

# 2022 Nonpartisan Lansing Area Voter Guide

## Clinton, Eaton, & Ingham Counties



**Voting is our power to shape our future as a community, as a state, and as a nation.**

The League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area (LWVLA) offers this Voter Guide that includes biographical information about candidates and their answers to questions about current issues. In addition to candidate information, some local ballot proposals are listed. A separate publication from the League of Women Voters of Michigan includes candidates for congress and statewide elected positions.

**The information in this publication is printed as submitted by the candidates and edited only when the answers exceed the character limit.** The League of Women Voters does not take responsibility for the views or facts as stated by the candidates. The words "Candidate did not respond by print deadline" indicate that no reply was received from the candidate by the deadline. The names of the candidates for each office appear in alphabetical order with the political party of the current Secretary of State (Democrat in 2022) always appearing first on the ballot. **Only contested races and races where candidates responded appear in this guide.** Other races, and later submissions to this guide, can be found at [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org).

The LWVLA is working tirelessly to provide voters with information they need with our online voting resource, **[www.VOTE411.ORG](http://www.VOTE411.ORG)**, and printed voters' guides which provide information about candidates and ballot proposals. You can even print out your sample ballot to take to the polls on [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org).

The League is a national organization, working for more than 100 years to encourage citizen participation. It never supports or opposes any political party or candidate but it does take a position on issues after careful study by the membership.

Special thanks to the City Pulse and the other people and organizations who made the publication of the Voter Guide possible. The League appreciates their commitment to democracy.

*League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area*

**Make your voice heard and VOTE on November 8, 2022**

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Election Day is November 8, 2022

You can request your Absentee Ballot NOW Mail your AV ballot by October 20, 2022

Your ballot must arrive at your clerk’s office by 8:00 p.m. on November 8, 2022

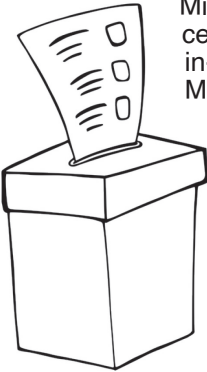
Many townships, municipalities and villages have proposals and amendments on the November 8, 2022, ballot. Please visit [vote411.org](http://vote411.org) for your specific ballot proposals or contact your local clerk.

VOTE EARLY

Michigan voters can also vote before Election Day through a process called absentee in-person voting. The period for absentee in-person voting runs from Thursday, September 22, 2022, to Monday, November 7, 2022, but dates and hours may vary based on where you live. Check with your local clerk for hours before you go.

What to bring

You will be asked to show current photo ID to vote in Michigan. Acceptable forms include: Michigan driver’s license or state ID card; current (non-expired) driver’s license or personal ID card issued by another state; federal or state government-issued photo ID; US passport; military ID card with a photo; tribal ID card with a photo; or a student ID with a photo from a high school or an accredited institution of higher education.



All registered voters are eligible to vote BY MAIL

Due to the passage of the statewide ballot proposal 18-3, all eligible and registered voters in Michigan may now request an absent voter ballot without providing a reason. Check your voter registration at <https://mvlc.sos.state.mi.us>

Requesting an absent voter ballot

Voters may request an absent voter ballot or accessible voter ballot in a variety of ways. Voters can complete an online application at [Michigan.gov/Vote](http://Michigan.gov/Vote) or submit an application, large print application, letter, or postcard to your local clerk. Find your local clerk at [Michigan.gov/Vote](http://Michigan.gov/Vote). Requests for absent voter ballots may be returned by hand, via postal mail, fax or email, as long as a signature is visible.



[www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org)

- is a one-stop website where you can see what’s on your ballot
- check your voter registration
- find your polling place
- find links to candidate forums and other information related to voting.
- All federal, state and local races are available on-line.

Options for Straight Ticket, Split Ticket and Mixed Ticket Voting

Michigan law allows voters to vote “straight ticket” in a general election, which means voters may fill in one rectangle or box next to a party name to cast a vote for every candidate of that political party. Michigan also allows for voters to select the straight party option but then cast votes for individual candidates of a different party (“split ticket”).

How YOU can support the League of Women Voters

The League is dedicated to working toward a more perfect union by encouraging citizen education and participation. Membership in the League of Women Voters is open to all people over the age of 16 without regard to gender, gender identity, race, political affiliation, religion or belief, color, ethnic origins, sexual orientation, veteran or disability status. For information about joining or to contribute to the work of the League visit our website at [lwvlansing.org](http://lwvlansing.org).

\*Who is eligible to vote?

- A United States citizen
- A Michigan resident (at the time you register) and a resident of your city or township for at least 30 days (when you vote)
- At least 18 years of age (when you vote)
- Not currently serving a sentence in jail or prison

\*To ensure accuracy, voting information has been copied with only minimal editing from the Michigan Secretary of State’s website

# Michigan Senate

**NOTE: Your District may have changed due to redistricting after the 2020 Census; check your voter registration card or this link:**  
<https://www.michigan.gov/micrc/mapping-process/final-maps>

**Duties:** The Michigan Senate shares responsibility with the Michigan House of Representatives to enact new laws and amend or repeal existing laws.  
**Qualifications:** State Senators may serve a maximum of two full terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 38 State Senate districts which are re-apportioned after each census.

**Partisan Term: 4 years**

## District 21 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

**Sarah Anthony - Dem.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Nkenge Ayanna Robertson - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

## District 22 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

**Jordan Genso - Dem**

*Website:* [www.JordanGenso.com](http://www.JordanGenso.com)

*Facebook:* [www.facebook.com/gensoformi](http://www.facebook.com/gensoformi)

*Occupation / Current Position:* Realtor

*Education:* '07 BBA, University of Michigan Ross School of Business

*Qualifications and Experience:* Current Vice President of the Brighton District Library Board of Trustees. City of Brighton ZBA Board Member. Former President of the FlexTech High School Board of Directors.

**Lana L. Theis - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Jon Elgas - Lib**

*Facebook:* [www.facebook.com/Elect-Jon-Elgas-101873235950396/?ref=pages\\_you\\_manage](https://www.facebook.com/Elect-Jon-Elgas-101873235950396/?ref=pages_you_manage)

*Occupation / Current Position:* Quality Inspector

*Education:* BBA from Saginaw Valley State University

*Qualifications and Experience:* I am your average guy who wants less taxes and less regulations

**Victoria McCasey - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

would see a \$200 increase in property taxes), that would raise nearly \$800 million, which could provide every teacher a \$9,000 raise. To me, that's a worthwhile tradeoff.

5. Invest in our community colleges and universities again to reduce tuition rates and make college affordable for everyone.

**Lana L. Theis - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Jon Elgas - Lib** I believe that a local school board is better equipped to address these issues. The more the Michigan State School board and the US department of education forces a one sized fits all upon the schools will only worsen teacher shortages, and sacrifice any quality education that the schools have for an agenda that the people who run those departments might have.

**Victoria McCasey - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

2. *ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic position*

**Jordan Genso - Dem** I would like to shift the tax burden off of working families and the middle class. The trend over the past several decades is that whenever a change occurs, the net result is a shift of the tax burden off the wealthy and onto everyone else. I would like to undo those shifts, by significantly increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit (to help working families), and raising the cap on the Homestead Property Tax Credit (to help the middle class).

**Lana L. Theis - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Jon Elgas - Lib** I would want to get rid of the personal income and property tax, thus freeing up your hard earned money to save or spend on how you chose.

**Victoria McCasey - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

3. *ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?*

**Jordan Genso - Dem** First, we must acknowledge that any change in voting procedures that would result in a legal voter having their vote suppressed is just as harmful to the integrity of our elections as a fraudulent vote that is counted. So I oppose any change to our elections that would prevent more legal votes than illegal ones (recognizing that fraudulent voting is effectively non-existent, meaning the current safeguards are sufficient). Aside from that, I support reforming our elections, to have ranked-choice voting, and I support policies that work to remove the corrupting influence of campaign donations.

**Lana L. Theis - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Jon Elgas - Lib** I would support ranked choice voting, a permanent forensic audit of all elections, a photo ID (or two non photo ID's) to vote, I would support spending caps on races. The race for a state wide race would have a higher cap than that of a state legislative branch, which would have a higher cap than a county position.

**Victoria McCasey - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

4: *ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations? What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?*

**Jordan Genso - Dem** I strongly support policies that acknowledge the externalities found in our carbon-based energy system, where businesses place the cost burden on the public to account for their activity, rather than paying for it themselves. So at the national level, I'd like to see a carbon tax. One thing I'd like to see our state do to protect our resources is to first acknowledge that property rights are not so unconstrained as to allow a

## Candidate Responses

1. *EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?*

**Jordan Genso - Dem** We should all agree that teaching should be a comfortably middle-class profession. Which means we absolutely need to pay them more. (Full disclosure: my wife is a high school teacher, and yes, I believe she is worth more than she's paid.) If we increase the State Education Tax – a statewide property tax millage – by 2 mills (so a \$200,000 home



corporation to pull unlimited water from the ground without paying for it, so I'd want to see a 1 cent/gallon tax on companies bottling our water and selling it.

**Lana L. Theis - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Jon Elgas - Lib** I am a let the market decide without interference form local, state, or federal bureaucracies.I

**Victoria McCasey - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

5. *SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and education inequities, including Michigan's 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?*

**Jordan Genso - Dem** As a Realtor, I recognize the lasting consequences from past policies, such as the racist policy of redlining. My grandparents could purchase a home wherever they wanted, but some of my peers can not say the same. And the harms from those policies still exist, so I would want to see the state government provide extra resources and funding to those areas, to help bring up their property values to be comparable to others nearby that weren't harmed by redlining. I think that is a moderate approach to addressing current inequities, as it's about geography which was undeniably and specifically targeted for racist purposes.

**Lana L. Theis - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Jon Elgas - Lib** I would encourage the people of Michigan to help their neighbors, and would work to remove barriers that encumber charities and private people to do so.

**Victoria McCasey - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

6. *GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?*

**Jordan Genso - Dem** The first step is to place the same liability on someone who gives a firearm to someone else that we place on someone who gives alcohol to someone else – if the person they're giving that firearm to isn't legally allowed to possess it, then the supplier should be criminally liable (just like giving alcohol to a minor). When it comes to the firearms themselves, it would be preferable for it to be addressed at the national level, but I recognize that there is a difference between firearms designed for defense, and those designed for combat, and the latter should be regulated like fully-automatic firearms.

**Lana L. Theis - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Jon Elgas - Lib** No matter what laws get put in place those who wish to commit a crime with a gun, will find a way. The best defense is to put a gun in the hands of a good guy, who wants to have one. I have no problem requiring a gun safety course in order to obtain a gun.

**Victoria McCasey - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

District 28 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

**Sam Singh - Dem**

Website: [www.votesamsingh.com](http://www.votesamsingh.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/votesamsingh.com](https://facebook.com/votesamsingh.com)

Campaign Twitter Handle: @singhsam94

Occupation / Current Position: CEO, Public Policy Associates, Inc.

Education: B.A. in History with a Global Specialization from Michigan State University

Qualifications and Experience: East Lansing City Council from (1995-2005), East Lansing Mayor (2005-2007), State Representative (2013-2018)

**Daylen W. Howard - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Matthew J. Shepard - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Candidate Responses

1. *EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?*

**Sam Singh - Dem** Our schools are the foundation for our communities and building blocks for our future workforce. As State Representative, I served on the Appropriations Committee and fought for equitable funding, so all schools had the resources to help kids reach their potential. We need to expand funding so we can fully invest in early childhood programs, career technical education (CTE), and special education. We need to address the teacher shortage crisis by increasing salaries for teachers and lowering classroom sizes. We also need to provide additional resources so schools can hire more career counselors, nurses, and behavioral health specialists.

**Daylen W. Howard - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Matthew J. Shepard - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

2. *ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?*

**Sam Singh - Dem** The State must work with industry, labor, and local leaders to help strengthen existing companies and attract new business. In addition, the state needs to invest in talent and workforce initiatives that help residents grow their skills so they can have access to well-paying jobs. We need to support and expand Michigan's Reconnect program so people can acquire more credentials, certificates, and degrees without taking on crippling debt. The State needs to partner with the building trades to expand CTE offerings in the K-12 schools & fund more apprenticeship programs to ensure that we have a workforce that is ready when older workers retire.

**Daylen W. Howard - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Matthew J. Shepard - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

3. *ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?*

**Sam Singh - Dem** I believe that voting is a constitutional right and that we should not create unnecessary barriers for someone to exercise that right. I supported the 2018 "Promote the Vote" Constitutional ballot initiative which provided Michigan voters with: Timely distribution of absentee ballots for military/overseas; Registration by mail up to 15 days before an election; In-person registration extended to Election Day with proof of residency, No-reason absentee voting; and a Statewide audit of election results. In addition to those items, I support providing more resources to local clerks and allowing them to start counting absentee ballots earlier.

**Daylen W. Howard - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Matthew J. Shepard - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

4. *ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations? What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?*

**Sam Singh - Dem** I am an ardent supporter of Governor Whitmer's MI Healthy Climate Plan which calls for economy-wide carbon neutrality by 2050. As Mayor of East Lansing, I was proud to sign the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement in 2007 which led to the City's first Climate Sustain-

ability Plan. While I was in the State Legislature, I was the lead Democratic negotiator for the 2016 Bipartisan Energy Law that increased renewable energy and energy efficiency goals in the Republican-led legislature. I also support increased funding for the Great Lakes and water infrastructure so we can protect our state’s drinking water.

**Daylen W. Howard - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.  
**Matthew J. Shepard - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

5. *SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and education inequities, including Michigan’s 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?*

**Sam Singh - Dem** I support a set of targeted tax cuts and credits that would support lower income families, children, and seniors. One such tax credit that I support is the bipartisan proposal to expand the Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to 30% of the Federal level. The EITC would put money back in the pockets of low wage workers so they can pay their bills and support their families. We also need to remove barriers for people who want to work such as the cost of childcare and transportation. We need to expand cost sharing programs that would allow businesses to partner with government to help their workers access childcare & transportation options.

**Daylen W. Howard - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.  
**Matthew J. Shepard - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

6. *GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?*

**Sam Singh - Dem** The tragedies in Oxford, Michigan and Uvalde, Texas illustrate that the current system is not stopping gun violence in our schools and our communities. There are several common-sense laws that have broad support amongst Democrats and Republicans that need to be pursued. We need to eliminate any loopholes from universal background checks, pass safe storage requirements, and to implement “red flag laws” that keep guns away from people that are known threats to themselves or others.

**Daylen W. Howard - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.  
**Matthew J. Shepard - UST** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

District 34 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

Christine Gerace - Dem

Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Roger Hauck - Rep

Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Becky McDonald - UST

Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Michigan House of Representatives

NOTE: Your District may have changed due to redistricting after the 2020 Census; check your voter registration card or this link:

https://www.michigan.gov/micrc/mapping-process/final-maps

**Duties:** The Michigan House of Representatives shares responsibility with the Michigan Senate to enact new laws and amend or repeal existing laws.  
**Qualifications:** State Representatives may serve a maximum of three full

terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 110 State House districts which are re-apportioned after each census.

**Partisan Term: 2 years**

District 43 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

Mark Ludwig - Dem

Education: BS Michigan State - Environmental Issues, Short Course UW - Madison Dairy

Qualifications and Experience: Service includes Fennville School Board, Clyde Township Planning Commission, Allegan Conservation District BOD

Occupation / Current Position: Facility Manager - Golden Orchards Retirement Community

Campaign Twitter Handle: @Sandlilymarcos

Facebook: www.facebook.com/LudwigforMI43

**Rachelle M. Smit - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Candidate Responses

1. EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?

Mark Ludwig - Dem

I have many years of experience as a substitute teacher. Having met hundreds of teachers over three decades I believe the shortage is primarily driven by the disgusting falsehoods and belligerence all too common in today's right wing rhetoric. I will support our educators by highlighting the many positives of public education. I will also aggressively push back on the lies being spread by shedding light on the actual work of educators

Rachelle M. Smit - Rep

Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

2. ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

Mark Ludwig - Dem

The modest progress made recently on infrastructure needs to continue to keep us competitive with peer states. I also support reigning in the parasitic health insurance industry which gives very little value for their exorbitant and stupidly complex gatekeeping. Climate adaptation and clean energy should be a jobs bonanza and a top priority.

Rachelle M. Smit - Rep

Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

3. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?

Mark Ludwig - Dem

While I in no way believe our election system is insecure, the bald-faced, treasonous lies of former President Trump have eroded confidence in our elections to the point that hearings and legislation may be warranted to restore confidence in elections. The continued expansion of dark money needs to come to an end, all money spent to influence elections need full, timely disclosure

Rachelle M. Smit - Rep

Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

4. *ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan’s water, air and land for current and future generations?*

*What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?*

**Mark Ludwig - Dem** The climate crisis is accelerating far faster than expected. Aggressive actions are needed to speed up renewable energy development including ending the caps on private grid connected solar systems, explicit legalization of off shore wind, development of pumped storage systems and grid modernization. Agricultural adaptation must be aggressively promoted as well. Expanding no till and similar systems would help with adaptation and runoff pollution issues. I would support the line 5 tunnel if it is built large enough for additional use as a transportation tunnel. The loss of EPA authority over GH gasses will require legislative action.

**Rachelle M. Smit - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

*5. SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and education inequities, including Michigan’s 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?*

**Mark Ludwig - Dem** A: We need reform of the tax system to more fairly distribute this burden. The federal child tax credit was clearly helpful during the covid crisis and could be implemented by Michigan if the feds don’t bring it back. Lowering health care losses and inefficiencies due to insurance companies would help all levels of society. Addressing all these issues in the longer term requires investment in struggling communities, both core cities and rural areas. I would work with local leaders to understand their specific needs rather than attempting to impose top down solutions.

**Rachelle M. Smit - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

*6. GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?*

**Mark Ludwig - Dem:** I support universal background checks and a well crafted, constitutionally sound red flag law. I also believe it is important for gun owners like myself to avoid the dubious notions that guns are going to be a significant part of social problem solving. I also personally avoid loose talk of political violence, even metaphors. It is frankly rather scary seeing so many people talking about civil war and other political violence. We must de-escalate this rhetoric to keep our politics viable.

**Rachelle M. Smit - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**District 73 (Choose 1) Biographical Information**

**Julie Brixie - Dem**

*Qualifications and Experience:* State Representative - Michigan’s 69th District (4 Years), Meridian Township Treasurer (10 Years), Meridian Township Trustee (8 Years)

*Education:* M.S. Crop and Soil Sciences and Environmental Toxicology MSU, B.S. Physical Geography University of Illinois*Occupation / Current Position:* Michigan Representative

*Campaign Twitter Handle:* @juliebrixie  
*Facebook:* www.facebook.com/StateRepJulieBrixie/  
*Website:* www.juliebrixie.com

**Norm Shinkle - Rep**

*Qualifications and Experience:* MI Tax Tribunal Chairman 1991 - 1998; Michigan State Senator 1983 - 1990; Michigan Board of State Canvassers 2009 – 2022; Bedford Twp. Supervisor, County Comm. Monroe County, MI 1972 - 1978

*Education:* Michigan State University; University of Toledo College of Law  
*Occupation:* Current Position: Attorney  
*Website:* normshinkle.com

**Candidate Responses**

*1. EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?*

**Julie Brixie - Dem**

- 1. Make sure we’re working with the brightest minds in education when we make decisions about our children’s education, not the DeVos family.
- 2. Create Incentives to recruit students into teaching profession.
- 3. Invest in pediatric literacy programming and establishing universal pre-school.
- 4. Invest in the early childhood reading coaches and classroom support staff so every child has the one-on-one support they need to read at grade level.
- 5. Invest in our community colleges and universities again to reduce tuition rates and make college affordable for everyone.

**Norm Shinkle - Rep** We must address the basics in education. Students must be able to read and write when they graduate. Teachers should be rewarded based on their success with students.

*2. ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic position*

**Julie Brixie - Dem** Creating a climate that attracts and expands jobs in MI is key to helping residents. The additional federal unemployment relief during the pandemic was crucial for helping Michigan families. The strong economic recovery shows how providing families with resources to meet their basic needs results in good outcomes for all. We should extend unemployment to 26 weeks moving forward. Prior to the pandemic wages had been very stagnant. Tightening job markets and rising wages are good for people looking for work, but not so good for small business owners and the service industry. Rising inflation makes rising wages necessary and important.

**Norm Shinkle - Rep** Government should not prohibit Michigan residents from achieving their dreams. Taxes are high enough. Common sense should be used to solve problems, not higher taxes.

*3. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?*

**Julie Brixie - Dem** I do not support the 55 voter suppression bills passed by Republicans since the 2020 election.  
We must continue to protect people’s right to vote and promote voting among all Michigan citizens.  
We also need to allow early processing of absentee ballots, which have increased dramatically due to proposal 3 and covid concerns. I have cosponsored such measures, but they have not received a hearing.

Campaign spending is out of control and should be limited. I am currently working on bipartisan legislation to address dark money in elections. Voting rights are a fundamental part of our nation and state and must be protected for all citizens.

**Norm Shinkle - Rep** Election trust should be restored. Voters should show photo ID to vote to make this happen. If someone can’t afford ID, it should



be provided for them. This is common sense. Every citizen should be able to vote but vote only once. Every citizen should be able to contribute to a campaign without unreasonable restrictions.

