Personal story example-- Liz

I grew up in the Central Valley of California -- next to peach orchards, cotton fields, and the vast Sierra Nevada mountains looming in the distance. I was raised on the beliefs of “You can do whatever you dream” and “If you work hard enough, you can achieve anything”.

I thought those beliefs applied to everyone. My unlearning of how the world worked hit me like a train when I taught 160 seventh grade boys in Charlotte, North Carolina. Faced with systemic injustices of poverty, failing education, and the color of their skin considered criminal, I knew dreams weren’t enough for my students -- they needed structural changes, backed by sound policy with politicians that cared about the future opportunities of my students.

Since that year, I have committed to understanding what a powerful education looks like for students in our country, supporting local schools in their efforts for success, and constantly re-evaluating who I am as a white woman in this world.

This weekend, there will be a community panel at our local school, discussing different alderperson approaches to education -- would you join me in attending?