

Julia Craig grew up in Montevallo and had the best childhood experiences there in Montevallo Schools. When asked about her formative years, she explained, “I was raised in a family who always strived to make things better. Public service is something embedded in me from childhood.” To continue that family tradition of service, she is running for election to the Shelby County School Board, Place 1.

After graduating from Montevallo High School, Craig attended Tuskegee University 2001-2005, then transferred to Troy University, from which she graduated with a Political Science major and a History minor, with a concentration in Public Administration. She then earned a Master’s degree in Organizational Leadership from Ashford University, and now plans to pursue her lifelong ambition of finishing law school.

Despite an education that leans toward politics, Craig says, “I have always wanted to be an attorney; I never thought I’d seek an elected position.” But then she realized that she could have an even greater impact by serving on the Shelby County Board to assist in making the decisions that affect all of Shelby County’s children. She has spent years listening to her three children – one in elementary, one in middle, and one in high school – plus their friends and other parents talk about issues from school lunches, test scores, facilities, to bus driver shortages to security concerns. And Craig, faithful to her upbringing, wants to help make things better by being a listener and a voice to help in bridging the gap for our students, parents, and our teachers.

Throughout her years of education leading to law school, Craig has been an entrepreneur. Through her company, Craigs Consulting, she assists with business formation for small businesses and nonprofits, writes grants, serves as notary, assists with tax planning, and completes tax returns and conducts marketing analytics. Craig teaches financial literacy within the community.

She also gives freely of her time to be present when parents cannot. She and her husband are in a small group of parents who recognize that some Shelby County athletes have no one attending their sports events, and they’ve become a surrogate

family, cheering them on at games and sometimes providing pregame meals and transportation home.

She believes that by sitting on the County's School Board, her knowledge gleaned from listening to the concerns of those who the board's decisions impact most, will inform her decisions and ability to work with the board members to make her an effective advocate for students, parents, and teachers.