*4: ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan’s water, air and land for current and future generations? What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?*

**Julie Brixie - Dem** If we’re going to be successful tackle climate change, we must establish a state-wide plan to achieve 100% renewable energy production by 2050. It’s deeply ironic that the Capitol is currently having a geo-thermal system installed, which will make the Capitol 100% renewable. Yet, lawmakers inside haven’t seen the value in establishing a plan to achieve 100% renewable energy production. I am also working to increase energy efficiency, recycling and a statewide septic code to address the thousands of failing septic systems that are polluting our waters.

**Norm Shinkle - Rep** We should be good stewards of our land and water. We should be aware of the unattended consequences of actions such as the killing of animals after spraying for beetles in the 60’s. Renewable energy is good if it doesn’t hurt our standard of living. the market will provide energy and government incentives are often not the best way to get there. Common sense solutions should prevail.

*5. SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and education inequities, including Michigan’s 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?*

**Julie Brixie - Dem** The first thing we have to do is increase the minimum wage to ensure people working full time are not living in poverty. We also need to change our tax policies to provide equity for Michigan people. A graduated income tax would go a long way towards helping address inequities that exist.

We also need to increase our educational attainment. States with higher educational attainment have higher medium household income. In order to achieve this, we have to make college affordable again and reduce barriers that many families face. For instance, single parents and low/middle-class households need affordable child care in order to pursue their e

**Norm Shinkle - Rep** Education failure causes poverty. Education must be improved. People on drugs can’t keep a job thus stay in poverty. We must focus on stopping drugs from flowing into our country.

*6. GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?*

**Julie Brixie - Dem** It’s harder to buy cold medicine than it is to purchase a gun. There are no ID requirements for certain sales, nor any limits on ammunition purchases. In order to gun violence in our communities, we must:

1. Enact Universal Background Checks
2. Begin Robust Enforcement of Mental Health Record Reporting
3. Prohibit Domestic Abusers from Purchasing Firearms
4. Closing the Open Carry Loophole
5. Enact a Red Flag Law
6. Establish a Child Access Prevention Law
7. Ban large-capacity magazines, bump stocks and assault weapons.

**Norm Shinkle - Rep** Violent offenders often are repeat offenders; they should be locked up as the law intends. Laws should be followed and if Prosecutors do not, they should be impeached.

**District 74 (Choose 1) Biographical Information**  
**Kara Hope - Dem**

*Facebook:* facebook.com/KaraHopeHoltMI  
*Campaign Twitter Handle:* @KaraHope7  
*Occupation / Current Position:* State Representative  
*Education:* B.A. in English (Phi Beta Kappa) - Michigan State University; J.D. - WMU Cooley Law School  
*Qualifications and Experience:* Attorney; Ingham County Commissioner - 2013 to 2018; Ingham County Board of Comm’rs Chairperson - 2016; state representative - 2019 to present  
*Website:* votekarahope.com

**Jennifer Sokol - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Candidate Responses**

*1. EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?*

**Kara Hope - Dem** I’m committed to strengthening our public schools and giving educators the resources they need to help every child fulfill their potential. I helped pass the biggest school funding increase in Michigan’s history, finally closing the state funding gap between wealthier and poorer school districts. In addition, I’m working to expand mental health services in our schools and provide help to every child who needs it. I’m also working to end the teacher shortage by sponsoring legislation to increase teacher pay and recruit talented young people into the teaching profession.

**Jennifer Sokol - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

*2. ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?*

**Kara Hope - Dem** I’m focused on helping working families and small businesses recover from the pandemic and tackling numerous economic injustices. Too many workers lack access to paid sick leave or quality health care. As we continue our recovery efforts, now is the time to enact policies that protect regular working people — not just wealthy CEOs and corporations. I’m working to attract more union jobs to the Lansing area, expand the Earned Income Tax Credit to help families climb out of poverty, and require all employers to provide employees with paid leave to care for sick children and attend school meetings.

**Jennifer Sokol - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

*3. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?*

**Kara Hope - Dem** Our democracy is under attack by right-wing political extremists, and we must take action now. I’m fighting Republican efforts to silence the voices of Black and Latino voters. I’ve introduced bills to protect election workers, require ballot dropboxes, and require disclosure of “dark money” campaign contributions. In addition, I support legislation to combat voter suppression and increase penalties for violators. I also favor sending secure absentee ballots to every eligible voter, making Election Day a state holiday, and requiring employers to provide ample time for their employees to vote.

**Jennifer Sokol - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

4: ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan’s water, air and land for current and future generations? What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?

**Kara Hope - Dem** I believe clean air and water are basic human rights, and that’s why I’m working to pass laws to protect those rights and improve public health. For the sake of future generations, we as a state increase energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and ensure everyone has clean water. We also need to also combat environmental racism and discrimination. People of color and those living in low-income areas have been disproportionately harmed by corporate polluters, who’ve treated some neighborhoods like dumping grounds. It’s time for justice — corporate polluters must be held accountable.

**Jennifer Sokol - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

5. SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and education inequities, including Michigan’s 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?

**Kara Hope - Dem** I’m committed to fighting discrimination against marginalized people and seeking racial and gender equity. I strongly support measures to reduce inequalities in health and education, eradicate racial bias in law enforcement, protect a woman’s right to an abortion, and stop the GOP from taking away the vote from people of color. In South Lansing in particular, I’m working to improve health care access, make housing more affordable, and strengthen public safety. Police have an important role in keeping our community safe — and they must do it while treating citizens with dignity and respect.

**Jennifer Sokol - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

6. GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?

**Kara Hope - Dem** I support passing commonsense gun safety laws like universal background checks, a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and closing the gun show loophole. I’m also actively working to get illegal guns off our streets, helping to secure state funding for the Advance Peace initiative, which takes a public-health approach to reducing gun violence in our community. Guns are only half the equation. Elected officials must work closely with local community leaders to create more opportunities for teens, so we can keep them engaged in positive activities, instead of out on the streets.

**Jennifer Sokol - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

District 75 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

Penelope Tsernoglou - Dem

Website: [www.votepenelope.com](http://www.votepenelope.com)  
Qualifications and Experience: Penelope is a mother, attorney, small business owner, former Ingham County Commissioner, and Democratic activist with deep roots in our community.  
Education: BA, University of Michigan; JD, Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University  
Occupation / Current Position: Attorney, small business owner  
Facebook: [facebook.com/votepenelope](https://facebook.com/votepenelope)

**Chris Stewart - Rep.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Candidate Responses

1. EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?

**Penelope Tsernoglou - Dem** A legislator’s most instrumental role in education is providing public schools the adequate funding they need through the budget process to allow teachers and school employees to effectively do their jobs and ensuring schools that require additional resources get them. We must provide incentives for young people to pursue a profession in education. I support loan forgiveness, pay increases, better benefits, and improved pension plans. Additionally, we must provide teachers with adequate support staff to ensure they can spend their time teaching.

**Chris Stewart - Rep.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

2. ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

**Penelope Tsernoglou - Dem** I support raising the minimum wage, enshrining prevailing wage and the right to collective bargaining in law, and shifting the tax burden off the backs of Michigan families and toward large corporations that benefit from unfair tax breaks. I also believe we must do everything we can to make college or trade school affordable and accessible to all our students and allow them to graduate without a lifetime of burdensome debt. Furthermore, I will work to assist local small businesses who are a vital part of our local economy and supply chain.

**Chris Stewart - Rep.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

3. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?

**Penelope Tsernoglou - Dem** I will fight back against Republican attempts to limit absentee voting and ballot access, support legislation to make it a crime to misrepresent the intention of a ballot initiative to the public, ban weapons from the Capitol property, protect election officials from threat and harassment, and increase penalties for those that falsify election-related affidavits, continuously file frivolous lawsuits, or lie under oath in attempts to steal elections.

**Chris Stewart - Rep.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

4: ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan’s water, air and land for current and future generations? What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?

**Penelope Tsernoglou - Dem** I am proud to stand with Governor Whitmer and AG Nessel to shut down Line 5 before a disaster occurs, I will work with Congresswoman Slotkin on her work to ban PFAS production and clean up contaminated sites, I support legislation to hold polluters accountable for their actions, increase funding for EGLE and the DNR so they may better safeguard our public lands and waters and enforce environmental protections, and incentivize the creation of green jobs, green infrastructure, and renewable energy.

**Chris Stewart - Rep.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

5. SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and education inequities, including Michigan’s 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?

**Penelope Tsernoglou - Dem** We must ensure our public schools are



funded in an equitable fashion - those that need more resources are provided them, increase access to both physical and mental health care in our cities and across our rural communities, and increase basic needs programs for affordable quality housing, food assistance, employment and economic security, and work for criminal justice reform. No child should ever go hungry nor should any senior, that worked their entire life, have to search for their next meal or go without a needed prescription or doctor visit.

**Chris Stewart - Rep.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

6. *GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?*

**Penelope Tsernoglou - Dem** I’m going to work as hard as possible to pass common sense gun safety measures like extreme risk protection orders, universal background checks, banning the sale of military-style rifles, increasing the waiting period to purchase a weapon, limiting large capacity ammunition, and raising the age to purchase or own a weapon. Legislation like this has already passed in other states, yet Michigan Republicans won’t even allow debate on these measures. Following the primary, I’m going right into these swing districts to take on Republicans on their home turf and work to flip these seats.

**Chris Stewart - Rep.** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**District 76 (Choose 1) Biographical Information**  
**Angela Witwer - Dem**

*Website:* www.voteforangela.com  
*Facebook:* www.facebook.com/WitwerforStateRep  
*Campaign Twitter Handle:* angelamihouse  
*Occupation / Current Position:* State Representative  
*Education:* Bachelor’s Business and Management, Northwood University; suma cum laude  
*Qualifications and Experience:* State Rep. Angela Witwer is serving her second term representing the 71st House District, which includes much of Eaton County and the cities of Charlotte, Olivet, Potterville, Grand Ledge, parts of La

**Jeremy Whittum -Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Neither candidate responded to the questions by the print deadline.

**District 77 (Choose 1) Biographical Information**  
**Emily Dievendorf - Dem**

*Facebook:* www.facebook.com/emilydievendorf4MI  
*Website:* emilydievendorf.com  
*Qualifications and Experience:* Emily has worked on several important issues including: racial justice; LGBTQIA+ rights; voting rights/voter protection; agriculture; felony expungement; civil asset forfeiture; immigration rights, di  
*Education:* Bachelors Degree In Social Relations and Public Policy from James Madison College at Michigan State University  
*Occupation / Current Position:* Civil rights/political consultant; Lansing Nonprofit Bookstore Co-Founder  
*Campaign Twitter Handle:* @edievendorf4MI

**John J. Magoola - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Candidate Responses**

1. *EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?*

**Emily Dievendorf - Dem** To provide equitable education and recruit educators, Michigan must adequately fund public education for the long term. Educators and students need support to thrive. Teachers should be paid more than a living wage and allotted a budget that allows them the resources necessary to ensure each student has the necessary tools uniquely suited to their learning needs and each classroom is equipped to keep up with modern technology and basic skills without asking educators to dip into their own pockets. Our schools should also have increased mental health support and staff on site and support from the state to guarantee safety on campus.

**John J. Magoola - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

2. *ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?*

**Emily Dievendorf - Dem** I support a living wage for all; a strong Earned Income Tax Credit; Job training programs in our schools, as transitional programs upon leaving K-12 programs, as well as for older students; more accessibility to basic needs like food, housing, transportation, and healthcare regardless of income; implementing a graduated income tax; support for small business owners; and continuing our work toward equal protection under the law from discrimination and safety from violence for our most marginalized communities.

**John J. Magoola - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

3. *ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?*

**Emily Dievendorf - Dem** I’m passionate about voter protection efforts and against efforts to suppress the votes of our communities most impacted by discrimination. I support continued work to ensure all voters have access to casting their ballots early, fairly, and without obstruction and have transparency in campaign finance. I have worked with our Secretary of the State to investigate where our electoral process can be more accessible and to make recommendations to government officials at every level to ensure this happens with the help of community members most impacted. Electoral officials do an excellent job .

**John J. Magoola - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

4. *ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan’s water, air and land for current and future generations? What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?*

**Emily Dievendorf - Dem** I strongly support efforts to move to renewable energy technology sources, support energy efficiency, encourage more input from Michigan residents when it comes to decisions related to the diversion of fresh water from our Great Lakes, shut down Line 5, keep our water public and extend moratoriums on public water shutoffs, and to hold polluters accountable. I also am strongly invested in recognizing the links between racism and environmental neglect and injustice and addressing the inequities caused over time.

**John J. Magoola - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

5. *SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and*

education inequities, including Michigan’s 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?

**Emily Dievendorf - Dem** My career has been in civil rights, social justice, and public policy. No real solutions can exist without taking a hard look at how we came to be where we are and who we are, as individuals, a society, and as institutions. I ask that we acknowledge the way access to power and inequities have grown over time, and that we put in real, multilayered and complementary work to undo that harm. It won’t be easy. It will take the investment of time, money, energy and our humility, but we will all be better for it. Anything else is a bandaid. We are better than our mistakes and we all do better when we all do better.

**John J. Magoola - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

6. GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?

**Emily Dievendorf - Dem** I am proud to be recognized as a candidate who advocates for gun safety by Moms Demand Action, an organization that works to stop gun violence. I know that what we all want is safe communities for our children and families. I will work to promote responsible gun ownership and fight against gun violence in all forms. I support common sense, and this means preventing violence with background checks, red flag laws, and investing in community crisis intervention programs that get to the root of daily gun violence in our neighborhoods.

**John J. Magoola - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

District 78 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

**Leah M. Groves - Dem** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**Gina Johnsen - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Neither candidate responded to the questions by the print deadline.

District 93 (Choose 1) Biographical Information

**Jeffrey Lockwood - Dem**

Website: jeffreylackwood.com  
Qualifications and Experience: I have served as an officer for my union as well as union steward. I have no other political experience.  
Education: associates degree in construction management  
Occupation / Current Position: Plumber/Pipefitter with local 85 Saginaw MI  
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Jeffreyforstaterep

**Graham Filler - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

Candidate Responses

1. EDUCATION: What should Michigan do, if anything, to 1) provide an equitable, quality public education for all students and 2) address the shortage of teachers?

**Jeffrey Lockwood - Dem** We must fully fund our schools. Our teachers and all support staff need to be paid a reasonable wage so that we can attract the best talent available for our schools. Our schools need major repairs and improvements to the infrastructure as well. I would also support

bringing shop classes back to the public education as a path into the skilled trades.

**Graham Filler - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

2. ECONOMIC SECURITY: What policies do you support to help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

**Jeffrey Lockwood - Dem** I support policies that would require corporations to pay their fair share of taxes so the burden can be lifted from the hardworking taxpayers in our communities. I also support policies that provide these types of tax breaks to small and local business owners. I believe that these are the real drivers of our economy not the huge corporations who send our jobs overseas and drive down our wages.

**Graham Filler - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

3. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding Michigan elections, campaign funding and voting rights?

**Jeffrey Lockwood - Dem** I believe voting is a right and should be made easily accessible to everyone no matter your demographic. I believe campaign funding should be very transparent and that our elections secure from tampering by outside parties. That being said I think Michigan has done well with the policies already in place. I would support new policies dealing with election security so long as it does not affect people’s access to voting.

**Graham Filler - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

4: ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan’s water, air and land for current and future generations? What is your position on energy efficiency and renewable energy?

**Jeffrey Lockwood - Dem** Everyone is entitled to clean drinking water, and I will fight to see that that is provided to everyone. Our natural resources are what set us apart and I will support policies that protect our forests, and our Greatlakes. we have a very big agriculture industry in this state, and I think those folks should be heard when making policies that deal with environment since their livelihoods depend on a healthy clean environment.

**Graham Filler - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

5. SOCIAL JUSTICE: How would you address racial, economic, health and education inequities, including Michigan’s 23% of children and 17% of seniors living in poverty?

**Jeffrey Lockwood - Dem** We need serious tax reform where big businesses pay their fair share of taxes and start making policies from a bottom-up approach. The trickle-down policies and trade policies have failed the bottom 80% of folks and it is time to change those policies

**Graham Filler - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

6. GUNS: What steps, if any, should be taken to curb gun violence in our communities?

**Jeffrey Lockwood - Dem** I do not support banning weapons. It hasn’t worked for any other prohibitions. I due support common sense gun laws and background checks as well as closing loopholes in the system. I think the idea of arming our teachers is absurd. I do believe we have a mental health problem in our communities that needs to be addressed as well.

**Graham Filler - Rep** Candidate did not respond by print deadline.

**The Ingham County Board of Commissioners** is the policy-making body for county government, with broad budget powers to provide public services. The board may create boards and commissions, make appointments for administrative positions, buy and sell land for county use, build facilities, borrow money and equalize property tax assessments. They set the salaries for most county employees.

**Term: 2 years                      Partisan                      Candidates: Choose One**

Ingham County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<p><b>District 1</b> <b>John Salyer.</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> electjohnsalyer@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i>John Salyer for Ingham County Commissioner</p> <p><i>Education:</i> National Training Institute at the University of Michigan/ Stockbridge High School</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 5172142060</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 5433 M52 Stockbridge, 49285</p>	<p>Life long resident of Ingham County District 1, member of Region 9 Workforce Development Board since 2015 as well as various appointed boards and committees. to serve and bring concerns of the rural community.</p>	<p>Infrastructure: affordable, reliable and available internet for all of Ingham County. Also Roads, Water, Police and EMS. Senior services, transportation and medical services.</p>	<p>Water control, flooding and drought. Recycling options especially foe electronics.</p>	<p>To provide essential services to elderly, women and economically challenged.</p>
<p><b>District 1</b> <b>Randy Maiville</b> Rep</p> <p><i>Email:</i> randymaiville@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> University of Michigan BS Aerospace Engineering BS Mechanical Engineering Leslie High School”</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-202-4919</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 4675 Onondaga Onondaga MI 49264</p>	<p>I have past experience as a local official as a township planning commission member (14 years), trustee (8 years) and supervisor (7 years). I have been on the Board of Commissioners for 10 years now. I am only one of 2 Commission members with this local government experience</p>	<p>Finish the new justice complex on schedule and on budget. Gun Violence - we are working with nationally recognized Advance Peace for a non typical means of street intervention</p>	<p>Ground water - once contaminated the remediation is difficult and often incomplete do to the water movement.</p>	<p>Provide for the best public health and best environmental health for the county residents.</p>

**“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express  
their choice are prepared to choose wisely.  
The real safeguard of democracy,  
therefore, is education.”**

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*



Ingham County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<b>District 2</b> <b>Rita Leolani Vogel</b> Dem <i>Email:</i> ritavforcc@gmail.com	Currently serving my second four year term as a city council person for the residents of Mason. Our rural communities for District two, and their markets, workforce, natural resources, and industry are vital to our longevity. District two continues to face unique opportunities and challenges, which is why I am running for this seat. I have the passion, persistence and established relationships creating a friendlier environment to represent this district.	For District two; -Households are without access to minimum broadband in rural communities. COVID-19 proved that high-speed Internet is essential for business, education, work, access to health care, etc. -Investments in housing infrastructure, are crucial. As businesses drive new economic activity in rural areas, we need to take steps and make sure that everyone has access to safe and affordable options. -The workforce and general population within District two continue to decrease. This is a multifaceted issue that I plan to work with the Office of Rural Development on. -Improving rural access to existing resources and funding will be needed to support, and sustain while preparing long term out here. -We need to break barriers to mental health treatment in rural areas as well. Including addiction and recovery beds/services for community members and Emergency Medical Services. I will prioritize use of public resources on priority rural issues, no doubt.	No Response.	The role of the Health Department is to improve health through the prevention of illness, disease and the promotion of healthy lifestyles, and to consistently improve the health care delivery system by focusing on access, equity, efficiency, quality and sustainability. This includes mental health. The County Health Department is also responsible to prepare for and respond to disasters and emergencies.
<b>District 2</b> <b>Karla Ruest</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> lgarciak5@hotmail.com				
<b>District 3</b> <b>Chris Tubac</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> christrubac@gmail.com”  <i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/christrubac  <i>Website:</i> www.christrubac.com  <i>Education:</i> B.S., Natural Resources Conservation <i>Phone:</i> 517-798-0537  <i>Address:</i> 2192 Cedar St, Holt, MI 48842	I've served as the Ingham County Commissioner from Holt since I was first elected in 2018. As someone who grew up here and graduated from Holt High School in 2008, I have a lot invested in this community. I am constantly inspired to see it strengthened and improved.	One of our region's most pressing issues is a shortage of affordable housing, and that scarcity has only contributed to price spikes and homelessness. I was proud to support the creation of the Ingham County Housing Trust Fund and the allocation of \$9 million in federal ARPA funds to support the construction of medium-density housing, row houses, small apartment buildings, single-family homes and duplexes. I have also been a vocal supporter of the Advance Peace program, a partnership with the City of Lansing geared toward reducing gun violence in our region. The program focuses on providing mentorship and resources to those most at risk of becoming involved in violent situations, breaking the cycles and social undercurrents that motivate violent behavior. These investments are vital to securing public safety in Ingham County, and I will continue providing my support to the program if I am re-elected.	Climate change remains a serious threat to our way of life, and it's vital that we focus on environmental justice programming to build community resilience and protect those most vulnerable to long-term and acute local impacts. As Chair of the Environmental Affairs Commission, I am working to create an Environmental Sustainability Manager position within the county's administration that will direct environmental justice programming. Meanwhile, I have been leading the effort to complete a comprehensive energy and greenhouse gas emissions audit of county facilities to ensure that we are minimizing our contributions to climate change. I am also working to secure funding for environmental health initiatives such as the repair and replacement of failing wells and septic systems throughout the county. So far we have approved \$1 million in federal funds for this work, however much more funding will be needed to fully protect our groundwater.	Our Health Department has several important roles that include securing and promoting public health, protecting environmental health, and providing direct care and services to members of the public through our highly rated community health centers. I have always been a believer in supporting our Health Department while allowing the county's Health Officer to make evidence-based decisions without political pressure or interference. If I am re-elected, I will continue to work in partnership with health department staff as a member of the Human Services Committee

