

# FIGHTING FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL KIDS

"The quality of a child's education should not depend on their parent's income or zip code. Middle class families need schools they can rely on."

- U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.)

#### **Supporting Teachers**

- Voted for \$39.5 billion for local school districts to save teacher's jobs
- Fighting to stop attacks on teachers and other public employees in budget
- Voted for federal funds to recruit math and science teachers
- Supports the Teacher Institutes for 21<sup>st</sup> Century program to provide teacher training opportunities

# Fighting to Give Students Tools to Succeed Academically

- Supports legislation to provide students with health, education and social services to help them succeed
- Voted to increase federal funding for after-school programs

# Fighting to Make College More Affordable and Accessible

- Voted to increase the maximum Pell grant to \$5,500 per year
- · Voted to cut interest on federal student loans in half
- Voted to create a \$2,500 "American Opportunity" higher education tax credit
- Fighting for college loan forgiveness for military members, police, teachers, nurses, firefighters
- Voted for \$200 million for work-study programs to help working college students

### **Fighting to Expand Access to Early Learning**

- Fought successfully against the Republican-proposed \$1 billion cut to Head Start
- Voted against proposal to turn Head Start into a block grant program

### **Fighting for the Needs of Rural School Districts**

- Is a member of the Senate Rural Education Caucus
- Supports legislation to ensure rural schools get their fair share of federal dollars
- Supports legislation to create an Office of Rural Schools at Dept. of Education