the development of our facilities plan, while ensuring fiscally responsible spending in all three areas.

Q: What advice would you give young women who are considering a career as a public servant?

A: The best advice that I have for women who are considering a career as a public servant is to pray for discernment and use it, unapologetically. Know that God makes no mistakes and if elected, he has placed you in your leadership role because you are worthy and have the voice to be a strong advocate for your constituents. Never stop perfecting your craft and always seek opportunities that encourage and support personal growth. Never doubt your right to have a seat at the table, but remember that if you are always the most educated and knowledgeable person in the room, you are in the wrong room. Every lesson learned is an opportunity for growth. Use them as the fuel that garners your future success.