Ingham County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<b>District 3</b> <b>Mike Severino</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> severinom@yahoo.com				
<b>District 4</b> <b>Todd Tennis</b> Dem <i>Email:</i> commissioner-tennis@g mail.com				
<b>District 4</b> <b>Jack C. Jordan</b> Rep  <i>Email:</i> jcariel137@gmail.com  <i>Education:</i> BA - Criminal Justice/ Psychology & MA - Higher Edu and Admin from MSU; JD from Cooley Law School  <i>Phone:</i> 517-648-7318  <i>Address:</i> 5634 Joshua St., Lansing 48911”	I have a wide array of experience working with and serving others in many diverse fields, communities, cultures and countries, that make me highly qualified to serve in this capacity. After graduating from MSU in 1980, I traveled throughout Europe, Scandinavia, Africa and parts of Asia and I lived and worked in Israel for 7 years. Upon my return, I attended Cooley Law School. In over 34 years of working in the legal field, I served as a law clerk for both a District and Circuit court judge while in law school and as the Chief Deputy City Attorney for Lansing. In addition to running my private law practice, I taught many, many years at LCC as an adjunct professor and served as the Dean of Business for Baker College in Jackson for 9 years, teaching a myriad of college courses on law, government, business, and history. My family and I have lived in Lansing since 1988. We love our community and desire to utilize my skills and talents to serve the residents of Ingham County.	Since running for County Commissioner, I have learned from fellow citizens some of the pressing issues facing Ingham County: 1) High number of millages. Ingham County is nearly at the top of the list statewide in total county millage rates! In a time of high inflation, our taxing and spending has to be brought under control; 2) Public Safety. I hear many voices calling out to “defund” law enforcement and I believe the facts show that is not only the wrong way but dangerous. In reviewing some crime stats, Lansing has one of the highest crime rates in the U.S. with 47 crimes committed per 1000 residents or your chance of becoming a victim of a violent or property crime is one in 21; and 3) Roads and Litter. Walking and driving around Lansing has become treacherous with the large potholes and unsightly, with litter spewed on city streets and public walkways. This situation can create health problems and attract vermin.	As I stated in Question #2, the litter problem is an urgent environmental issue facing us locally. How to solve the problem? We as citizens of Ingham County have an invested interest in maintaining our community, not only to keep it attractive, but also for the safety and welfare from disease and other health problems. I think the county, in conjunction with Lansing and other communities within our county, can organize teams of volunteers, much like the highways do, to pick up trash in our neighborhoods. Also, we can education citizens on the litter problem so they will think again before throwing their trash out the window. Finally, we should place more trash containers throughout the county especially in high traffic areas such as the river trail, parks, etc.	The Ingham County Health Department’s primary role is to oversee the overall health and well-being of the communities it serves. While its main focus is general health and wellness, the department also provides treatment and care to members of the county who otherwise have no healthcare. It should offer county members access to physicians and medications at county run clinics if they do not have insurance or cannot otherwise afford medical care. Such care is especially important for the most vulnerable among us - pediatric and women’s care, school age care, and geriatric care. It goes without saying that it should be involved in preventive and wellness care. It should work with schools and senior care facilities and offer educational presentation at community events on health and wellness, with such topics as proper diet and exercise.
<b>District 5</b> <b>Myles Johnson</b> Dem <i>Email:</i> myles4inghamcounty@ gmail.com				
<b>District 5</b> <b>Clinton Tarver</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> clintontarver@aol.com				

“A man without a vote is a man without protection.”  
Lyndon B. Johnson

Ingham County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<p><b>District 6</b> <b>Victor G. Celentino</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> victorcelentino8201@co mcast.net</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.voteceleentino.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Diploma Waverly High School; AD, LCC BA: Olivet College MA: Western Michigan University</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> (517) 285-9049</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 1029 Andrus Ave. Lansing, MI 48917</p>	<p>“22 years as a County Commissioner, Chairperson of the BOC 2004, 2006, 2014, 2018 (partial). Currently Vice Chairperson of the BOC (2022). Member of the Law and Courts and County Services Committees. County Representative Capital Region International Airport Board; member NAACP, Italian American Club of Lansing, St. Gerard Catholic Church. Former Lansing Township Trustee (1992-2000). Presently a special education teacher at Sexton High School with the Lansing School District (1992-present 30 years teaching). I am running for re-election because my years of experience is needed in these challenging times. I’ve been involved with many issues during my tenure, ranging from infrastructure, recreational opportunities, and regionalism. In 2020, Waverly Road from old Lansing Rd to St. Joe street along with MDOT’s project on the interchange was resurfaced and restructured. I would like to continue to offer positive and responsible progressive leadership for the citizens of Ingham County.”</p>	<p>“The first priority is the impact and transitioning to a post COVID-19 pandemic. Continuing to utilize the resources Ingham County received from the American Rescue Plan Act by making sure we are responding to the needs of our citizens. The BOC have taken many proactive steps when utilizing the federal dollars by focusing on housing, small businesses, making sure county employees finances are not disruptive and avoiding concessions. We need to continue reaching out and making sure our citizens and businesses are aware of the different programs set up by Ingham County which addresses their needs as we continue to navigate through the pandemic. The next priority is to closely monitor the financial impact the pandemic has caused when addressing Ingham County’s operating budget. Utilizing the resources to ensure our budget is balanced and maintaining the level of services for our citizens.”</p>	<p>Ingham County has always been a steward on being environmentally aware. Global warming is an issue facing our country. Ingham County has always established “green” policies for building projects to the extent possible. I supported establishing the county’s environmental committee. This committee will deliberate and promote, develop sound environmental policies for Ingham County. Our Health department does an exceptional job monitoring lead levels in our water, which is an environmental concern for our community.</p>	<p>The Ingham County Health Department has been a leader throughout our state when responding and addressing the health needs of our citizens during the pandemic. Our county Health Officer has exhibited exceptional leadership during the pandemic, ensuring the health and welfare of the citizens of Ingham County.</p>
<p><b>District 7</b> <b>Thomas Morgan</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> thomas.patrick.morgan@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/electthomasmorgan</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.thomasmorgan.org</p> <p><i>Education:</i> BA with honors in journalism, Michigan State University</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-927-4487</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 1432 Wickham Drive, Lansing, MI 48906</p>	<p>As a county commissioner, economic development director and advocate for working families, I’ve built a strong record of accomplishments — all with the goal of helping those in need and making government more open, transparent and honest. The second of five children born to a factory worker and a waitress, I grew up in the inner city around the poverty line. I was the first in my family to go to college, later working as a journalist before turning to a career in advocacy. I was able to progress in life due to strong social programs, and I’ve made it my mission as an elected official to ensure future generations receive the same opportunities I had. Throughout my career, I’ve led efforts to improve the lives of teachers, nurses, children, people with disabilities, skilled trades workers and others. Along the way, I’ve built a reputation as a tough advocate for everyday people. I’ve never been afraid to challenge the status quo — no matter how powerful the opposition might be.</p>	<p>My first priority is protecting the health and social services that many of our neighbors depend on; that’s why I co-wrote the county’s new health services millage, which expands health care for local residents in need, including providing mental health assistance. Second, I’m committed to building a local economy that works for everyone, creating good-paying local jobs while demanding that corporations receiving tax incentives hire local workers whenever possible. Third, I am committed to creating a more open, honest government. That’s why I wrote the county’s new ethics policy, which improves government transparency and forbids commissioners from using private email servers for county business. Finally, there’s much work to be done to find more effective ways to deliver services to residents. The current model of service delivery — via a patchwork of city, township, county and quasi-governmental bodies — is confusing, outdated and inefficient.</p>	<p>Climate change poses a massive threat to our environment, public health, infrastructure and economy. What’s more, the negative impacts of climate change disproportionately affect low-income residents and communities of color — particularly Black and Latino residents. While admittedly Ingham County is but a tiny sliver of the world, it’s important that we still do everything we can locally to reduce CO2 emissions and improve energy efficiency. That’s why I authored and passed a resolution declaring an official climate emergency in Ingham County and committing to being a regional leader in addressing this crisis. That said, the county can have an even greater impact on protecting our local land, air and water by enacting and supporting policies that protect our natural resources. The county Drain Commissioner has made great strides in this area, as has the county Health Department, and it’s important that their environmental protection work continues to receive ample budgetary support.</p>	



Ingham County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<b>District 7</b> <b>Jim Schmidt</b> Rep				
<b>District 8</b> <b>Robert Orlando Peña</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> penarrobertorlando@gmail.com  <i>Facebook:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bobforcommissioner">https:// www.facebook.com/ bobforcommissioner</a>  <i>Education:</i> BSCE University of Texas, MSCE Michigan State University  <i>Phone:</i> 517 256 2671  <i>Address:</i> 2100 Vine St., Lansing 48912	Civil Engineer with long history of community activism and involvement. Current County Commissioner. I have enjoyed serving my constituency thus far and look forward to the opportunities another term would offer.	I see many issues with roads and traffic that are within the realm of the county's responsibility. As this is my background, I feel especially well qualified in this area. I am also interested in promoting multimodal transport systems, and sit on the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission and the Capital Regional Airport Authority. Through this involvement I am having a positive input on future infrastructure projects. Food security, quality housing, and youth enrichment are also opportunities that we are seeing. Through my activities on the Commission and my position on the County Fair Board, I am addressing all three of these issues.	Climate change and environmental instabilities are on the rise. We have a very active farming community and they are feeling the brunt of this impact. The county needs to play it's part in the management of resources related to crop production such as watershed and soil quality. As a member of the commission, I also serve on the MSU District Eight Extension, which acts as a link between agricultural producers and consumers.	To ensure that the citizens of the county have the highest possible quality of health, and to ensure that those within our county boundaries get the medical attention they need, whether residents or guests. We should all be very proud of the way the County Health Department functioned during the crisis stage of COVID. They continue to provide accurate data to guide officials and businesses who are watching the numbers to identify issues that need to be addressed, and continue to function as safely as possible.
<b>District 8</b> <b>Evelyn Sue Davis</b> Rep  <i>Email:</i> esd1978@yahoo.com				
<b>District 9</b> <b>Ryan Sebolt</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> rsebolt@gmail.com  <i>Facebook:</i> facebook.com/ voteryansebolt <i>Website:</i> voteryansebolt.com"  <i>Education:</i> B.A., Albion College 2005  <i>Phone:</i> 5179273917  <i>Address:</i> 1555 N Genesee Dr, Lansing, 48915	I am currently serving in my third term as county commissioner. I worked directly for the state legislature for more than a decade and continue to work in a government relations role today. Local government is where the decisions are made that have the most direct impact on people's lives. I want to continue to serve on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to be able to direct and offer the services that improve the lives of our residents.	The pandemic highlighted (and in many cases, made worse) issues that people in our communities are facing. As we transition away from the pandemic and into a new normal, we have to address access to healthcare, affordable housing, transportation and access to food. The county must also find ways to address larger, societal issues. Specifically systemic racism and the impact it has on our residents. We also need to take action and ensure the county is doing its part to address climate change.	Climate change is undoubtedly contributing to more extreme and more frequent severe weather events. One of the ways the county can help to address this is to make sure the infrastructure is in place to withstand such extreme weather. The county is currently undergoing an audit as well to help us reduce our carbon footprint and make sure that county government can become carbon neutral.	The Ingham County Health Department plays a critical role in protecting the Public Health. I am proud that my colleagues on the County Commission acted in a bipartisan fashion to allow our Health Director to follow the science, free from political pressure, to protect the public during the pandemic. Public Health officials should be respected for their expertise. Moving forward, the County Health Department will continue to play a vital role in making healthcare accessible to our residents through our community health centers.

“The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all.”

John F. Kennedy

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<b>District 9</b> <b>Terry L. Maag</b> Rep  <i>Email:</i> terrymayairinc@gmail.com				
<b>District 9</b> <b>Ryan Sebolt</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> rsebolt@gmail.com <i>Facebook:</i> facebook.com/ voteryansebolt <i>Website:</i> voteryansebolt.com <i>Education:</i> B.A., Albion College 2005 <i>Phone:</i> 5179273917 <i>Address:</i> 1555 N Genesee Dr, Lansing, 48915				
<b>District 9</b> <b>Terry L. Maag</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> terrymayairinc@gmail.com				
<b>District 10</b> <b>Gabrielle Lawrence</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> ctegabriellelawrence@gmail.com  <i>Phone:</i> 5172142629  <i>Address:</i> 2313 Northampton Way, Lansing, 48912	I have lived in Ingham County for almost all my life. For the last 7.5 years I have served as a Trustee on the Lansing School District Board of Education and am currently serving my third term as President. I am a mother of two young children and a partner at the Loomis Law Firm. I am a staunch Democrat and feminist. Throughout my time on the school board I have been given the opportunity to work on issues such as transportation, staffing, contract negotiations, building and facility maintenance, and have participated in three successful bond campaigns. My eldest child will start preschool in the Lansing School District in the fall and I am looking forward to continuing my involvement with the school district as a parent while serving my community as an Ingham County commissioner.	Child services. My commitment to children in our community will not end when I leave the school board. The Ingham County Commission oversees many services that are paramount to the safety and wellbeing of children and families, and I will dedicate myself to ensuring that Ingham County residents have access to services that they need. Specific examples of this are physical and mental health services, access to the courts and legal assistance, and access to safe and adequate housing. Economic development and support for businesses in Ingham County is also a priority for me, especially since District 10 includes such areas as Old Town and the Stadium District. I would work with businesses to determine what their needs are, how the county can help, and how to think beyond typical solutions to provide new and better services to our cornerstone businesses.	Ingham County, like so many areas in our country, is incredibly reliant upon personal transportation. Most people do not use public transportation, and that is atypical of so many other developed nations. A more tangible and easier change to affect is galvanizing area recycling programs. The county has an opportunity to offer more and easier access to recycling services for county residents. Short of one-off electronic recycling events, the county should install permanent drop boxes for people to recycle electronics and Styrofoam, products which are typically thrown in the trash.	The Ingham County Health Department provides health services and information to Ingham County residents. It offers education and advocacy in health services and the director can and should offer guidance and issue orders to protect the public during times of pandemic or other health outbreaks.
<b>District 10</b> <b>Scott Greenlee</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> scottwggreenlee@yahoo.com				

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<p><b>District 11</b> <b>Mark Grebner</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> mark.grebner@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> B.A. Michigan State University, Urban Policy, 1981. J.D. University of Michigan, 1986.</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-351-6682</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 615 Glenmoor Rd #1B, East Lansing MI 48823</p>	<p>I was first elected to the County Board of Commissioners in 1976, and have served, with 2 short interruptions, ever since. I have been chosen four times by my fellow commissioners to chair the body, and have served as chair of the Finance committee for the past four years.</p> <p>During that period, other districts have seen their representative turn over as many as ten times. In many situations, I am the only person present to understand why a given policy was originally adopted, or how it functions.</p> <p>In 1992, I wrote Ingham County's Ethics Policy, which is infinitely stricter and more effective than comparable policies in other Michigan counties.</p> <p>Over the past ten years, my attention has shifted away from specific issues, focusing instead on institutional concerns, including the prevention of patronage hiring, and modernization of our procedures.</p>	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic forced Ingham County government to change the way we do business. I don't think our goal should be to return to what we previously considered "normal", but instead we should apply what we've learned to remake ourselves for the benefit of the future, rather than clinging to the past.</p> <p>Our procedures, buildings, organizational chart - they are all relics of the past. COVID-19 proved that we can provide almost all of our services remotely, but our operations continue to center on our beautiful and archaic courthouse, located 15 miles from the center of population. We have large spaces designed for public assemblies which no longer occur. We have elaborate storage facilities for paper records which are no longer consulted. We have large armored vaults which no longer contain anything that could be stolen or destroyed by fire.</p> <p>We have adequate funds to re-invent ourselves, and I want to spend the next five or ten years doing so.</p>	<p>I'm an environmentalist, but I really don't see environmental issues as being central to our operations.</p> <p>The one area to which I have devoted attention is the identification, regulation, and correction of inadequate septic systems in rural areas of the county. Our efforts have been hampered by the utterly inadequate state statutory scheme, but I think we can move forward by using a few million dollars of ARPA funding to offer carrots - and not merely sticks - to residents with failing systems.</p>	<p>The Health Department isn't one thing, it's a varied collection of programs which deal with specific issues: running medical clinics, inspecting food service operations, inspecting rural wells and septic systems, distributing vaccines, and much more. Ingham County has supported the expansion of our Health Department into fields not addressed by other counties. This has drawn additional matching money from the state and federal government, making Ingham County a model for other counties to emulate.</p> <p>I can't remember a single time the Ingham Board has rejected an initiative proposed by our Health Department. Our answer is always "Yes - go ahead!"</p>
<p><b>District 11</b> <b>Virginia Werner</b> Rep</p> <p><i>Email:</i> werv409@gmail.com</p>				
<p><b>District 12</b> <b>Irene M. Cahill</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> irenecahill@icloud.com</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> (517) 488-1486</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 1100 Old Hickory Lane, East Lansing MI 48823</p>	<p>I was appointed Commissioner October 12 and immediately engaged in the work of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. I am a member of the Law &amp; Courts &amp; Human Service Committees as well as liaison to the Womens Commission. I asked to be on Capital Area Michigan Works committee because I am very interested in work force education and development.</p> <p>Other committees Capital Area Community Services (Early Head Start, Head Start, Commodity Food Distribution) in Ingham, Eaton, Clinton and Shiawassee Counties. TCOA - Tri County Office on Aging provides Nutrition (Meals on Wheels &amp; congregate meals) in Ingham, Eaton, Clinton Counties. TCOA also provides Medicare &amp; Medicaid Assistance and Caregiver support.</p>	<p>Answering to and addressing the needs of residents of Ingham County. Healthcare, nutrition, education, mental health and quality of life for all.</p>	<p>Continue to provide clean water to drink, bathe, swim and recreate in free of pollutants. Ingham County is currently engaged in an Energy audit of all county buildings. I am looking forward to the results. A safe inclusive community with housing addressing the needs of all. Ingham County was and is a leader with saving peoples homes and preventing evictions. ARPA funds were strategically used to address long-term solutions regarding affordable housing, critical infrastructure and property tax assistance. The needs of citizens and businesses that were adversely affected by Covid-19 were also helped with ARP Funds.</p>	<p>Being ready to react to immediate and emerging health concerns. Ingham County has a world class team in place.</p> <p>The Community Mental Health Authority is important to Ingham, Clinton &amp; Eaton Counties.</p>



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<b>District 12</b> <b>Mark McKeel</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> mckeel@pm.me				
<b>District 13</b> <b>Amy Salisbury</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> amybrummsalisbury@g mail.com  <i>Website:</i> www.amysalisbury.com  <i>Education:</i> Master of Science/Biology, Central Michigan University; Bachelor of Science/Biology, Alma College  <i>Phone:</i> 517-899-3668  <i>Address:</i> 1585 Picadilly Drive, Haslett 48840	I have been a Haslett resident for 15 years. I decided to run for the Board because I am passionate about issues facing Ingham County including infrastructure, mental health care and the environment. I have been actively searching for the best way to use my education and skills to make a difference. The pandemic has been especially hard on working women and mothers. Women need better representation at the local and county levels. I have a bachelor's degree from Alma College and a Master of Science from CMU and worked as an Environmental Toxicologist for the State of Michigan for 13 years. Although the current Board possesses a multitude of experience from various disciplines, my science background will be a unique and needed voice at the table. Working for a regulatory agency I am familiar with administrative and governmental processes and can speak that language. As a mom, a scientist, and small business owner, I can provide a perspective that represents my District in a positive way.	The priority issues facing Ingham County that I intend to champion include 1) environmental issues, 2) infrastructure, and 3) mental health care. As a Haslett mom and avid geocacher, I spend a lot of time in Lake Lansing Parks with my family and can see from a parent's perspective the problems with drainage and the demand for amenities and trail improvements. As Commissioner, I will see to it that federal relief funding for roads and bridges is allocated as soon as it arrives in Ingham County. I will also see through to completion the Ingham County Broadband Task Force's goal of reaching every door in Ingham County with affordable and reliable high-speed internet. I will passionately advocate for mental health services in my District. For example, the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties is establishing a new Crisis Stabilization Unit in Lansing. This important project will require funding and oversight from the Ingham Co. Board of Commissioners.	Climate change is clearly the number one global environmental issue and most urgent. Ingham County has declared climate change an emergency and set up an Environmental Affairs Commission with a goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2040. As an environmental toxicology specialist with 13 years of experience in the field, I would be the only scientist on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, adding my unique expertise on this issue to help move the county forward. As County Commissioner, I will be a champion for our trails and parks, including completing the MSU to Lake Lansing Trail, cleaning up pollution and invasive species, adding amenities, achieving our renewable energy goals, and preparing Ingham County for long term climate impacts. As a scientist focused on sustainability and public enjoyment, I can be counted on to include the need for greater environmental protections and to meticulously work at identifying public health concerns in all infrastructure discussions.	The County Health Department plays a vital role in making healthcare (including mental health care) accessible to all residents and educating the public on available care and public health policies and resources. As the former Chair of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Toxics Steering Group (TSG), I understand the important role of the County Health Department. The TSG is a collaboration between all professional Toxicologists working at EGLE and the Michigan Department of Community Health to raise awareness of emerging issues and advise elected officials on ways to improve and protect public health and the environment. Scientists must be able to maintain their independence and academic integrity when pursuing the best science and advising public health officials, free from political pressure. My unique role at EGLE has prepared me to serve as a valuable teammate and well-suited to interpret and support recommendations from the County Health Department.
<b>District 13</b> <b>Paul Adams Lello</b> Rep				
<b>District 14</b> <b>Mark Polsdofer</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> polsdofer@yahoo.com <i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/votemarkpolsdofer <i>Website:</i> www.markpolsdofer.com <i>Education:</i> B.A., Western Michigan U- 1994, Detroit College of Law @ MSU Law School 1996-1998  <i>Phone:</i> 734.604.0856  <i>Address:</i> 1611 Wenonah Drive, Okemos, MI 48864	I'm running to continue my service to the residents of Okemos and Ingham County as whole with my regional focus on issue affecting the entire region. For the past 4 years, I have strived to provide first-class constituent service when issues are brought to my attention. I wish to continue that service. I am employed at MDOT in Governmental Affairs, and have spent the last 25 years working in and with federal, state and local government. Knowing how governmental units can cooperate to solve problems has helped me to be effective in addressing challenges. I also serve on the Board of Directors for Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), where we focus on regional economic development.	Due to the pandemic, Ingham County saw a reduction in revenue for roads and bridges of approximately \$4 million in '20 and another \$4 million shortfall in '21. As a result, some needed road and bridge projects haven't been able to be funded. I have been focused on bringing this issue up with my colleagues and the County Controller to backfill this shortfall once the Fiscal Year '23 budget is settled.	Climate change is real. We can see the effects in more frequent flooding, and temperature changes. To start to solve this problem, we adopted a resolution initiating the implementation of environmental benchmarks for Ingham County, most notably the goal of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040. It also commits us to the completion of an energy audit across all county facilities and operations. This is ongoing right now. We also directed the Controller to establish a revolving fund to track the money we save from implementing sustainability initiatives and reinvest those revenues into further sustainability initiatives.	The Ingham County Health Department is an essential part of our community. One needs to look no further than the COVID pandemic to see how they were invaluable in aggressively setting up vaccination clinics, providing helpful guidance to the school districts and making sure safe practices were being followed in Ingham County. Even today, they have an active vaccination program and do numerous educational outreach initiatives.

