# Rising star in the Democratic Party: Tim Walz's meteoric ascent and impact on 2024 election



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Minnesota Governor Tim Walz's profile has soared remarkably over recent months, with his public appearances, policy achievements, and sharp political manoeuvres garnering widespread attention and acclaim. From touching moments with children to viral political commentary, Walz has emerged as a formidable figure in the Democratic camp, especially with the 2024 elections looming large.

In March 2023, Walz's compassionate side was on full display as he embraced a group of elementary school children after signing a bill into law that provided free school meals. The tender moment captured in photographs resonated widely, reinforcing his image as a leader deeply connected with his constituents.

By September 2023, Walz continued to capture the public's imagination with a light-hearted video clip showing him and his daughter Hope enjoying a ride at the Minnesota State Fair, sharing laughs and screams that many found endearing.

However, it was a more politically charged moment that truly catapulted Walz to national prominence. In a viral video on MSNBC, Walz mocked prominent Republican figures, including Donald Trump and J.D. Vance, dubbing them and the Magar Republicans as "weird people." This clip alone amassed over 4.6 million views on Twitter/X and was noted by Politico as an illustration of a Democratic shift towards a more visceral, straightforward vernacular to counter far-right rhetoric. Vice President Kamala Harris has even adopted Walz’s terminology, often labelling opponents "weird" while Walz himself has taken on a more aggressive role in bolstering her candidacy.

Walz’s popularity surge has led to significant speculation about his future, especially regarding his potential selection as Harris's running mate in the 2024 presidential race. Reports indicate Walz is among the top contenders alongside Arizona Senator Mark Kelly and Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro.

Walz's appeal is multi-faceted. At 60 years old, he combines energy, humour, and a sharp political acumen, qualities that, his supporters argue, would inject fresh dynamism into the Democratic ticket. His resume is notably diverse: a Governor of a Midwest state, a veteran with 24 years in the Army National Guard, and a high school teacher who once led a football team to a state championship.

His legislative accomplishments further bolster his credentials. In May 2023, former President Barack Obama highlighted Walz’s achievements in Minnesota, ranging from codifying abortion rights and establishing paid family leave, to protecting transgender rights and widening voting access. Additionally, his administration enacted a series of progressive measures including universal free school meals, gun control reforms, recreational marijuana legalisation, and significant investments in affordable housing.

Undoubtedly, Walz’s escalating influence has ruffled some feathers. Former President Donald Trump, in particular, appeared irked following Walz's mockery on Fox News, reportedly questioning why Fox provided a platform to Walz, hinting at tumult within Republican ranks.

**Trump’s Double Endorsement Wakes Controversy in Arizona**

In a surprising twist in the Arizona House primary, Donald Trump made headlines by endorsing both frontrunners, Blake Masters and Abe Hamadeh, despite them running against each other. This double endorsement, announced on Truth Social, marked an unusual move even in the unpredictable world of Trumpian politics.

Trump's initial endorsement of Hamadeh and Vance’s support for Masters created friction as both candidates had previously run unsuccessfully in 2022. Trump's recent endorsement of Masters hints at potential shifts in internal alliances, with Masters having connections to billionaire Peter Thiel, a significant funder in previous campaigns.

Masters and Hamadeh's rivalry has been intense, with bitter exchanges touching on personal and political lines. Masters criticised Hamadeh’s parental background and religious beliefs in a controversial attack ad, while also deriding Hamadeh’s single status compared to his own family life.

**VP Pick Speculations and the Shifting Political Landscape**

With President Joe Biden stepping down from the 2024 race, the vice-presidential choice for Kamala Harris has become pivotal. Discussions have argued the potential inclusion of a Republican anti-Trump figure on the ticket to attract bipartisan support. Names like Adam Kinzinger and other Republicans have been suggested, although Walz remains a favoured Democratic pick.

Democrats and Republicans alike scrutinise the potential impact of these decisions, with figures like Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer expressing scepticism about the viability of keeping JD Vance on the Republican ticket given his controversial and erratic behaviour.

As the political dynamics evolve, the volatile and high-stakes environment underscores the crucial nature of strategic choices leading up to the 2024 elections. The buzz around Tim Walz signifies a new potential direction for the Democrats, while intra-party conflicts within the GOP suggest a tumultuous road ahead for both sides.

**Conclusion**

Governor Tim Walz's rise to national recognition, a series of significant political endorsements, and the strategic manoeuvres unfolding as the 2024 presidential race approaches, are reshaping the political landscape. As alliances, rivalries, and endorsements play out, the coming months promise to provide greater clarity on the leaders and strategies that will define the next chapter in US politics.