

FORM 4-26 LSC CANDIDATE STATEMENT

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CANDIDATES MAY USE THE FRONT SIDE OF THIS FORM OR ONE (1) SIDE OF ANOTHER SHEET OF PAPER OF THE SAME SIZE (8.5 IN. X 11 IN.) TO STATE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS AND PLANS IF ELECTED/APPOINTED TO THE LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCIL. THE STATEMENT MAY BE COMPLETED IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH. IF YOU WANT TO INCLUDE A PHOTO WITH YOUR STATEMENT, GIVE THE PHOTO TO THE ELECTION COORDINATOR AT THE SCHOOL TO BE AFFIXED TO YOUR STATEMENT. THE ELECTION COORDINATOR WILL POST THE PHOTO AND STATEMENT TOGETHER

SCHOOL: PEIRCE - 610122**CANDIDATE NAME** Anthony Pence

Peirce Students, Parents, and Community,

As the son of a teacher from rural Kentucky and the spouse of a CPS teacher (my husband teaches at Lincoln Park High School), I believe that quality public education is the cornerstone of a thriving community and one of the great equalizers in society. I grew up in rural Kentucky, where my public school education opened the door for me to attend the University of Chicago on a full scholarship. That opportunity, created for low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented students, changed my life. I believe every student deserves access to an education that opens doors for their future, whatever path they choose.

As a community member who hopes to raise children in our neighborhood schools, I have a vested interest in ensuring that Peirce is positioned for success today and in the years to come. I have lived in the neighborhood since 2016. Since 2018, I have served as a Big Brother to a former Peirce student who now attends Lane Tech. I also served for three years on the board of The Night Ministry, a Chicago nonprofit that provides housing, healthcare, and connection to residents experiencing poverty and homelessness. You may have seen their blue buses offering outreach at our viaducts. During my time there, I co-chaired the annual gala and helped grow fundraising by more than 200% in two years.

Currently, I serve as President of the Edgewater Triangle Neighborhood Association, which includes Peirce's neighbors within the boundaries of Bryn Mawr, Clark, and Ridge. In this role, I have helped membership exceed pre-COVID levels. Additionally, I am a member of the 48th Ward's Zoning Committee. These experiences reflect my deep ties to the community, my ability to build relationships across a diverse group of stakeholders, and my commitment to rolling up my sleeves to strengthen our neighborhood.

Professionally, I am an HR Director at CVS Health / Aetna. I specialize in using a human-centered approach to help organizations operate more effectively and efficiently. My work involves interviewing people about their jobs, identifying what's working and what's not, and partnering with leaders to design sustainable improvements. These skills — listening, problem-solving, and driving change — are directly relevant to the work of an LSC.

I believe my background and experiences make me a strong candidate to serve as a community representative on the Peirce LSC. Surrounded by educators my entire life, I care deeply about the future of our community and our neighborhood public schools. I also want to ensure the LSC has LGBTQ+ representation and I would be honored to bring my perspective, experience, and dedication to this important role.

I look forward to serving our entire community on the LSC.

Thank you,
Anthony Pence

THIS FORM WILL BE POSTED