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<b>District 14</b> <b>Sam Frangie</b> Rep				
<b>District 15</b> <b>Brooke Locke</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> brookelocke74@gmail.com  <i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100  <i>Education:</i> Cosmotlogy, Culinary arts and RealEstate  <i>Address:</i> 223 E Grandriver ave, Williamston, 48895	We need to make sue that we are working towared fair and affordable housing. It is Estimated we are 18 yrs behind housing contruction which creates a shortage in home available. We want to make sure we have fair and affordable options for all who reside in ingham county.	Due to the pandemic, Ingham County saw a reduction in revenue for roads and bridges of approximately \$4 million in ‘20 and another \$4 million shortfall in ‘21. As a result, some needed road and bridge projects haven’t been able to be funded. I have been focused on bringing this issue up with my colleagues and the County Controller to backfill this short-fall once the Fiscal Year ‘23 budget is settled.	We have to take bold action to protect our farmers and our crops as with the change in the environment comes more challenges for our farmers. We need them and we need to work with them to address and assist to contine being able to produce right here in Ingham County	County Health department is pivotal in making sure we keep the residence of inga-ham county safe. It plays a role in making sure we have affordable options in health care and oversees the Health and safety of the county.
<b>District 15</b> <b>Monica Schafer</b> Rep  <i>Email:</i> info@monicaschafer.org  <i>Facebook:</i> monicaschafer-forcounty commis-sioner  <i>Website:</i> monicaschafer.org  <i>Education:</i> Western Michigan, B.B.A. in Integrated Supply Management; University of Michi-gan- Flint, M.B.A.  <i>Phone:</i> 517-230-2298  <i>Address:</i> 1691 Osprey Ave., Williamston 48895	My educational background, work experiences at Delco Electronics, Smith-Kline Bee-cham, Schafer Raspberries, and an Integrated Supply Management degree from Western Michigan University and an MBA from the Univer-sity of Michigan-Flint are the tools needed to be a leader and an effective county com-missioner. Commissioners need to be able to identify an issue, provide a solution and follow it through to resolution. As a local business owner, farmer, board member, coach, volunteer, wife, and proud mother of six children, I’m running for Ingham County Commissioner in district 15 because I understand the district’s concerns which are my concerns as well.	The priorities of the Ingham County Commissioners’ board should be balancing the bud-getary impacts of inflation, fair and equitable distribution of funds and services across the entire county, and consider-ations of how we can manage services more efficiently by greater use of technology. The Covid-19 pandemic ex-posed budget areas that need up-dating, such as excess office space that is not utilized due to a modernized remote workforce.	The environmental issues that we face today cannot only be resolved locally. They are to be addressed at the state, federal and national levels to find real solutions. Embrace the Ingham Coun-ty Conservation District. Its mission is to promote and practice stewardship of our natural resources by serving, educating, and empowering our community. Identifying better and more ef-ficient ways to handle drainage issues, such as retention ponds and wetlands. Working with Tri-County Re-gional Planning Commission. Clinton, Ingham, and Eaton Counties, all partner together to form the Commission. They be-lieve in developing a sustainable future for our region’s economy, natural resources, transportation system, and infrastructure. Protecting the Saginaw Aquif-ers’ natural water supply. It provides fresh water for our entire region. Working with the Environmental Affairs Commission. It advises and guides the commissioners with solutions to upgrade infra-structure for energy efficiency.	Ingham county is very di-verse. Thousands of under-served citizens need services offered by the Ingham County Health Department. The needs of the entire county need to be addressed and supported. If this is going to happen equitably, satellite health clinic sites in rural areas must become a priority to serve those with barriers to the solely urban locations.

**The Clinton County Board of Commissioners** is the policy-making body for county government, with broad budget powers to provide public services. The board may create boards and commissions, make appointments for administrative positions, buy and sell land for county use, build facilities, borrow money and equalize property tax assessments. They set the salaries for most county employees.

**Term: 2 years                      Partisan                      Choose One**

Clinton County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Clinton County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Eaton Clinton County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<b>District 1</b> <b>Val Vail-Shirey</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> val@vailshireyforclintoncounty.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>District 2</b> <b>David W. Pohl</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> DWPOHL@yahoo.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>District 3</b> <b>Bruce DeLong</b> Rep	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>District 4</b> <b>Kenneth Mitchell</b> Rep  <i>Email:</i> KMitchellCC@gmail.com  <i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/Kenfor Commissioner  <i>Education:</i> Journeyman Machine Repair (General Motors)  <i>Phone:</i> 517.899.5334  <i>Address:</i> 15725 Grove Rd, Lansing MI 48820	As current Commissioner, I have a proven 24yr voting record to demonstrate that I take my votes seriously. I have a passion for this office. I am Chairman of the Clinton County Public Safety Committee and Community Corrections, Chairman Tri County of Aging Admin Board, Member of Child Abuse & Neglect Council, Central Dispatch Admin Board, Capital Area Community Services, Building Stronger Community's Council, Substance Use Disorder Oversight Policy Board, Clinton County Local Emergency Planning, American Jail Association, Department Health & Human Services Liaison, Clinton Task Force on Employment, Michigan Sheriff's Association Local Corrections Officer Training Advisory Board, Michigan Association of Counties Judiciary & Public Safety, Tri County Office on Aging Grievance & Personnel Committee, Clinton County RESA Post Secondary Success Network and a Deputy with the Clinton County Sheriff's Office Mounted Division. Why am I running? It's my home for over 40 yrs.	Through sound financial practices and good business decisions, Clinton County is one of the few financially solid counties in the state. Our Pension Fund is 95% funded and Health Care Obligations (OPEB) are 113%. We have no debt. Our buildings are new and we have the lowest operating millage in the Tri-County region. I've been part of that decision making process that keeps us moving in the correct direction and I will continue to monitor our fiscal positions to maintain our financial strength. I voted to create a partnership with Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties, the LRCC and Michigan State University called The Capitol Council of Governments (CAPCOG). The mission of CAPCOG is to work collaboratively between parties to support regional economic development and growth opportunities for the Greater Lansing region at the State Legislature. My part in this made possible the Coleman Road Extension along with many other positive things to be announced.	The Looking Glass River has always been a notable feature by my home. Keeping this river in good health is important. I have been part of the Clinton County Community Cleanup. I have voted to support this as a Commissioner and I volunteer my time working there too. We collect tires, trash, metal, oil and very importantly medicine. Each year we collect at least 1 55 gallon drum of medicine that otherwise might have been flushed down a toilet and ended up in our water system. I believe that efforts like this are critical to our environment. When zoning issues come before me I make sure that my vote will best represent the residents of our county. As a board member of the Clinton County Health Department, I made decisions that strengthened rules to eliminate health threats and to protect the members of our community. Safe water and a clean environment are issues that I strongly support.	Yes. I had several reporting issues with the HD. I was able to work with the HD to create a report to share with the public in the beginning of this event. This data was well received by the public and answered many planning questions. The HD resisted sharing this information for various reasons and ultimately changed to a report that was met with a lot of negative comments by both the public/elected officials. The fight to combat the virus by the HD has been strong. There are no issues with this. The problem is information reporting and planning. When we are back to "normal". We have a new Director who has brought new energy and a willingness to be transparent with the public. I have fought since day 1 of this event to provide factual information to the public. With the help of the new HD Director, it is finally happening.
<b>District 5</b> <b>Robert E. Showers</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> rshowers49@gmail.com <i>Facebook:</i> Robert Showers <i>Education:</i> BBA Western Michigan University <i>Phone:</i> 517.528.9210 <i>Address:</i> 1225 Calumet Circle, DeWitt, Michigan 48820	I have been privileged to be a Clinton County Commissioner for 20 years representing the City of Dewitt and DeWitt Charter Township	We are working with internet vendors and local municipalities to acquire fiber optic broadband internet cable for those unserved and underserved areas in the County. Acquiring funding from State and Federal sources is challenging. We believe strongly that every household in the County should have access to high speed internet. We believe in equality of availability.	Climate change and environmental sustainability are quality of life issues we will study. We will in conjunction with regional partners determine what steps we can pragmatically take to address these issues from a County perspective	The Mid-Michigan District Health Department which is made up of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties did an admirable job in handling the Covid-19 crisis. I don't believe their mission or role will change in a significant manner. All health departments are subject to State and Federal guidelines.



Clinton County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Clinton County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Eaton Clinton County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<p><b>District 6</b> <b>John Andrews</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> johnandrewscommissioner@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/ElectJohnAndrews-Commissioner</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Bachelor of Science from Central Michigan University</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517.528.9210</p>	<p>I am a progressive Democrat and a seven-year veteran of the US Army. I am a father and support teachers and public schools. I have a diverse background and career, ranging from being an archaeologist to Information Technology. Voting rights, reproductive rights, and the environment are some of the things I advocate for. I served on my local homeowners' association and was instrumental in the establishment of a park in our community. I am actively involved in helping make our community a vibrant and welcoming place for all. I have volunteered for numerous Democratic candidates handing out literature, phone banking, and letter/postcard writing. After the January 6th attack on the US Capitol, my wife and I joined the Clinton County Democratic Party and became members of the Communications Committee. We built and maintain the party's current website. I am new to politics and am running to bring another Democratic voice to Clinton County.</p>	<p>We need to build toward a sustainable future by investing in renewable energy, protecting our natural resources, family farms, and work toward advancing alternative food production, such as vertical farming and greenhouse hydroponics. In addition, Public schools and Teachers need our support now more than ever. They are over-stressed and under-appreciated. We need more teachers and teacher-aides in the classroom. One of the key reasons that Finland has such a highly regarded education system is their respect for and payment for the teaching profession. We need to attract dedicated teachers and make their status elevated and well compensated. Our economy also desperately needs more skilled trades. These are critical jobs that pay a high wage and do not require going deep into debt. The coming expanded electrification of the global society utilizing renewable energy and rebuilding our infrastructure for the future will need millions of highly skilled workers.</p>	<p>To address climate change we need to incentivize conservation and efficiency and invest in appropriate renewable energy such as wind, solar, and geothermal. In addition, we need to protect our water, air, and land for both current and future generations. We have been given a marvelous natural world in Michigan for which many want to visit and enjoy beyond those of us who live here.</p>	<p>Covid 19 transformed the lives of many of our neighbors in Clinton County and continues to affect our communities. Our Mid-Michigan District Health Department (Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm) needs to continue to proactively monitor and prepare for the next pandemic through staff training and collaboration/guidance with the Federal Emergency Management Administration, Michigan Health and Human Services, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In addition, Clinton County should continue to collaborate and share resources with neighboring counties that strengthen public health initiatives and partnerships.</p>
<p><b>District 7</b> <b>Dwight Washington</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> WASHIND-WI@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> PhD Community, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Recreation</p>	<p>I initially ran for office in 2016 to better our region's environmental conservation, sustainable economic growth, and community well-being. In my six years as a Commissioner, I have held true to these values and have refined my skills to make the necessary and essential decisions to maintain and improve the quality of life in Bath Township, and the Tri-County region. My objective is to make a positive difference by utilizing my Doctorate degree in Natural Resources from Michigan State University, my work experiences to support the social-emotional lives of youth, and my professional passion to improve environmental policy and practices throughout the State and in private industry. I am proud that my efforts to lead have earned respect and admiration of Republican and Democrat elected officials, and citizens in Bath, across the state, and the country. I believe that our Democracy is strengthened and thrives with a citizenry that is properly informed and empowered to act responsibly.</p>	<p>Priority issues include 1) a quality workforce across sectors, 2) the responsible management of taxes, in addition to funds from the American Recovery Act and Opioid settlements, and 3) the sustainable development and well-being of citizens. Effective management of these priorities will require methods to engage public-private partnerships that can facilitate and develop local individuals capable of replacing and filling positions that were lost due to the pandemic and retirements. During my tenure as a commissioner, the continued fiscal management of the County has benefited. And, I intend to continue pursuing a pragmatic approach to managing financial resources. Furthermore, I will continue to lobby elected officials and to engage interested stakeholder groups to effectively invest and distribute monies that maximize upstream benefits, by improving social determinants of health. This includes the wise implementation of a broadband infrastructure plan to prosper in the digital future.</p>	<p>The lack of a systemic-wholistic approach to a sustainable planet is the most urgent environmental issue facing counties. Presently, I am the County representative to build understanding and institutional relationships in the Tri-County region that can facilitate an environmentally friendly future. As a Public Health Board member, I have imperiously pressed locally and to the State of Michigan to rectify policy and offer funding strategies to remediate septic systems and forever chemicals, and the necessity to improve water management strategies. Local governments are well positioned to manage and facilitate discussions and practices that reinforce environmental resilience innate to the planet. County governments can improve and grow park systems and natural areas to reduce air pollution and improve quality of life. And, by improving public transportation and developing bike paths, we can have an immediate effect on reducing the amount of carbon and contaminants released into the air.</p>	<p>COVID-19 has had a historic impact on local counties and health departments. Prior to the pandemic, the role of health departments had been the classic story of an agency struggling to meet growing expectations on limited funding. And, while private health insurance has helped many – COVID-19 accentuated that a robust public health system is vital. There were many "lessons learned," by our local public health department to meet this most complex and steep learning trajectory. However, the 10 essential services public health departments provide do not need to change, rather - the public and elected officials need to reframe our image of public health. Particularly, in light of the commendable work they provided during the pandemic. My perspective is that health departments proved they are "where the rubber meets the road," and any change should begin with our capacity to enable health departments to get "upstream" of health threats and improve social determinants of health for all.</p>

Clinton County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Clinton County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Eaton Clinton County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<p><b>District 7</b> <b>Adam C. Stacey</b> Rep</p> <p><i>Email:</i> adamstacey1974@gmail.com <i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/voteadamstacey <i>Website:</i> www.VoteAdamStacey.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Masters in Public Administration - Western Michigan; Bachelors - Political Science, Michigan State</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-281-4515 <i>Address:</i> PO Box 11 Bath, MI</p>	<p>I have served on the Clinton County Board of Commissioners for the past 14 years. In that time, we are the only county in this region to have paid down all our debt and fully funded our pension and retiree healthcare obligations. We have since bonded for 911 improvements but reaching zero debt status is still unprecedented in this region. I am running to continue the reforms we have put in place to make Clinton County financially sound and able to withstand the revenue shocks created by stock market corrections or housing slumps. No one will work harder to faithfully represent you, to listen to your concerns and improve our quality of life while keeping county government accountable for every tax dollar spent.</p>	<p>Our number one priority remains public safety. We have implemented an upgrade to our 911 communications system to ensure that when you need help, we are only a phone call or text message away to come to your aid. Our second priority is to take advantage of federal funding to make transformative investments in our county's broadband capacity so that our residents will be able to work from home more effectively and we will continue to be an attractive destination for new home construction.</p>	<p>The global environment is far too complex and several orders of magnitude beyond the ability of county government to impact. County government has focused on energy efficiency to reduce our share of our state's growing energy demands and save taxpayer money. Our most pressing environmental issue under our direct control is to ensure and maintain a clean water supply for our residents, for our abundant agricultural job providers as well as for swimming at our county beaches this summer.</p>	<p>I think the county health department has played a role in county government in the past and will continue to play a role in the future. The Covid-19 pandemic has cast a spotlight on the organization but it has been doing good work for decades to attack severe flu, hepatitis and other disease outbreaks as well as improve our community's overall public health. Water quality will remain a focus for the health department going forward in identifying pollution sources and removing toxins from entering our streams, rivers and groundwater.</p>

**The Eaton County Board of Commissioners** is the policy-making body for county government, with broad budget powers to provide public services. The board may create boards and commissions, make appointments for administrative positions, buy and sell land for county use, build facilities, borrow money and equalize property tax assessments. They set the salaries for most county employees.

**Term: 2 years                      Partisan                      Candidates: Choose One**

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<p><b>District 2</b> <b>Landon S. Myers</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> myersl2016@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Webpage:</i> www.electlandon.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/electlandon</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Master of Public Policy from the University of Michigan</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> (517)648-2986</p>	<p>I am running for the Eaton County Board of Commissioners to represent everyone in the district as a dedicated public servant. As an eighth-generation Eaton County resident of Oneida Township, a proud graduate of Grand Ledge Public Schools, and an active member of the community, I will always be present to listen and address residents' concerns. My qualifications include experience and education that have prepared me to successfully fight for residents from day one - from earning my Master's of Public Policy, to being an active member of my community, and attending township and county board meetings every month. My background working as a nonpartisan nonprofit leader has taught me how to build coalitions and accomplish goals with people who may not always agree. All of these experiences make me ready to represent everyone, and I'm proud to have strong bipartisan support and look forward to fighting for a stronger future for all in Eaton County.</p>	<p>There are several key priorities the board is immediately facing. However, many priorities cannot be adequately funded until the county resolves its unfunded budget constraints. Due to past board actions, the county has continuously headed down a dangerous financial path. We need commissioners who will address the financial uncertainty and set the county on a stable fiscal footing to ensure programs and services such as high-speed internet, public transportation, and county parks can be maintained and expanded. The county should also pay staff a fair wage for their hard work to retain employees and recruit for open positions. Without their dedication, the county would not be able to operate. As a commissioner, I would advocate increasing pay for public safety and other staff at a fair rate which will help the county fill positions that have remained empty due to non-competitive pay relative to the region.</p>	<p>Locally, there are two important environmental concerns: the increasing amount of water due to climate change, and industrial pollution. First, Eaton County is historically swamp-land and excess water has recently increased the amount of flooding in roadways and fields, leading to inaccessible routes and crop loss. With more water expected every year, Eaton County needs to consider updating drainage systems that can handle increased capacity. Second, our county must also protect against pollution. In Oneida Township, there is an EPA Superfund site that is on the National Priorities List and is still being monitored. There is also PFAS contamination in the groundwater in multiple locations across the county. While many of these concerns are being addressed, the board can be proactive in overseeing activity in the county to prevent environmental pollution.</p>	<p>The mission of the County Health Department should be simple: to best protect and improve the health of the people in the county by ensuring health education, supportive programs, and an overall healthy community. The health department should follow the best available scientific research in guiding their work, and not politics or the will of politicians. The Board of Commissioners should uplift the vital work of the County Health Department and ensure they have the resources needed.</p>

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<b>District 2</b> <b>Blake Mulder</b> Rep	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>District 4</b> <b>Brandon Haskell</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> electhaskell@gmail.com  <i>Website:</i> www.BrandonHaskell.com <i>Facebook:</i> Brandon Haskell for County Commissioner  <i>Education:</i> BA in Political Science - U of M Flint  <i>Phone:</i> 15172823200  <i>Address:</i> 1119 Cindy Drive, Lansing, 48917	Previously I have served in the Michigan Legislature as a Constituent Services specialist and Policy Director. I am currently in my 2nd term (4th year) as the Commissioner for District 4.	Eaton County is about to confront a budget crisis. Thankfully, recovery funds from the Federal Government is helping keep us whole at the moment.  We have been able to smartly invest in county facility infrastructure that will not only lower our Carbon footprint, but save the County and its tax payers millions of dollars of the 20 year life span of the project.  Unfortunately this is not enough. We will need to keep searching for creative solutions moving forward and we cannot rule out the possibility of an operations millage.	Global warming & microplas-tics I think are our two biggest environmental threats. Eaton County has positioned itself well to be an example of what county governments can and should do to tackle this issue. With modernizing our facility and adding solar panels to the facility we are greatly reducing out carbon footprint. We have an excellent committee on sus-tainability that is making sure recycling programs are not only available, but expanded in new ways. I will admit that the county could communicate our efforts to the public better.	Our County Health Dept. shares jurisdiction with Barry County. Unfortunately some have politicized and attacked the department for quick political points. The County Health Dept should have the power to exercise health mandates and orders based on real health data without the fear of harassment.
<b>District 5</b> <b>Jeanne Pearl-Wright</b> Dem  <i>Email:</i> wrighj531@yahoo.com  <i>Facebook:</i> County commissioner Jeanne Pearl-Wright  <i>Education:</i> Western Michigan University, B.A. Secondary edition, History major, Polk Sci, Psyc minors. LCC A.A.  <i>Phone:</i> 517-321-7956  <i>Address:</i> 531 Rapidan Dr, Del-ta township, MI 48917	I have experience as a dedicated public servant with a passion in human services. First elected in 2004-2010. Returned to service 2016 to current term. While serving I am always on the Health & Human Services county committee. At the state level I am vice chair of the Michigan Association of Counties HHS committee. From that position the committee is involved in giving support and feedback to state level officials on topics involved in services to the programs that give services to low income people of all ages such as mental health, senior pro-grams and youth programs. I have served on MAC HHS all the years I have been in office. From my county posi-tions I am assigned to several outside Boards. Tri-County Office on Aging, Capitol Area Michigan Works, CapitolArea Community Services which oversees our area Headstart pre school programs, help with weatherization program, foreclosure prevention, com-modity foods. I have 100% attendance at all full board meeting my entire time.	In this tight labor time, keeping and retaining good trained ex-perienced employees. Keeping the county budget balanced while meeting rising costs of operations. At this time the county board voted to give a \$250 per month to each full time employees per month as a retainer fee through January 2023. These funds are coming from the Federal stimulus dollars awarded to the county through the ARPA funds. Also part of the Federal funds will be used to upgrade heating and cooling systems on the county complex, this will save taxpay-er in the long run on energy costs. The Board continues to work with the retirement legacy costs to ensure the County is meeting State regulations of funding levels. It is a balance of how to cut expenses while still providing required services. This is where reducing energy costs help and greater use of technology comes into play in all departments, some of which involves securing grants that are available at State and Fed-eral levels.The Board oversees grants	I see one of the most import-ant issues is reducing use of fossil fuels. The County is using Special Federal funds, ARPA funds to upgrade heat-ing systems through out the county complex and adding solar panels on roofs and the courthouse parking lot. To also save energy usage there will be lighting changes to come. The Board also changed zoning to allow solar fields in townships that are Not Char-ter townships such as Delta, Oneida and Benton townships. Those townships have their own planning and zoning boards.	The County health depart-ment is actually a “health district”, Barry-Eaton District Health Department. Three county commissioners from each county are assigned to the governing board. Thus all decisions made involve both counties. The State has certain prescribed tasks of the department such as restaurant inspections, to well and septic approvals for new build and replacement of the systems, to controlling infec-tious diseases which certainly involved Covid spread and containment. There is also vaccine clinics and staff do hearing testing for school age children through out the county. My first time in office I served on the BEDHD board.
<b>District 5</b> <b>Julie A. Hicks</b> Rep <i>Email:</i> electjulie-hicks@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			



Eaton County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Eaton County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Eaton County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<p><b>District 7</b> <b>Mark Mudry</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> mudrymj@aol.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Lansing Community College, Genesee Community Collage, CS Mott College, Powers Catholic Central Flint</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-321-1179</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 1013 Meadowview Lane, Lansing 48917</p>	<p>Having served one 2-year term on the County Board of Commissioners, I feel I now qualify by virtue of experience. Before my election in 2020 I served on the Delta Township Planning Commission for 10 years which still continues into year 14. The Planning commission prepared me for the process and protocol of governmental meetings. It was a learning experience moving to the County with its emphasis on budgets and its priorities. It was somewhat less pleasant and I had to remember that each decision will affect someone in some way. My first government interest began when I started attending Delta Township Board of Trustees meetings. I watched the process and interaction of the trustees with each other and then with the public. The department public reporting was interesting to me and I gained a respect for those departmental managers. I became brave and applied for a position on the Planning Commission in 2009.</p>	<p>I believe the primary issue and first in priority are the County budget and all departmental issues involved within it. We have four topics of discussion which will come up in the next term:</p> <p>1) Employee retention and recruitment at the Sheriff's Department and other departments dealing with staff shortages. This most likely will be resolved via a millage request.</p> <p>2) Parks Department for the expansion and maintenance of the county parks with the emphasis on the Crandall Lake property. This funding is going before the voters this ballot cycle.</p> <p>3) There has been an informal request by the Tri-County Office on Aging for some millage support for the agency that services Eaton county,</p> <p>4) The Capital Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) has been indicating that a small millage could help supporting the airport's services to Eaton County's residents. Another issue of consideration is the expansion of Broadband Internet access to out-county residents. There is a committee working on this.</p>	<p>The main issues in the county environmentally have to do with ground water contamination. The new buzzword is PFAS which is aka a "forever chemical" which never breaks down or is destroyed. It's similar to non-stick Teflon in chemical makeup. It's commonly found in firefighting foam also. Another issue has to do with fertilizer runoff into creeks, streams, and ponds. The county works, since 2019, with MI Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). It's really a case of Investigate, Identify, and Resource the cleanup.</p>	<p>I'm on the Health and Human Services Committee. Every month we hear the reports of the Barry-Eaton County Health Department's progress. They are a dedicated group and devoted to the healthcare of their patients and families. The Health Department provides a number of services ranging from adult to infant's care. They provide the Michigan WIC program. They have a full range of healthcare for children. Immunizations and vaccinations are available as well as COVID-19 testing. When COVID was raging, the Health Department scrambled to keep up and coordinated with other agencies to provide the best care and information.</p>
<p><b>District 7</b> <b>Mike Atayan</b> Rep</p> <p><i>Email:</i> lectatayan@gmail.com</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond by print deadline.</p>			
<p><b>District 10</b> <b>Jacob L. Toomey</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> jacobtoomeypolitics@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Webpage:</i> votejacobtoomey.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> facebook.com/vote-jacobtoomey</p> <p><i>Address:</i> PO Box 215, Dimondale 48821</p>	<p>I have been a resident of Dimondale for over 20 years and truly love the small-town communities that make Eaton County a great place to live. I have served on the department of public works, administration, and communications committees as an elected Trustee in the Village of Dimondale. I know that county government plays a big role in creating welcoming, vibrant communities and am committed to taking a bipartisan approach to pass common-sense policies that will pay off for families and businesses.</p>	<p>One of the main issues facing the Eaton County Board of Commissioners is broadband availability for rural communities. Everyone in Eaton County deserves the opportunity to have affordable access to high-speed internet. In today's world if you can't connect, you just can't compete! Windsor Charter Township has only ONE public, free, 24/7 WiFi hotspot. The usage at this hotspot increased 56% from 2019-20 and an additional 172% from 2020-21. It is clear that the demand for affordable, reliable home internet will continue to increase and the County Board should dedicate a portion of the \$21 million in ARPA funding it will receive for broadband infrastructure investments.</p>	<p>County government should work to protect its local parks from pollution and degradation. Eaton County parks provide an irreplaceable gathering place for families, clubs, and individuals wishing to enjoy Michigan's natural beauty or connect with other community members. Well-maintained parks are also proven to help with economic growth, public health, and increasing property values. I understand the importance of environmental health and will work to properly fund the protection and maintenance of our large parks system so generations to come can enjoy them!</p>	<p>The County Health Department should work to identify, inform, and respond to any public health concerns based on data from local professionals and national resources.</p>
<p><b>District 10</b> <b>Dairus Reynnet</b> Rep</p> <p><i>Email:</i> dfr1946@yahoo.com</p>	<p>I am the current Eaton County Commissioner in Windsor Township. My family has a long history of public service. My late father was WW II U.S.</p>	<p>Eaton County will be facing a serious budget shortfall in fiscal year 2024. I hope that in the coming years we are able to find budget solutions to mini-</p>	<p>The most urgent local environmental issue in the county is preserving the rural character of Eaton County and supporting the agricultural community.</p>	<p>The Barry Eaton County Health Department should be a servant to county residents and not a dictatorial agency. They should not duplicate</p>

Eaton County Board of Commissioners	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Eaton County Board of Commissioners.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Eaton County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them if elected?	3. Of the many environmental issues facing our world, which do you think are most urgent locally? How do you see county government helping to solve them?	4. What do you see as the role of the County Health Department?
<p><i>Webpage:</i> reynnet4eaton.com <i>Facebook:</i> reynnet-foreatoncountycommissioner</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Walsh College MBA, Michigan State University-James Madison College, Lansing Community College</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 2482527834</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 8608 E. Vermontville Hwy, Dimondale 48821</p>	<p>Navy during vet who later worked as a Financial Manager at the Michigan Dept. of Transportation. My mother retired from the Michigan Dept. of Treasury after 30 years of service. After being involved in many civic organizations, I took my desire to serve the community further and ran for the County Commission in 2020. My qualifications include college degrees in business and political science, 28+ plus years of accounting and auditing work at two state agencies, and several volunteer positions with civic organizations.</p>	<p>mize the impact of that shortfall. There are many options on the table at this point and all will be thoroughly considered.</p>	<p>As a member of the Farmland Preservation committee, I have approved many applications to keep family farmlands dedicated to farming.</p>	<p>services provided by other county Health departments, such as Ingham county, which are not needed by our county.</p>
<p><b>District 11</b> <b>Scott Hansen</b> Rep</p> <p><i>Email:</i> scott_hansenfamily-farms@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Raised on our Family farm here in Eaton County. Attended Grand Rapids School of Bible and Music. Graduated from Michigan State University with a Ag degree. Attended Cornerstone University in Business Administration Nearly 40 years of Military Service in USAF/MI ANG as Intelligence Supervisor and Unit Trading Manager. State employee for Dept. of Military and Veterans Affairs. Currently Retired. Because of poor leadership in less than two years, is now causing severe problems with high costs and shortages. This has led to an increase in inflation for all citizens and government agencies. I want elected officials to be part of the solution, not the problem.</p>	<p>INFIATION. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY. .Increases of the price of fuel is just one item of concern. We have heard that Sheriff departments in some county's are now cutting back on patrol's to just real type emergencies. It will take a fiscal responsibility to reconcile these increase costs. Cuts maybe needed for certain projects or put on hold until the economy improves. Road maintenance is facing a similar situation. I'm willing to work with tthe various County Agencies on budgets and to continue vital operations to security/safety for citizens.</p>	<p>We have too many environmental laws that hinders various projects to take place and red tape. We need to tell State and National leaders that they need to back off on regulations and have more common sense. Something that is lacking by liberal/progressives.</p>	<p>They should not be mandating or make regulatory orders which should be left up to the legislature. Assure that the safety of drinking water, sewage is being properly dealt with and conforms to state and federal guidelines.</p>
<p><b>District 12</b> <b>Karen Miller</b> Dem</p> <p><i>Email:</i> kimiller91@hotmail.com <i>Facebook:</i> https://www.facebook.com/VoteforKarenMEatonCounty <i>Education:</i> BS in Exercise Science/Athletic Training, MS is Health Promotion &amp; Wellness Management <i>Phone:</i> 906-748-4360 <i>Address:</i> 1596 Brookfield Rd Charlotte, MI 48813</p>	<p>I am Karen Miller running for Eaton County Commissioner District 12. I am a proud Mother of 3 boys, a Wife, a Teacher, PTO President, Cub Scout Cub Master and small business owner. I have lived in Eaton County since 2010 and I am ready to help our county fight for policies that will benefit our members of District 12. I will fight for our local first responders for better wages and benefits as they deserve nothing less.</p>	<p>If I shall be so honored to be elected to the Eaton County Board of Commissioners, I would be engaged to jump right into the role of securing bipartisanship. A top priority of mine is to narrow the line between elected parties. There are many issues facing local governments that need to be addressed and this requires bipartisan commodity in order to serve the residents of Eaton County.</p>	<p>Everywhere we turn we are faced with ever evolving environmental issues that directly impact our world. Locally I feel some of the most urgent issues we are facing are proper waste disposal and the degradation of soil. Eaton County is a vast resource for agriculture. As committee member of Eaton County, I would fight to provide the necessary recourses for our local farmers to provide successful crops. Also, as a committee member I would encourage the continuation of local recycling programs along with expanding their accessibility.</p>	<p>Eaton County Health Department is a top priority. The County Health Department not only provides a vast ray of information to local residents about health issues that impact each of us, but they also dedicate themselves to tracking local health emergencies. Local Health Depatments are vital to keeping our local residents safe from environmental concerns, major health concerns and providing resources to help decrease or prevent these concerns from expanding.</p>
<p><b>District 12</b> <b>Brian Lautzenheiser</b> Rep</p> <p><i>Email:</i> brianlautz6@gmail.com</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond by print deadline.</p>			

The **Ingham County Treasurer** is the custodian of all county funds and the collector of taxes. The treasurer receives all revenues, invests reserve funds, collects delinquent property taxes, and sells real estate that has unpaid taxes. The treasurer is also the chairman of the Ingham Land Bank.

**Partial Term ending 12/31/2024**                      **Partisan**                      **Choose One**

	1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Treasurer.	2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Treasurer? How would you address those priorities?
<b>Alan Fox</b>  <i>Email:</i> alan.fox@gmail.com  <i>Education:</i> BA in History, Michigan State University  <i>Phone:</i> 5172421853	Appointed Ingham County Treasurer in April 2022 after 4-1/2 years as Chief Deputy Treasurer. Former member of the East Lansing City Council and of the Ingham County Board of Canvassers. Years of experience in public affairs at all levels of government including staffs of State Rep. Lynn Jondahl, US Rep. Bob Carr and Gov. James Blanchard. Advocated for American consumers as financial affairs lobbyist for the Consumer Federation of America. Many years managing the finances of a local small business. I am asking to be retained as Ingham County Treasurer to continue and expand the office's tradition of exemplary personal service to taxpayers and of creative problem solving. A large portion of our small staff deals entirely with helping taxpayers who are delinquent on their property taxes. Every other person on our staff is trained to do so as well. We engage partners outside our office to help when, as is often the case, tax delinquency is linked to other issues.	The severe shortage of affordable housing in the Lansing area hinders economic growth and drives up housing costs and property taxes for those who can least afford those costs. I have helped launch the Ingham County Housing Trust Fund to look for answers that involve partnerships among public sector, private sector and nonprofit actors. The Treasurer's office has an ongoing responsibility to oversee the financial affairs of the county and of every office in the county that handles the public's funds. We do so through constant communication, through one-on-one teaching and training and through quick and informed responses to unusual situations and to problems.
<b>Bruce A. Little</b>  <i>Email:</i> littlefortreasurer@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.	

**30th Judicial Circuit Court - Non-Incumbent**  
The **Ingham County Circuit Court** is a court of general jurisdiction, hearing civil cases and controversies seeking damages in excess of \$25,000, all felony criminal matters, and all family matters. In addition to hearing felony criminal matters and civil matters. Judges of the Family Division have jurisdiction over cases involving juvenile delinquents, abused and neglected children, adoptions, name changes, emancipations, parental consent waivers and domestic relation matters.

**Non Partisan**                      **Term: 6 Years**                      **Choose 1**

	1. Please describe your qualifications and experience and explain why you are running for the position.	2. What is your position regarding alternative courts to meet community needs?	3. Do judges have an obligation to improve public understanding of the courts?
<b>Morgan Elizabeth Cole</b>  <i>Email:</i> morgancolegorjudge@gmail.com  <i>Campaign Website:</i> www.morgancolegorjudge.com <i>Facebook page:</i> https://www.facebook.com/MorganColeforJudge/  <i>Education:</i> Juris Doctor - Thomas M. Cooley Law School; Bachelor of Arts -Criminology - West Virginia University  <i>Phone:</i> 502-593-6506 <i>Address:</i> 4449 Alderwood Dr, Okemos 48864	I currently serve as the Ingham County Probate Register/Court Administrator and have worked for the County's courts since 2013. We need someone with both legal and life experiences, who can make difficult decisions with common sense and compassion. This is not for the faint of heart and it takes energy and patience. I can do more to serve the courts and the public – thus, I've entered the race for Circuit Court Judge. I gained the trust and respect of those who know my professional qualifications best. I am endorsed by 7 of the County's 9 Circuit and Probate Court Judges – including Judge Clinton Canady III, whose impending retirement creates this open judicial seat. In my experience, outcomes are better when we: preserve families, provide early treatment and intervention; reduce protracted litigation in civil matters; intervene when kids are exposed to domestic violence and substance abuse. Justice delayed is justice denied. Judges must make every effort to move the docket fairly.	I support mainstream criminal justice reforms, such as treatment courts. These specialized courts allow our system to provide individualized services and resolve cases outside of the traditional criminal justice system. Veteran's Courts, for example, allow those who have served our country to work directly with fellow veterans in their treatment. Specialized treatment courts also allow collaborative agencies to work in true partnership, including police, prosecutors, courts, mental health providers, and others. They allow for accountability and supervision as well. These kinds of services and support aren't available if any one agency does a solo project. I support continuing the treatment court model and if new offenses are added, they should be agreed upon by police, prosecutors, and courts. I'd like to see greater collaboration across agencies, so that we can work together to address serious crimes and reduce recidivism.	In my career with Ingham County's court system, I've done a substantial amount of work to engage with the public and provide information about our courts. For example, I recently spoke with the Realtors Association and presented on Probate Court issues that their membership typically encounters. I will continue this kind of public and community engagement if elected to serve as Circuit Judge. I've also been endorsed by numerous community groups and labor organizations that represent thousands of working families in Ingham County, including: The Greater Lansing AFL-CIO Labor Council, Building and Construction Trades, UAW, Laborers, and affiliated locals. I've seen first-hand the positive environment created by a collectively-bargained work place, as our Circuit Court is a unionized environment. The court system is a method to provide justice, resolve disputes, and create safety. If elected, I will help our community understand how our courts can work to provide justice for all.



	1. Please describe your qualifications and experience and explain why you are running for the position.	2. What is your position regarding alternative courts to meet community needs?	3. Do judges have an obligation to improve public understanding of the courts?
<p><b>Christopher Wickman</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> hello@electchriswickman.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> www.electchriswickman.com/ <i>Facebook Page:</i> www.facebook.com/electchriswickman</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Political Theory Constitutional Democracy Bachelors at MSU, Juris Doctor (Law) Degree at Temple Uni. <i>Phone:</i> (517) 529-2733 <i>Campaign Address:</i> P.O. Box 14285 Lansing, MI 48901</p>	<p>As Judge, I would handle criminal felony matters and civil matters over \$25,000. I have handled criminal felony matters for over 10 years (including a trial in this very courtroom) and have some civil matters trial experience in both district and circuit court. I am also familiar with a number of resources that exist in our community that would assist me in serving my community with regards to these types of cases. I also believe that my experience working with the humans of cases – clients, witnesses, attorneys, and other involved parties - would allow me to have a proper judicial temperament. I recognize that I work for the people who appear in my courtroom and they deserve to be heard, respected, and have the law followed. I am running for judge because I believe I have a duty to serve my community. I realize that the best judges are those who care about the law and their community while the worst judges seek the seat for personal prestige or power. It would be my honor to serve.</p>	<p>Our legal system is the best legal system in the world, but it still is inflexible, impersonal, and deeply flawed. In particular, our legal system is a poor fit to handle certain types of criminal cases (domestic violence and criminal sexual conduct) to all parties. It is the responsibility of our courts to best serve the needs of our community and alternative courts (especially those focusing on restorative justice) is a way in which we can better serve the community. I am open to exploring all alternatives from community partners to better serve our community though I would want to make sure that there are proper safeguards in place for such and making sure the power dynamics that sometimes permeate criminal cases do not force the use of alternatives to the detriment of one party.</p>	<p>Absolutely. Judges serve the public. End of story. Courts only have the power that the community and our society gives them. Courts only deserve that power if they serve the community and follow the law. It is my goal that everyone who appears in my courtroom (parties, witnesses, support persons, lawyers) feel that they were appropriately heard and “had their day” in court. I also aspire to make sure that they understand that the judge is doing his best to follow the law and that I know I work for them. The only limits to such are with regards to the privacy of the parties and the ethical duties of a judge with regards to publication of statements made outside of judicial proceedings.</p>
<p><b>Morgan Elizabeth Cole</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> morgancoleforjudge@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> www.morgancoleforjudge.com <i>Facebook page:</i> https://www.facebook.com/MorganColeforJudge/</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Juris Doctor - Thomas M. Cooley Law School; Bachelor of Arts -Criminology - West Virginia University</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 502-593-6506 <i>Address:</i> 4449 Alderwood Dr, Okemos 48864</p>	<p>I currently serve as the Ingham County Probate Register/Court Administrator and have worked for the County’s courts since 2013. We need someone with both legal and life experiences, who can make difficult decisions with common sense and compassion. This is not for the faint of heart and it takes energy and patience. I can do more to serve the courts and the public – thus, I’ve entered the race for Circuit Court Judge. I gained the trust and respect of those who know my professional qualifications best. I am endorsed by 7 of the County’s 9 Circuit and Probate Court Judges – including Judge Clinton Canady III, whose impending retirement creates this open judicial seat. In my experience, outcomes are better when we: preserve families, provide early treatment and intervention; reduce protracted litigation in civil matters; intervene when kids are exposed to domestic violence and substance abuse. Justice delayed is justice denied. Judges must make every effort to move the docket fairly.</p>	<p>I support mainstream criminal justice reforms, such as treatment courts. These specialized courts allow our system to provide individualized services and resolve cases outside of the traditional criminal justice system. Veteran’s Courts, for example, allow those who have served our country to work directly with fellow veterans in their treatment. Specialized treatment courts also allow collaborative agencies to work in true partnership, including police, prosecutors, courts, mental health providers, and others. They allow for accountability and supervision as well. These kinds of services and support aren’t available if any one agency does a solo project. I support continuing the treatment court model and if new offenses are added, they should be agreed upon by police, prosecutors, and courts. I’d like to see greater collaboration across agencies, so that we can work together to address serious crimes and reduce recidivism.</p>	<p>In my career with Ingham County’s court system, I’ve done a substantial amount of work to engage with the public and provide information about our courts. For example, I recently spoke with the Realtors Association and presented on Probate Court issues that their membership typically encounters. I will continue this kind of public and community engagement if elected to serve as Circuit Judge. I’ve also been endorsed by numerous community groups and labor organizations that represent thousands of working families in Ingham County, including: The Greater Lansing AFL-CIO Labor Council, Building and Construction Trades, UAW, Laborers, and affiliated locals. I’ve seen first-hand the positive environment created by a collectively-bargained work place, as our Circuit Court is a unionized environment. The court system is a method to provide justice, resolve disputes, and create safety. If elected, I will help our community understand how our courts can work to provide justice for all.</p>

“When we vote, our values are put into action and our voices are heard.  
Your voice is a reminder that you matter because you do,  
and you deserve to be heard.”

Meghan Markle

54 A District Court Judge

The **District Court** is where most people come in contact with Michigan’s court system. District Court judges handle civil litigation with claims up to \$25,000, most traffic violations, eviction procedures, landlord tenant matters and misdemeanor criminal cases. They also conduct preliminary examinations in all felony cases and the court administers a small claims division. The state legislature designates district courts, based on population and caseload.

**Non Partisan**                      **Term: 6 Years**                      **Choose 2**

	1. Please describe your qualifications and experience and explain why you are running for the position.	2. What is your position regarding alternative courts to meet community needs?	3. Do judges have an obligation to improve public understanding of the courts?
<p><b>Tony Flores</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> tflores@retaintonyfloresforjudge.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> retaintonyfloresforjudge.com</p> <p><i>Facebook Page:</i> www.facebook.com/JudgeTonyFlores</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Juris Doctorate</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-420-3265</p> <p><i>Campaign Address:</i> PO Box 14334, Lansing, MI 48901</p>	<p>I am running to retain my position as City of Lansing District Court Judge. I was appointed in March of 2022, after being interviewed by the State Bar of Michigan appointments committee and interviewing with the Governor’s staff and counsel. I have been working in the mid-Michigan legal community since 1992. My career path brought me to District Court judge after years of serving the Ingham County community as an assistant prosecutor (11 Years) and a law professor(16 Years). The courts have always been intimidating to the general public and my experience as a trial attorney and as an educator reaffirmed my commitment to making the courts more approachable and less intimidating. Every day as a sitting judge, I have the opportunity to serve the City of Lansing by creating an atmosphere that is welcoming to litigants. My docket includes misdemeanors, City of Lansing ordinance violations, landlord tenant matters, civil cases, and felony crimes.</p>	<p>Alternative courts and specialty courts have allowed the bench to reach out and serve members of the community who are in need of specific services. In many instances, alternative courts allow services which may specifically serve those afflicted with alcohol, drug, mental health, veterans court, and anger management issues. These courts allow the available services to be tailored to the issues of the individual which decreases the use of incarceration. For example, the issues that are realistically called upon for a judge to analyze, which typically could include a code compliance junk case or an animal control neglect case, may be indicative that a party in the case is affected by a mental health issue. Specialty courts allow the court to use resources that will effectively try to help the person with underlying issues which may result in behavior which is not criminal.</p>	<p>Yes, absolutely “Yes.” In the City of Lansing we have adopted videos introduced by the current bench to play on the City Access Channel to help teach the public to navigate the potentially intimidating process of going to court. Courts and judges have a responsibility to provide the citizens who appear in court a worthwhile learning experience which allows the public to trust decisions made by the bench. The only way to create this environment is to make the courts understandable and provide the public with materials and representation to explain the legal process. Judges learn about their community by being out in the community. The greatest sense that a judge can use is to listen. In the City of Lansing, I have attended meetings at community centers, neighborhood watch associations, and events in which members of the community discuss what issues have arisen in their areas.</p>
<p><b>Brian T. Jackson</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> briantjacksonforjudge@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.briant-jacksonforjudge.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> Elect Brian Jackson for Lansing 54-A Judge</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Sexton H.S.; B.A Political Science; M.A. Criminal Justice; J.D. Howard University School of Law</p>	<p>As LANSING’S HOMETOWN CANDIDATE, I am uniquely qualified for 54A Judge. My background and experiences in Lansing are relevant. I was born and graduated from school here. I earned a MA in Crim. Justice, and JD from Howard Univ. where I learned about Social Justice. I moved home to contribute. I teach “Know Your Rights” seminars by combing Constitutional Law, and role-play. I have a lifetime of relationships and experiences in Lansing that I will use to empathize with people.</p> <p>I have RELEVANT LEGAL EXPERIENCE as a prosecutor and helped victims’ of crime. I am a Public Defender and notice the effects that our system has on people and families. I see the problems of over-criminalizing addiction and mental illnesses.</p> <p>I AM RUNNING FOR JUDGE BECAUSE I have the ability to help people in my hometown and it’s my duty. I learned what is necessary and unnecessary for public safety and will use my discretion appropriately for the People. I was told to “Be the Change that you want to see.”</p>	<p>SPECIALTY COURTS ARE IMPORTANT to meet community needs. Lansing has special needs populations that the traditional Court system is not adequately equipped for. Specialty Courts are designed to assist offenders with their underlying challenges, like mental illnesses &amp; addiction, that contributed to the criminal behavior. SPECIALTY COURTS SHOULD BE EXPANDED as there are not enough spaces available and too many limitations for entry. I would advocate to expand access to Specialty Courts and to establish a new Housing Insecurity Specialty Court to help people who commit crimes as a result of housing insecurity. A true alternative Court would be even further removed from formal Court. Restorative Practices have been used in many settings and focus and repairing the harm caused by offending. RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES as an alternative Court would meet community needs because it would address the needs of all the parties and would divert people away from the Criminal Justice System.</p>	<p>YES, Judges have a legal and ethical obligation to improve the public’s understanding of courts. Judges are governed by the “Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct.” The first rule reads in-part that, “a judge should always be aware that the Judicial System is for the benefit of the litigant and the public, not the judiciary.” Public access and understanding of the Court system is very important because Law and Courts govern people’s lives. If people do not understand the Court system, they are limited to what they can accomplish. The law reads that Courts are to benefit the public, not the Judge, therefore I believe that a Judge must improve the public’s understanding of Courts because Judges serve the Public.</p>
<p><b>Kristen D. Simmons</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> win@votejudgesimmons.com</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.vote-judgesimmons.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> https://www.facebook.com/votejudgesimmons</p>	<p>I am the former Litigation Manager for the Michigan Department of Corrections. I have served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of MI where I was a Litigation Attorney. I have served as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Lansing at which time I was the Legal Advisor to the Lansing Police Department and Police Board of Commissioners. I have served as a public defense attorney in Ingham County and Adjunct Professor at Lansing Community College where I taught Legal Writing,</p>	<p>I am not only in full support of speciality court programs, I serve as the back up judge to the 54A District Court’s Sobriety Court. I am also working with our criminal justice and community partners to pilot a community court specialty court that would serve to be a problem-solving court to address criminal actions that stem from poverty or lack of resource in a more effective and result driven manner.</p>	<p>We absolutely do. Judges play an essential and unique role in our society. It is imperative that judges continously educate the public on the role of the courts and how to best access the courts resources.</p>

	1. Please describe your qualifications and experience and explain why you are running for the position.	2. What is your position regarding alternative courts to meet community needs?	3. Do judges have an obligation to improve public understanding of the courts?
<p><i>Education:</i> BA-Hamp-ton University, JD-Western MI University Thomas M. Cooley Law School</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-258-1325</p> <p><i>Address:</i> PO BOX 27073, Lan-sing, 48909</p>	<p>Business Law and piloted a Family Law Clinic. I have litigated cases in every court in Ingham County, in the Federal Courts of both the West-ern and Eastern District and I have successfully argued before the MI Court of Appeals. I have served 54A District Court since my ap-pointment in 2019. I am passionate about my community with a demonstrated record of com-munity service. I believe in the fair and impartial application of the law and I seek to continue my service to thus community from the bench.</p>		

56 A District Court Judge

The **District Court** is where most people come in contact with Michigan’s court system. District Court judges handle civil litigation with claims up to \$25,000, most traffic violations, eviction procedures, landlord tenant matters and misdemeanor criminal cases. They also conduct preliminary examinations in all fel-ony cases and the court administers a small claims division. The state legislature designates district courts, based on population and caseload.

**Non Partisan**

**Term: 6 Years**

**Choose 1**

	1. Please describe your qualifications and experience and explain why you are running for the position.	2. What is your position regarding alternative courts to meet community needs?	3. Do judges have an obligation to improve public understanding of the courts?
<p><b>Julie O’Neill</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> reelectjudgeoneill@gmail.com <i>Website:</i> www.re-electjudgeoneill.com Facebook: Reelect Judge O'Neill</p> <p><i>Education:</i> B.A. Crim-inal Justice, Michigan State Univ &amp; J.D. w/ Litigation Specialty, Thomas M. Cooley Law</p> <p><i>Address:</i> CTE Judge Julie O'Neill, P.O. Box 415, Charlotte, MI 48813</p>	<p>Before attending law school, I worked as a Youth Specialist at a girls home in Jackson, MI and at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) home. While in law school I completed an Internship at the MI Attorney General’s Office, Tort Division and worked for over three years as a Senior Law Clerk for Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC). I graduated from Thomas M. Cooley Law School where I not only received a Juris Doctorate Degree, I also earned a Litigation Specialty designation and was a Leadership Award Recipient. From that day on I have worked across Eaton County, the State of Michigan, including Federal Courts, by practicing law daily for over fourteen years and an Adjunct Law Professor. I ran for an open district court judicial seat in 2016. I won the election and took the bench in January 2017. I am running for reelection to continue the important work of protecting public safety while balancing the rights of all parties and ensuring that justice is accessible for all.</p>	<p>Alternative courts, also known as Problem Serv-ing Courts, are an essential component required to meet the needs of the community and also to promote immediate and long term positive change for the individual and eventually our community at large. I run an intensive Sobriety Hybrid Drug Treatment Court where myself and my skilled staff and treatment providers work together in a strict but supportive environment providing treatment, counseling, testing and mental health services over a 24 month period to a person who has been determined to have a dependency issue in need of treatment. The work is hard but life changing! To see a person become sober, remain sober and then change every aspect of their life, becoming a productive member of society and the person and or parent they always wanted to be is incredible and beneficial to everyone in the community. My Sobriety Hybrid Drug Court program currently has a 100% success rate and was just re-certi-fied by the Michigan Supreme Court.</p>	<p>Judges do have an obligation to improve the public understanding of the courts. The first part of that is to make sure that justice is accessible to all by having access to the courts, staying open to the public, and when not possible, allowing zoom access. It is the responsibility of the Judge to set the stage as to how people are going to be received in their courtroom. I believe that as a Judge, I work for the people of Eaton County, and each person who enters the court-house and my courtroom for whatever reason shall be heard and treated with respect. The court should also have user friendly information available on its website and in the courthouse. Being a lifelong Eaton County resident, I have a strong connection and commitment to my community so I participate in mentor program-ming, Vice Chair of the Community Corrections Board, a current Rotary Member, Vice President of the Palliative Care Board, read to elementary students, guest speak at colleges and attend local events.</p>
<p><b>Ryan John Tetloff</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> ryan@Tetl-off4judge.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> www.Tetloff4Judge.com</p> <p><i>Facebook Page:</i> https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083750047917</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 989-615-3583</p> <p><i>Address:</i> PO Box 404 Potter-ville MI 48876</p>	<p>Part of the job comes with judging character and judging character comes from having life experiences. I started my first job at 15 years as a lifeguard. I worked out of Local 692 as an electrical apprentice, worked retail, and on an assembly line. With experience as a public de-fender and a prosecutor, plaintiffs and defense attorney, I understand there is more than one side to a story. When I started my career almost 14 years ago I was fresh out of law school and dove into private practice. I had the opportunity to be a public defender for about 5 1/2 years where I was a zealous advocate for my clients both retained and appointed. For the last 7 1/2 years I’ve been an assistant prosecutor right here in Eaton County serving our communi-ty. I started my assignment in the very same courtroom I’m running for Judge. I’m running for District Court Judge because I believe in victim’s rights, accountability, and hard work. It’s time to make victim’s rights a priority again.</p>	<p>I believe treatment courts serve a serve a very useful function. I understand there are people struggling with substance abuse issues and sometimes people make a mistake. I have no problem giving someone a chance at re-rehabilita-tion and the ultimate goal of these treatment courts is to give someone the tools needed to overcome addiction and be a valued and successful member of society. Over the last 7 1/2 years I have been a team member for the following specialty courts: J. Sauter Veteran’s Treatment court, Felony Sobriety Court, Adult Circuit Drug Court, Swift and Sure Sanctions Program, Domestic Violence Treatment Court, and District Court Hybrid Court. A few of these specialty courts are an alternative to prison. I have seen first hand people overcome addiction and receive the help needed to better their life because biggest part of these specialty courts is accountability and the ultimate goal is rehabilita-tion. If we cant rehabilitate then the alternative is incarceration.</p>	<p>I think all attorney’s including judges have a moral obligation to help improve public understanding of the courts. The court is always changing with updated court rules and law. The court process can be tricky even to attorneys and the more informed the public on court matters the better they can navigate the court process. Hopefully nobody needs to come to court because that usually means they are a victim or a defendant to a case and neither is very favorable. Regardless of the circumstance, the more the public knows about the court system and the more transparent the court process, it typically leads to efficiency and accountability for everyone involved includ-ing judges.</p>



**Lansing Public Schools**  
The **Lansing Board of Education** is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan**      **6 year term expiring 12/31/2028**      **Choose 3 candidates**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Caitlin Cavanagh</b>  <i>Email:</i> committee4Cait-Cav@g mail.com  <i>Website:</i> www.caitcav.com  <i>Facebook:</i> https://www.facebook.com/Caitlin-Cavanagh-for-Lansing-Board-of-Education-101494139310079  <i>Education:</i> PhD- University of California, Irvine (UCI); MA- UCI; BA- University of Rochester  <i>Phone:</i> 3157623431  <i>Address:</i> 2108 Heights Ave, Lansing 48912	<p>I have served on the Lansing Board of Education since I was appointed to fill a vacancy in April 2022.</p> <p>Education Experience: I am a tenured professor and Director of Undergraduate Education in the School of Criminal Justice at MSU. My Ph.D. is in developmental psychology. I study how to make youth-serving systems (juvenile justice system; child welfare system; education system) more effective, equitable, and supportive of youths' developmental needs. I am a founding member of MSU's Youth Equity Project.</p> <p>Policy Experience: At the county level, I manage and analyze all juvenile justice data for the 30th Circuit Court- Family Div. to adjust programming to respond to youths' needs. At the state level, I consult for the Michigan Association for Family Court Administration to promote evidence- based, developmentally-sound practice in juvenile courts across MI. At the international level, I was a staffer in the European Union Parliament (equivalent to the US House of Representatives).</p>	<p>The primary role of the Board of Education is to determine policy in schools. I advocate for evidence-based policy that is responsive to students' developmental needs.</p> <p>My top three priorities are: 1. Diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice. The Lansing School District's equity audit revealed the many ways Black, Brown, and multiracial students are systematically disenfranchised. The Board's new Equity Advisory Committee is a step toward addressing this issue. However, I particularly care about dismantling the School-to-Prison Pipeline. 2. Pivoting from the pandemic so that students, parents, teachers, and staff feel supported, valued, and safe. Addressing youth violence. As Research Advisor to Ingham County's juvenile court, I understand our community's concerns about youth violence through the raw numbers. However, as a nationally-recognized expert in adolescent development and juvenile justice, I have the skills to advance policies that most effectively address this challenge.</p>	<p>As we find ways to live with COVID19, the pandemic impacts schools in several actionable ways. First, getting children (re)enrolled in school is necessary to make sure they do not slip through the cracks. Second, employee burnout is widespread, given the enormous asks on teachers' and staffs' time and psychological resources. Attending to faculty and staff retention and recruitment is the only way schools can continue to be staffed safely. Third, proactive measures are needed to protect public health within schools. The new bond sets aside funding for infrastructure improvements and air filtration, which are sound public health practices. Lastly, the pandemic is an opportunity to re- evaluate students' skills and needs, the structure of schools, and to redress inequities that became entrenched over the last several years. We need to be responsive to input from families about what new and continuing challenges they face in the current social and economic landscape.</p>	<p>I see educators, parents, students, and members of the community as equal stakeholders working genuinely toward the same goal: a positive future for our children, and by extension, our community. Each of these groups brings a unique perspective and expertise on how best to prepare for success.</p> <p>As a Trustee on the Board of Education, I will seek out the perspectives of each of those groups to foster a good faith conversation about how to provide students with the best possible education.</p> <p>I believe that conversations regarding curriculum should happen transparently, and decisions should be evidence-based. I believe that students need to feel comfortable and supported in the classroom; our classrooms must provide each child with an opportunity to be understood. Above all, I believe that learning should be applicable, empowering, and joyful.</p>
<b>Kurt Richardson</b>  <i>Email:</i> kurtsinrichardson@gma il.com  <i>Education:</i> Michigan State University  <i>Phone:</i> 5178623608	<p>I am a proud product of the Lansing School District. I graduated from Lansing Eastern High school in 1998. In the quarter century since then I have hired, trained, and led several hundred employees from all walks of life, and created opportunities for my family and myself that would have seemed impossible when living in public housing 25 years ago. I have also been fortunate to be mentored by some of the brightest members of the mid-Michigan community. For the past ten years I have been an alyhse students live on MSU's campus with our team. We teach SAT prep, mindset development, and physical education. Hundreds of students have SIGNIFICANTLY increased their PSAT or PACT score with our help.QQÃ</p>	<p>In my view, the most important role of the school board is to create, shape, and influence local, state, and federal policies to ensure the district has access to resources that meet the needs of all students within the district. Additionally, I believe the board must accept the responsibility of securing new and innovative tools for employees of the district to enthusiastically aid our student population in meeting their full potential. A great board member has the ability to articulate the needs of the students and educators and be persuasive in ensuring those needs are accounted for in the budget. My three main priorities would be: -Ensure school is for everyone. This means that we are ensuring that school is meeting the</p>	<p>Learning from home during the pandemic was not the optimal, and sometimes not even the safest, environment for many students to learn in. The school board must create budgetary framework that accommodates for after school resources (including IT, tutoring, and transportation access) that allow students to stay current in their current academic year while simultaneously working to bridge the foundational education gaps that were formed during the remote learning periods in our recent past. The building block nature of learning demands that we have a plan in place to assess and triage the gaps created through the pandemic. This is a necessity, not a luxury!</p>	<p>I am looking at this question through the lens of making school for everyone again. Because of pressures to measure teacher success, along with budgetary cutbacks, we are not ensuring that public school meets the needs of all of the public. Our system has become a hostage of test taking at worst or a an indiscriminate conveyor belt to college (regardless of an individual's inclination) at best. This hinders educator creativity and fuels student apathy towards curriculum.</p> <p>We have an underemployment issue in the college graduate demographic. Individuals in that group also represents an overinvestment problem where the ROI of a</p>

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
		needs of students who will not continue their formal education after twelfth grade -Create more opportunities for public private collaboration via mentoring or paraprofessional educational facilitation -Ensure students, parents, and educator's voices are heard		college degree is becoming more and more out of line as an investment. We also have a crumbling infrastructure problem because we are sorely deficient in capable trades men and women partly due to the pressure to go to college. Failing to ensure that college is for everyone further exacerbates those three issues and fatigues students interested in other paths.
<b>Ryan J. Smith</b>  <i>Email:</i> igotitsports@aol.com  <i>Education:</i> Attended Michigan State University  <i>Phone:</i> 5178818291  <i>Address:</i> 3705 Parula Dr East Lansing, MI 48823	I have served as President of the Printer's Row Condo Association, the President of the Cherry Hill neighborhood in Lansing and currently serve as the Vice President of the HawkNest neighborhood. My times in these posts has prepared me for how formal government operates and has allowed me to build relationships throughout the community. But the most important experience comes from being a parent. I understand the trials and tribulations of being a parent and the desire for our children to be happy and to succeed. I look forward to having dialog with teachers- students-parents and administrators to ensure everyone's voice is heard and together finding solutions and ideas to drive the district forward.	Every school board is supposed to represent the beliefs and ideals of the community it serves. It is tasked of overseeing the job of the superintendent and helping them execute the community's educational objectives. It is important that a strong board is discussing issues within the community and sharing those responses with the superintendent and making sure they are doing their best to address them. My priorities as a board member would be: 1. Creating better communication lines between students- parents- teachers- administrators and the board of education. The people with the best understanding are the ones involved in the schools, to make the best decisions possible I must have constant feedback and information from the stakeholders. Safety is imperative to a successful school district. It is my duty and obligation to make sure that every child that walks through those doors is safe. We will as a community continuously discuss how we accomplish that goal.	Ideally, we look to lower the student to teacher ratio in our classrooms. This would allow more time for teachers to spend with students and would help these students catch up. We also need to do better in creating productive learning environments. We must make sure that negative distractions are identified and nullified if possible. We could also look to hire spare teachers that could jump into different classrooms and help support existing staff when issues occur. This would help increase one on one time with students which is productive. Lastly, we could extend the calendar year. Studies show that more time in school is productive, an extra 2 or 3 days could be very beneficial not just for those who are struggling, but for all of the students in the district	Like I mentioned above, we need to do a better job with stakeholder engagement. Whether that is having coffee with teachers in the teachers' lounge, talking to students in the lunchroom or having office hours with parents. It is essential to always be having discussions about how to make the district better. It is important that everyone feels apart of the process. From the student, parent, teacher, administrator, superintendent and board of education member. We all have a job to do, and we need to work together to make Lansing School District the best it can be.
<b>Anthony J. Strevett</b>  <i>Email:</i> astrevett@yahoo.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Rick Wendorf</b>  <i>Email:</i> drrick1162@aol.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Rosalyn Williams</b>  <i>Email:</i> williamsgriffinrosalyn@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			

**Lansing Public Schools**  
The **Lansing Board of Education** is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan**      **4 year term expiring 12/31/2026**      **Choose 4 candidates**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Lind Brown-Wren</b>  <i>Email:</i> linden@brownwren.com  <i>Web Site:</i> www.brownwren.com  <i>Facebook page:</i> Lind Brown-Wren for East Lansing School Board	My primary qualification is that I am a parent to three children, two of which are current East Lansing Public School (ELPS) students. As a lifelong resident of the Lansing area, I have had a myriad of different roles in the community throughout the years. I sit on the board at Red Cedar Elementary PTO, I have been on the board at Salus Center, our local LGBTQIA+ community center, and am employed as their Building Director. I have lead several troops as a Girl Scout Leader for over 5 years, and helped my daughter's middle school form a Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA). It is an honor and privilege to serve my community by raising awareness about diverse families like mine.	I see the role of the school board to support students and teachers and to advocate for groups whose voices are not always heard. My priorities would be to support the intersectional needs of both students and staff. When making decisions, we must take into account the many cultures, races, gender identities, gender orientations, disabilities, economic needs, and religious identities of our school community. We need to prioritize reaching underserved students who may not have the same access to community enrichment programs as their peers. ELPS has a responsibility to be an oasis of safety to these communities rather than trying to assimilate them into the status quo.	As a parent who has seen firsthand the struggles that students had during this most tenuous chapter, in my experience, students are better able to reach their potential when their whole selves are supported. ELPS needs to continue to prioritize mental health support, to expand afterschool and summer programs, and to increase technology access for students in all grade levels. Extended School Year (ESY) programs should be funded, staffed, and expanded to reach more students who are in dire need of ongoing access to school safety nets and require extra school enrichment for advancement. At all grade levels, but especially at Middle School, students should have access to more extracurricular activities to round out their education. Our school district should be leading the area in opportunities, rather than failing to meet the minimum standard. There should be equal access to enrichment activities across the district.	As a parent, I know my children benefit from learning about diverse communities and experiences to prepare for their increasingly intersectional lives outside of school. As a school board member, it would be my job to integrate feedback from educators, students, and parents alike about the topics that move them, the systems of education, and the health and safety concerns that keep them awake at night. Despite having different ways of approaching it, we all want our children to be safe, prepared, and informed so that they can find their way in the world. My tendency is to try and find similar ground as a jumping off point, and then re-center the humanity of groups that we may have forgotten to consider or include.
<b>Terah Chambers</b>  <i>Email:</i> venzant@gmail.com  <i>Facebook page:</i> www.facebook.com/TerahChambersforBOE  <i>Education:</i> Ph.D., Educational Policy Studies, University of Illinois  <i>Phone:</i> 8324213456  <i>Address:</i> 342 Southlawn Avenue, East Lansing 48823	There are three experiences that have prepared me to be school board member. First, I bring the experience of doing the job. I have served on the ELPS school board for the last five years. I started this role in an appointed position in 2016 and then ran for an elected position in 2017. Second, I bring professional expertise. I am a professor of K-12 Educational Administration in the College of Education at MSU, where I work with current and aspiring principals, superintendents, and other central office administrators. Finally, I bring a deep commitment to supporting the needs of all students through the lens of equity and social justice, which carries through from my research focus on Black and Latinx students in K-12 settings.	According to the Michigan Association of School Boards*, the official role of the school board is to help set goals, establish policy, evaluate the superintendent, review the budget, approve curriculum, and determine school facility needs. However, unofficially, we serve an important “checks and balances” role between district administration and the broader community. And, as a result, to “cheerlead” when things are going well (and on the other hand, to set clear expectations for change if the superintendent and their team moves in a direction in contrast to community goals). Ultimately, a good board member works collaboratively with various community stakeholders, including students, teachers, and parents but especially the superintendent, to fulfill the ELPS Mission of “Nurturing Each Child, Educating All Stu-	The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing challenges and introduced new ones. Certainly, no students made as much academic progress during this period as they would have had we not faced this crisis. Thus, I would push back against the idea that any students have “fallen behind” because these kinds of metrics just are not helpful in a situation like we have faced for the last two and a half years. That said, our district educators have stepped up during this unprecedented time to anticipate and proactively address the mental health and educational needs of our students. I recognize that we will see the impact of this pandemic for some time. To support our amazing team, we used COVID relief funds and district resources to hire additional mental health professionals and counselors, offer summer learn-	Curriculum adoption is one of the most important functions of a school district; gathering feedback from educators, parents, students, and other community stakeholders is a critical component of the process. In addition to representing a significant cost, curriculum adoption is also the foundation to the educational program we offer as a district. Thus, it is important to take our time and get it right. ELPS is fortunate to have a curriculum director who has a robust process for curriculum review and adoption. The process includes assembling expert teams with diverse memberships to review and pilot various curricula and present their findings along with the proposed curricula to the broader community for feedback. The process is not perfect (no process is) and so there is an opportunity to refine our method to be more



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		dents, and Building World Citizens.” Continuing to support our awesome team in that mission would be my priority. *https://masb.org/school-boards.aspx	ing opportunities, and participate in various local, state, and federal health and safety programs that have helped us continue to offer critical programming throughout the pandemic.	responsive to community needs. However, I also deeply believe our expert educators will include stakeholder feedback because that has been our general practice.
<b>Amanda Cormier</b>  <i>Email:</i> eschieama@gmail.com  <i>Education:</i> Bachelors of Arts, Michigan State University; Masters of Professional Studies, Manhattanville College	I am a mother, a former special education teacher, I’ve worked in arts education administration, and I have a Master’s degree in Elementary Education and Special Education. I’ve worked with children K-12, in public schools, special day schools, and in a museum education setting. I have experience working with community partners to provide unique and equitable opportunities to students. I am also one of the Nassar survivors and know firsthand what it looks like when a Board puts their own self-interest before the needs of their community. I hope to be an honest and thoughtful board member who puts student needs above all else.	The role of a school board is to create policies that reflect the needs of the district and community they serve. My priorities as a school board member would be to serve the needs of students first.	I would support funding for the school district to provide tutoring help after school, and more therapists in school to support students with the emotional toll of the pandemic. I’d look for ways to support teachers in and out of the classroom and help them adapt the curriculum to what they feel their students need. I’d also like to make families aware of community partners that are there to help.	I would like to hear more from teachers about how students are doing with the current curriculum. So often new curriculums are brought in without enough consideration from the people who are actually teaching it and how students respond to it. I would want to hear from the people it most directly affects when considering curriculum choices.
<b>Steven J. Davis</b>  <i>Email:</i> steven.davis06@gmail.com	My priorities as a school board member would be to serve the needs of students first.			
<b>Kath Edsall</b>  <i>Email:</i> kathedsall@yahoo.com  <i>Facebook:</i> Kath Edsall for School Board  <i>Education:</i> MSU BS, DVM, MBA  Phone: 517-214-0552  <i>Address:</i> 1026 Daisy LN, East Lansing, MI 48823	I have had the honor to serve the East Lansing community for 8 years as a school board member including six years as the board treasurer. Prior to serving, I participated in school council, served as council treasurer, served on the K-8 facilities committee, the Bond Yes committee, the Sex Education Advisory Board, the Marble Equity Team and other duties as needed to support our teachers, students and help our district to live up to its potential.	In the strictest terms, the role of the school board is to hire the superintendent, set policy, articulate the district’s goals and evaluate the superintendent based on those goals. All of these duties are influenced by the will of the board. Setting goals that establish the direction of the district is tantamount. During my time of service, I have pushed to make our district more inclusive of the needs of all students, to identify systemic racism in our institution and work to make change, to support the hiring of a more diverse staff, to write policy that protects our LGBTQIA+ students and staff, to end expulsions, introduce restorative justice practices, bring our Sex Education Advisory Board into compliance with state law, to protect the mental health of all of our students, to support our racially marginalized students through academic supports as well as decreased disciplinary referrals and to update our elementary schools.	The district has already and will continue to utilize resources to focus on students who are struggling both academically and emotionally due to the pandemic. The past two summers we held summer school academic programs for a large number of our students to work on lost or never obtained skills. Our focus on mental health has included Tier 1 programs, additional social workers and support personnel for students who are struggling emotionally and hiring student advocates.	This past year, under the guidance of our curriculum director, we reviewed and replaced three different curricula: middle school math, middle school social studies and K-5 reading. This was a year long process that included evaluating multiple curricula for each department. The process included using an equity tool to evaluate each, as well as getting parent and student input. Select groups of teachers then reviewed

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<p><b>Tali Faris-Hylen</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> tali@ripplepublicrelations.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/TaliFarisHylenforELBOE</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, MSU</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517.896.2945</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 609 Beech St. East Lansing 48823</p>	<p>I began in 2013 as a class-room parent and became Marble’s Council Secretary and President, Fun Run Chair, and Co-Founder and Secretary of Equity Team.</p> <p>After noticing a need for more support in the Marble cafeteria, I began volunteering during breakfast every day, helping kids finish in order to make it to class on time from 2015- March 2020.</p> <p>I served as the Communications Manager on the YES for East Lansing Schools Bond campaign in 2017, managing the team communications/ social media, representing at forums, and canvassing our neighborhoods. It’s the work of this committee that helped to pass the Bond within a community divided.</p> <p>I work with MMS administration on equity initiatives and serve as the Co-President of Council. I’ve organized clothing/ personal needs drives within ELPS and have helped plan three docs/ panels at ELHS to promote community engagement.</p> <p>I served as secretary of Bailey Community Association and understand neighborhood needs/ concerns as they relate to our schools.</p>	<p>Members of the school board serve to facilitate administrative initiatives, help with the hiring process, and write and update policy.</p> <p>Fortunately, East Lansing Public Schools has a strong administration in place already and as a board member, I hope to support continued progress when it comes to: equity and inclusion, diversity in staff hires, advocating for greater teacher compensation and acknowledgement of work/successes, LGBTQ+ representation, equitable curriculum, continued mental health awareness, and continued professional development centered around trauma, implicit bias, equity and more.</p>	<p>Continuation of mental health services and support.</p> <p>Additional academic supports for students including increased reading intervention. Special education programming accessible to more students.</p> <p>Anything in support of closing the opportunity gap that only grew throughout the pandemic.</p>	<p>Our administrative staff and teachers are the experts. I want to keep that at the center of everything while connecting the community and honestly, encouraging better treatment and more respect given to those within our district doing the hard work.</p> <p>Interests vary when you have skin in the game, whether it be a parent wanting more diverse curriculum choices for their child, a student wanting a more challenging curriculum, or a community understanding what kinds of lessons and intentional curriculum choices make for prepared citizens entering into the world post graduation.</p> <p>How do we bring it all together? Listen to the educators first. Follow the data when it’s relevant. Consider all others for input and ideas.</p>
<p><b>Mike Feldpausch</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> mfeldpausch62@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> Mike Feldpausch for East Lansing School Board</p> <p><i>Education:</i> BA, College of Business, Michigan State University</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-582-1083</p> <p><i>Address:</i> PO Box 4938 East Lansing, MI 48826</p>	<p>I have children in an East Lansing public school. I have attended school board meetings for about a year. I am a lifelong area resident who has been a private sector employee, a government employee and a small business owner. My company serves and employs people of all races, backgrounds and income levels. I live in a racially diverse neighborhood and have fostered racially diverse children. I believe this varied life experience enables me to better understand what mix of intellectual challenges and social values schools need to stress to increase a child’s chances for success in school and beyond.</p>	<p>To provide oversight and guidance to the superintendent and school administrators rather than manage day to day operations.</p> <p>My priorities would be to make sure the board is responsive to the parents and caregivers of the students, seeks their input and engages in sustained two-way discussions with them. Also to ensure that parents and caregivers understand the board’s recommendations and decisions and that ample notice is provided to parents and caregivers for changes in policies and practices. To make sure the ELPS site is easy to navigate to find board videos, the zoom meeting link and other information parents and caregivers might need.</p>	<p>I don’t know that all such support needs to cost money or, a lot of money. The district could reach out to MSU to get student volunteers to meet with and tutor those who have fallen behind. Parent volunteers could also be recruited to help. Perhaps the school day could be extended a little to achieve more learning for those who need it.</p> <p>Evaluating summer school and seeing if it could be operated more efficiently to address the needs of these students may also prove helpful.</p>	<p>It is important that parents and caregivers have full and easy access to the curriculum so as to enable them to be better involved in their children’s education. I think the board must achieve an understanding of what students in the district need to know and be able to do, and it must be able to assess how critical thinking can best be fostered as a foundation of that education.</p> <p>The board must have an understanding that longitudinally researched and tested curricula need to be given priority over those that lack such research and testing. Maximizing the academic achievement of all students should be the top priority. This will ensure that mature, well rounded students graduate from East Lansing public schools. They will then be equipped to continue their education, learn a trade or enter the work force as contributing members of the community.</p>

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<p><b>Jim McEvoy</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> jimforelsb@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.jimforelsb.org</p> <p><i>Facebook</i> www.facebook.com/JimForELSB</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Master's in Health Services Administration, Bachelor's in Psychology</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 5174206937</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 620 Dunbar Court, East Lansing 48823</p>	<p>Personally, I have four kids at ELPS at the elementary, middle and high school. My wife Carin is the music teacher at Donley elementary. We love living here! Professionally, I've worked for AmeriCorps teaching young adults 18-21. Then spent a couple years at Michigan Works supporting young adults experiencing challenges (e.g. they had young babies, lack of stable housing) in seeking work. For the last 16 years I've worked in supporting access and quality improvement in Medicaid. My work right now primarily focuses on behavioral health, the justice involved population, and health equity. Carin and I have had many conversations about the challenge given to education and health care to remediate systemic poverty, improve equity and stabilize mental health. My experience advising leaders of Medicaid programs in making organizational change coupled with the knowledge gained about education would make me a strong board member in continuing the great work ELPS is already doing.</p>	<p>The role of the school board is to represent the community in running the schools. It's important that each school board member hold a set of beliefs, but that they also listen to feedback from the community from all perspectives. I believe we are the ears and eyes of the community for the superintendent. I also believe that the school board is responsible for creating an environment of transparency. Finally, I do think the school board should celebrate the successes of our schools. As a candidate, I believe in prioritizing mental health for students. I believe in prioritizing the support of teachers in both delivering the best education possible for our kids AND in ensuring that teachers are able to care for themselves. I will prioritize helping kids be their authentic selves both today and through the growth in their education and worldview. We will work together to give every ELPS student the opportunity to succeed as their authentic self.</p>	<p>A significant portion of my campaign is going to focus on how to help kids who suffered mental health challenges during the pandemic. Recently, the federal government has made billions of dollars available to schools to help kids recover from the mental health toll of the pandemic and I would like to encourage ELPS to take advantage of those dollars as best I can. Similarly, during the pandemic the schools were able to feed kids with lunches and breakfast at no cost. This is a fantastic example of supporting kids in educational success through addressing basic needs of the kids. As a school board member, I would continue to prioritize the needs outside the classroom to ensure success inside the classroom.</p>	<p>I will listen to anyone who presents their concerns about anything respectfully and in good faith. I will seek common ground where we can work together and seek to understand each other where we cannot agree. It's the board's role to represent the community both with personal views and the gathered feedback from educators, parents and students. When I served on the Mental Health Advisory Board last year the most valuable input was often from the students. It's important to hold that community feedback when addressing the curriculum. That said, I believe it is not the board's place to critique the curriculum unless the curriculum directly causes harm to students, educators or the community. If the board believes the curriculum is causing harm, it is the board's job to require transparency from the district and ask the school to address the issues. I believe strongly in the current curriculum at ELPS and want to see us continue to build students into their most authentic selves.</p>
<p><b>Tyler Allan Smith</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> tyler.smith.school-board@gmail.com</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond by print deadline.</p>			
<p><b>Rob Sumbler</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> rob@sumblerforel.com</p> <p><i>Website:</i> sumblerforel.com</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/SumblerforEL</p>	<p>The single largest factor that has prepared me for the school board, is parenthood. I have worked in event planning and project management, handling budgets for large scale events. As director of photography at Message Makers, I was instrumental in production on the Early Literacy Essentials video series for the Michigan Department of Education and Michigan Virtual. Throughout my 26-year career in journalism and communications, I had to quickly gather and distill large amounts of information, while also being the big voice for the little voice. My career has brought me to WKAR TV, where our key focus is education and community, meeting people where they are.. I held a leadership role as President of the Michigan Television News Photographers Association and worked as sponsorship committee chair for the Lansing Derby Vixens, securing donations for the group's events. In the past I've also worked closely with the Old Town Commercial Association as a member of the marketing committee.</p>	<p>The school board's primary job is to make sure the district reflects the values of the community, while prioritizing the safety, health, and future success of its students. My largest role as a school board member will be to support the diligent work of our superintendent, while making sure the needs of all students, from the highest achievers, to those struggling the most, are taken into consideration in all of our policies and programs. I want to ensure that ALL students in the district are and feel SAFE, WELCOMED, and CHALLENGED. My key priority is that all of our students and teachers should feel safe in and around all of our schools. Safe from violence, safe from health issues, safe from bullying, safe to express themselves and be their truest self, without fear of judgment, ridicule, or exclusion. Creating an environment where all students feel recognized, respected, and invested in their success, and the success of the school as a whole is the foundation of school safety.</p>	<p>Some students took well to remote learning, while others struggled to receive the individualized attention they needed. I would prioritize ensuring that tutors, resource teachers, and classroom assistants are available to assist with learning. These professionals could be beneficial in classes, small groups, or one on one with students as needed. I want to seek out evidence based practices to engage with students who have been left behind. We are lucky to have MSU's College of Education right in our backyard. Hiring student teachers who would bring new, cutting edge teaching methods to students would be a very high priority. The best way any school district can spend money is to increase the number of student-facing employees who care about the students and are invested in their success. I believe that ELPS should take advantage of every possible partnership we can to give all our students a hand up, and provide an equitable learning community.</p>	<p>Students should be taught how to think, not what to think. Many interests should be taken into consideration when planning the curriculum, but the focus should be on outcomes. Knowledge and understanding is not something to shy away from. The most successful people come out of schools that have a comprehensive, inclusive curriculum that not only teaches the basics, but also teaches children how to be critical thinkers. A community is best served by a curriculum which encourages people to find and follow their interests, to their own personal version of success. The students and families that make up East Lansing Schools are among the most diverse in the state, and they deserve a board that recognizes that diversity as exactly what it is — not only a gift, but also the key to a well-rounded education that creates world changers and global citizens.</p>



**Haslett Public Schools 6 Year Term**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan**

**6 Year Term**  
**6 year term expiring 12/31/2028**  
**Choose 3 candidates**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Melissa Berry</b>  <i>Email:</i> mberry1009@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Linda Cogswell</b>  <i>Email:</i> lcogswell51@gmail.com	Being a mother of four, an entrepreneur and having volunteered for many groups and fundraisers through the years, I have learned much about communication and compromise in order to succeed. I also served on my hometown's Downtown Development Authority, and therefore am familiar with obligations, meetings, voting, and working to create an agreeable scenario for all involved.	My priority as a school board member would be to create transparency within the district, as this seems to be a key issue that much of the community feels is missing.	We need to identify what the exact issues are, and put together a plan of action once specific issues are identified. I'd like to look at creating helpful learning environments for any students in need, and verifying that support staff is qualified and available to assist, and compensated well for doing so.	I believe new curriculum choices should be presented to the teachers, school board and community, and there should be an open line of communication for each possible choice. This can be handled in a number of ways, but I believe before the school invests in new curriculum (or any large-scale purchases, for that matter), all parties should have input, to ensure that we are going in the direction of the will of the parents, students and staff.
<b>Kirsten Kelly</b>  <i>Email:</i> kirstenkellyccm@yahoo.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Robin Lewis</b>  <i>Email:</i> robin.lewis39@yahoo.com	I believe the experience that I have gained from serving on various boards and commissions has prepared me to be a school board member. Additionally, I served on the Lansing School Board for seven years.	The role of a school board member is to create policies, hire and evaluate the Superintendent and maintain a balance budget for the district. My priorities as a school board member are to ensure all students, educators staff and parents are in a safe and welcoming environment. Make certain that students are career and/or college ready. Protect the well-being and address the safety concerns, and confirm that the students, educators, staff and other stakeholders are heard and attended to.	The school board should review policies that address student achievement and evaluate the needs of any students that are not meeting bench marks to determine the cause or reason in addition to the learning loss due to the pandemic.	Like with any interest that may concern the stakeholders of the district, the board should decide the appropriate forums and provide timely accurate and transparent information.
<b>Amanda Luther</b>  <i>Email:</i> mandrakay@yahoo.com	I feel that as a small business owner, and a mother of 3, I am well versed in multi-tasking, fiscal responsibility and working to create compromise when situations seem disagreeable. I strive to understand many/all sides of situations, and realize the benefit in understanding before acting. I believe in checks and balances, for all systems, including households, businesses and schools.	As a school board member, my priorities would be creating a continual line of communication with the parents, staff, students and community members. I believe it takes a village, and every member has things to contribute, so we can all benefit from conversations and transparency.	Our schools have been blessed with large sums of money because of the pandemic, and I believe in upgrading current facilities to create a better environment for all (students and staff), providing any missing necessities for those that need it, and last but not least, I believe we need to take a closer look at the contracts and wages of our current paraprofessionals to allow more individual help for these students.	I believe any curriculum changes should be presented to the community, parents in particular, through different formats, to ensure everyone who is interested would be able to view and comment. I believe this should be done prior to approval of any spending and/or training of possible curriculum. I'd like to see community forums and discussions with teachers and the board members, and possibly surveys sent for those that are unable to attend said discussions.

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Patty McPhee</b> <i>Email:</i> mpatty@aol.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Molly Polverento</b> <i>Email:</i> molly5241@gmail.com  <i>Facebook:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067821336524">https:// www.facebook.com/ profile.php?id=100067821336524</a>  <i>Education:</i> B.A. in History; M.S.Ed. in Higher Education Administration  <i>Phone:</i> (517) 881-1234	I have served on the Haslett Board of Education for 5 ½ years. During that time, I have participated in multiple trainings for school board members to improve my knowledge and skills related to this role. In addition, I have also served on appointed governmental and nonprofit boards, including in leadership positions. Through all these opportunities, I have learned about policy creation and implementation, public finance and budgeting, and the laws and regulations under which boards operate. Most importantly, I have learned through all these experiences how to work with others on a governing board to achieve our organizational goals.	<p>In general, the role of a school board is to provide oversight for the school district and serve as the conduit for discussion between the community and administration. The board is responsible for hiring and supervising the Superintendent, approving curriculum used in the district, approving the overall district budget and labor contracts, setting policies for the district, and making disciplinary decisions related to expulsion of students.</p> <p>As a board member, I am focused on doing what I can to make sure that our district is a safe and supportive environment in which all students can succeed and thrive. For me, this is done by thinking of the needs of all our students and asking relevant questions when considering budget, curriculum, and policy recommendations before making a decision on how to vote. It is important to me that any changes are also fiscally responsible, investing in our district today in a way that does not create long-term financial challenges.</p>	<p>I think it is important to prioritize activities and resources that enhance our curriculum and provide additional opportunities for students to practice foundational skills, particularly in math and reading. This includes hiring additional staff to increase the opportunities for one- on-one and small group interventions. It also includes summer school opportunities, such as those offered in Haslett the last two summers, which allow for additional educational support for students who have fallen behind. This is particularly important for our younger students, whose learning of fundamental skills and concepts was impacted by the pandemic.</p> <p>It is also important that we provide supports not just for academics, but also mental health and social/emotional learning needs. Investing in tools which help identify students who are struggling allows our schools to intervene early, providing support and resources to help our students.</p>	<p>I believe it is important that we recognize that the educational professionals in our district are the experts on curriculum. They have the training and experience to review and assess different curricula. Our educators also work closely with the Intermediate School District when reviewing new curricula, utilizing the ISD expertise to supplement their work. It is important for parents, students and the community to have plenty of notice of curricular changes and time to review any new proposed curriculum recommended by district team and have multiple opportunities to provide feedback.</p> <p>During my first term on the Board, any recommended changes to curriculum have been shared publicly and all materials made available to anyone interested before the Board considers and approves such a change. We must maintain these opportunities for review and discussion of potential new curriculum and remain open to feedback from parents, students, and the community on existing materials.</p>
<b>Korine Wawrzynski</b>  <i>Email:</i> korineforhaslett@gmail.com  <i>Education:</i> BA English, Monmouth College; MA in College Student Personnel & Ph.D. Higher Ed Administration, BGSU  <i>Phone:</i> 419-575-1223	My education and job revolve around helping students maximize their educational experiences. I have earned a master's degree and a doctoral degree in education-related fields, and for the past 20+ years, I have served as an administrator in higher education, where I work with students, parents, families, and governing boards. My job experiences have taught me how to analyze complex problems, trained me to work with people of differing opinions to find common ground, and how to communicate information to different audiences. Currently, I am an active board member for the Foundation for Haslett Schools, which works to raise funds to support programming and initiatives beyond the school district's regular budget. The common feature across these experiences is that I strive to help students succeed through education.	<p>The school board supervises the superintendent, provides guidance and feedback to district administrators, listens to the community regarding their needs and concerns regarding our schools, pays attention to data related to our district and neighboring districts, serves as an accountability partner for district goals, and champions the students and teachers in the Haslett School District.</p> <p>If elected to the Haslett School Board, I have several priorities that include but are not limited to improving how the district communicates to parents and families and ensuring that Haslett offers high- quality, well-rounded education that supports students of all academic abilities as well as offering leadership, arts, and athletic opportunities that enrich students' learning. It is critical that we support Haslett teachers by offering them quality professional development and ensuring that teacher pay is competitive and equitable.</p>	The district needs to provide multi-tiered systems of support to students who have fallen behind in the pandemic. The support will vary based on grade level and the specific areas or skills where students have fallen behind. The district should continue to provide academic coaches to help students catch up. In addition, the district should continue to support programming and staff who monitor and support students' mental well-being.	The process of bringing together multiple interests regarding the curriculum begins with transparent communication and several opportunities for the different communities (i.e., teachers, parents, students, community members) to discuss curricular developments and concerns. When the state updates curricular guidelines, the school district make changes. These changes should be clearly conveyed to all the stakeholders. Furthermore, there should be multiple mechanisms for people to ask questions and engage in discussion about the curriculum— through in-person meetings, zoom meetings, and on-line platforms, such as surveys, for the different stakeholders to provide feedback.

**Haslett Public Schools**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan**

**Partial Term**  
**Partial term expiring 12/31/2024**  
**Choose 1 candidate**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Monica M. Del Castillo</b> <i>Email: delcastillomoni-ca75@yahoo.com</i>	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Terry Goldberg</b> <i>Email: terrygoldberg47@yahoo.com</i>	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Molly Polverento</b>  <i>Email:</i> molly5241@gmail.com  <i>Facebook:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067821336524">https:// www.facebook.com/ profile.php?id=100067821336524</a>  <i>Education:</i> B.A. in History; M.S.Ed. in Higher Education Administration  <i>Phone:</i> (517) 881-1234	I have served on the Haslett Board of Education for 5 ½ years. During that time, I have participated in multiple trainings for school board members to improve my knowledge and skills related to this role. In addition, I have also served on appointed governmental and nonprofit boards, including in leadership positions. Through all these opportunities, I have learned about policy creation and implementation, public finance and budgeting, and the laws and regulations under which boards operate. Most importantly, I have learned through all these experiences how to work with others on a governing board to achieve our organizational goals.	In general, the role of a school board is to provide oversight for the school district and serve as the conduit for discussion between the community and administration. The board is responsible for hiring and supervising the Superintendent, approving curriculum used in the district, approving the overall district budget and labor contracts, setting policies for the district, and making disciplinary decisions related to expulsion of students.  As a board member, I am focused on doing what I can to make sure that our district is a safe and supportive environment in which all students can succeed and thrive. For me, this is done by thinking of the needs of all our students and asking relevant questions when considering budget, curriculum, and policy recommendations before making a decision on how to vote. It is important to me that any changes are also fiscally responsible, investing in our district today in a way that does not create long-term financial challenges.	I think it is important to prioritize activities and resources that enhance our curriculum and provide additional opportunities for students to practice foundational skills, particularly in math and reading. This includes hiring additional staff to increase the opportunities for one- on-one and small group interventions. It also includes summer school opportunities, such as those offered in Haslett the last two summers, which allow for additional educational support for students who have fallen behind. This is particularly important for our younger students, whose learning of fundamental skills and concepts was impacted by the pandemic.  It is also important that we provide supports not just for academics, but also mental health and social/emotional learning needs. Investing in tools which help identify students who are struggling allows our schools to intervene early, providing support and resources to help our students.	I believe it is important that we recognize that the educational professionals in our district are the experts on curriculum. They have the training and experience to review and assess different curricula. Our educators also work closely with the Intermediate School District when reviewing new curricula, utilizing the ISD expertise to supplement their work. It is important for parents, students and the community to have plenty of notice of curricular changes and time to review any new proposed curriculum recommended by district team and have multiple opportunities to provide feedback.  During my first term on the Board, any recommended changes to curriculum have been shared publicly and all materials made available to anyone interested before the Board considers and approves such a change. We must maintain these opportunities for review and discussion of potential new curriculum and remain open to feedback from parents, students, and the community on existing materials.
<b>Korine Wawrzynski</b>  <i>Email:</i> korinefor-haslett@gmail.com <i>Education:</i> BA English, Monmouth College; MA in College Student Personnel & Ph.D. Higher Ed Administration, BGSU <i>Phone:</i> 419-575-1223	My education and job revolve around helping students maximize their educational experiences. I have earned a master's degree and a doctoral degree in education-related fields, and for the past 20+ years, I have served as an administrator in higher education, where I work with students, parents, families, and govern-	The school board supervises the superintendent, provides guidance and feedback to district administrators, listens to the community regarding their needs and concerns regarding our schools, pays attention to data related to our district and neighboring districts, serves as an accountability partner for district goals, and champions the students and teachers in the	The district needs to provide multi-tiered systems of support to students who have fallen behind in the pandemic. The support will vary based on grade level and the specific areas or skills where students have fallen behind. The district should continue to provide academic coaches to help students catch up. In addition, the district should continue to support pro-	The process of bringing together multiple interests regarding the curriculum begins with transparent communication and several opportunities for the different communities (i.e., teachers, parents, students, community members) to discuss curricular developments and concerns. When the state updates curricular guidelines, the school district



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**Okemos Public Schools**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan**                      **4 year term expiring 12/31/2026**                      **Choose 3 candidates**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Tom Buffett</b>  <i>Email:</i> electtombuffett@gmail.com  Phone: (617) 642-8820  <i>Address:</i> 2027 Birch Bluff Drive, Okemos, MI 48823	In addition to parenting two wonderful daughters, I am blessed to have served in a variety of capacities in education. After teaching 6th grade in Pasadena, California I returned to my native Cambridge to complete my doctorate at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. This launched a career spanning policy and practice, leading statewide professional development at MSU's Office of K-12 Outreach, consulting with the Michigan Department of Education and districts around the state, and serving as principal of the Lewton Global Studies/Spanish Immersion School in Lansing. All of these experiences have led me to believe that nothing is more important to a child than having caring and supportive teachers who have high expectations for themselves and their students. I agree with Ford and Chrysler executive Lee Iacocca: "In a completely rational society, the best of us would be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something else."	Broadly-speaking, the school board should represent the community in promoting excellence within the district. They must hold the district vision and what is best for students at the forefront while making decisions. My priority as a school board member will be to focus on academic excellence while also promoting inclusive practices, caring classrooms, and equitable outcomes. Given recent reports of students' greater-than- expected academic losses and on-going concerns about their mental health due to the pandemic, I believe investing in support for both academic excellence and socioemotional wellbeing of our students needs to be a priority for Okemos. Sometimes there is a tension between the goals of academic learning and socioemotional well- being. We need both. Students need to learn a rigorous academic curriculum AND they need to be understood, respected, and engaged by caring adults. Holding both of these goals will be my main priority as a member of the board.	Okemos should expand our tiered strategy for supporting the academic success of all students. Investing in professional development that helps teachers provide the "just-right" level of support based on student need should be a priority. Clearly explaining assignments and documenting the criteria upon which they will be evaluated (through rubrics, checklists, etc.), a practice teachers developed during the pandemic, should also be continued as they provide a means for other stakeholders (parents/caretakers, community partners, etc.) to support students. Investing in technology and in helping teachers use it should thus be a priority as well. As "falling behind" can also be a result of students feeling disconnected, emotionally vulnerable, or lost, we must also continue to prioritize investments in students' socioemotional well- being, and think creatively about how to connect students to the supports they need and make our schools and classrooms welcoming and inclusive	In today's highly charged political environment, it is easy to lose focus on the fact that we have a lot in common. We want our youth to • be curious and respectful, • look at the world with a learned eye and to understand that others will inevitably see and experience things differently than us, • learn the skills and knowledge necessary to successful in the world beyond school, and • be informed and active participants in civic life.  So one way to bring together the interests of different stakeholders in curricular matters is to stay focused on our common hopes and dreams for students. A second is to attend to process—to how decisions are made— and ensure there are multiple opportunities for stakeholders to share their ideas and concerns regarding what does and does get taught. Finally, as a school board member, I will make a commitment to listen to all stakeholders.

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<p><b>Shulawn Doxie</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> shulawndoxie@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> shulawndoxie4ops-board.com</p>	<p>I am proud parent of two Okemos Public School students and my experience with the district began when my children were in Pre-K and now through middle school. I have volunteered in a number of school activities over the years. My 10+ years of educational policy-state and federal experience and knowledge of board governance bring value to the Board of Education of Okemos Public Schools. My educational and career experiences in various capacities of over 20 years as a civil servant for the State of Michigan representing all residents of the state has prepared me to serve my local community as a Board Member of the Board of Education of Okemos Public Schools. My experience as a fellow of the Michigan Education Policy Fellowship Program and member of the Okemos Public Schools Cultural Diversity Advisory Committee since 2018 have prepared me to serve as a positive voice for all children as a Board Member of the Board of Education of Okemos Public Schools.</p>	<p>I see the role of a school board as responsible for establishing the vision of the school district to provide the best educational experience for all students. The role of the school board includes working collaboratively as members of the board and with the superintendent to promote positive outcomes for students. It is important for the school board to engage and work with the community to advance the academic success of students. School board members are responsible for setting district goals; developing policy; establishing funding priorities; hiring and evaluating the district superintendent and evaluating school facilities. My priorities as a Board Member of the Board of Education of Okemos Public Schools include advocating for equitable and inclusive policies and procedures to address emerging issues affecting Okemos Public Schools around district staffing; student learning loss; supports for students and transparency in communications.</p>	<p>Okemos is an excellent school district, but our students are not exempt from the learning loss that has impacted many communities across the nation due to the pandemic. As a Board Member of the Board of Education of Okemos Public Schools, I will advocate that the district prioritizes funding resources to provide support to struggling students and families to ensure all students are thriving. Funding should be prioritized to enhance current programs that support students who have fallen behind, as well as, explore new opportunities such as after-school tutoring programming.</p>	<p>As a Board Member of the Board of Education of Okemos Public Schools, it is important to engage educator, family, student and community voice around curriculum. Okemos is known for attracting highly trained educators. Educators know their students and the materials needed to assist them. The district should continue to invest in high quality professional development opportunities to allow our educators to implement curriculum to fidelity. Families are a child's first teacher, engaging families in curriculum can assist in differentiating student learning needs, which can lead to positive student outcomes. Student voice is instrumental in curriculum as it allows them to be active in decisions around their education and helps build leadership to prepare them for success beyond K-12. I would advocate that the district continues to engage the community in curriculum by building upon partnerships with Michigan State University and other educational institutions.</p>
<p><b>Mary Gebara</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> marygebara@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Facebook page:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/mgeb-araboardofeducation">https://www.facebook.com/mgeb-araboardofeducation</a></p> <p><i>Education:</i> Masters of Arts in Child Development, Bachelors of Science in Business Administration</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 5866049383</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 4750 Wellington Dr., Okemos 48864</p>	<p>Well I have been serving as a board member in Okemos for the last 4 years and am currently serving as President. I learn how to be better board member every day. We have been through a lot of unexpected events during my first term, the most impactful being COVID-19 and creating a virtual school environment, not to mention, a safe return back to in person schooling. I served on the Governor's Return to School Advisory Council as well as the Student Recovery Council of Michigan. I collaborated with school leaders, teachers, and health care professionals from all over Michigan to develop strategic and useful plans intended to assist districts in the midst of COVID-19 and post pandemic. I have a masters degree in child development from MSU where I studied early childhood education and inclusion. I also worked with teachers, researching how their classroom methodology affects students' learning.</p>	<p>My role as a board member has many facets. I have a responsibility of governance to the district. I create and adopt policies that are in line with our strategic plan and that are inclusive, non-biased, fair and reasonable. My priorities are always the safety and well-being of our students and staff. Bringing the most innovative and inclusive curricula, and making sure Okemos is staying true to its commitment to excellence and equity by honoring our diversity and celebrating that through our staff, our students and their families. Building a sense of community and togetherness can not be done unless everyone feels safe and included, as a board member, that is something I prioritize. Our curricula and initiatives are always centered around equity. If I am re-elected, my approach will continue to be rooted in equity, diversity and inclusion.</p>	<p>In Okemos, something I really fought for in this year's budget was adding counselors, social workers, student support advisors and more special education teachers. The pandemic has impacted our students in so many ways, not just academically. By adding these crucial supports, we are not only helping our students in so many impactful ways, we are giving our teachers the ability to focus on their curriculum and lesson plans. We also expanded our summer school program to include more students that may still be struggling academically. This included in person options, as well as virtual tutoring, which worked great with families summer planning. I believe that these efforts need to be continued and enhanced each year. Fortunately, responsible budgeting allows school boards to provide resources that make lasting and impactful changes which benefit every student. That is what we have been working to do in Okemos and what I plan to continue doing for as long as I am a board member.</p>	<p>We are very inclusive in Okemos and make an effort to involve all stakeholders in everything we do, this includes curriculum. Our community is made up of a very diverse group of citizens, from all over the world, from all backgrounds, education levels, and skills. If we can collaborate with our community members to gain insights into their expertise, learn about their culture and their personal history and life lessons, the outcome for our students would be immeasurable. Parents and educators know their children and students best, having their input on curriculum will only enhance our student's educational experience in positive ways.</p>
<p><b>Liz Luyendyk</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> liz.lyendyk@gmail.com</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond by print deadline.</p>			

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<p><b>Nathan Mahn</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> nathan@nathanmahn.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> www.nathanmahn.com</p> <p><i>Facebook page:</i> ElectNathanMahn-OPS</p> <p><i>Education:</i> S.B and M.Eng. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from MIT</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> (517) 889-1559</p> <p><i>Address:</i> PO Box 93, Okemos, MI, 48805</p>	<p>I've attended most board meetings and spoken frequently since 2020. That fall I organized families who wanted an in-person option and spoke on on their behalf, and also met with the Superintendent to that end. Advocating for others has been incredibly fulfilling. Everyone in the district should have someone on the board to represent them and their viewpoint.</p> <p>One thing I offer that may seem minor but I believe is a strength is that I'm a stay-at-home parent who has intended to be engaged since my oldest was in Kindergarten. That was just in 2019, but I joined the Strategic Planning Committee that fall and found it a compelling experience. I look forward to interacting with community members and regularly visiting all of the district's locations to both fulfill my duties as a Trustee and also engage with staff.</p> <p>I'm also an engineer, and while that's not the same as an accountant I do know my way around a spreadsheet and look forward to my budgetary duties.</p>	<p>The board has ultimate responsibility for providing the best education possible for every student in the district. Making sure students are gaining the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed is its main purpose, including fundamentals like the curiosity and critical thinking necessary to become lifelong learners. In fact, this matches the Okemos Public Schools mission statement very closely: "Together... educating with excellence, inspiring each learner for life." I believe this is a wonderfully succinct way to describe it. As Trustees it is also the board's responsibility to shepherd district funds properly, taking its fiduciary duty seriously to spend funds where they will provide the most benefit. My priorities are summed up by "Academics. Community. Engagement." and I will work to combine those priorities into a framework that maximizes student achievement through rigorous academic programs and fostering a learning environment where students can focus on their studies.</p>	<p>The Okemos district has developed significant support programs, with extensive, but temporary, programs in summer 2021. The assessment data from the end of the '21-'22 school year showed some concerning trends, though, in specific grade levels and demographic groups. One important thing is to address what the students were lacking during the pandemic and provide extra support in those areas. For example, not all students learned well remotely so I expect support programs done in person to provide the best benefits to the students who were least well served by remote learning. Going forward, the district must find and support those students who may not be reaching their potential at the moment, continue providing an excellent education to every student, and it must ensure that schools and classrooms are environments that are conducive to student achievement. It must also ensure that teachers are supported in both resources and structures to allow them to do what they do best, teach.</p>	<p>The best way to bring together everyone on a topic is simply to include everyone in the conversation. While the school board is only comprised of seven members, it must represent the voices of everyone in Okemos.</p> <p>For any given issue, multiple viewpoints offered by the community should be considered and brought to the table for discussion: parents and students who advocate for their own needs, teachers with expertise who bring requests for resources and policies to empower their teaching, and community members who bring ideas and concerns to the board to keep it accountable to its duties.</p>

**Waverly Community Schools**

The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.

Nonpartisan

4 year term expiring 12/31/2026

Choose 4 candidates

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<p><b>Alicia Guevara-Warren</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> AGW4WSB@gmail.com</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond by print deadline.</p>			
<p><b>Debbie Lopez</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> lopezdeb2@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Bachelor Degree in Nursing, Bachelor of Science Degree, Associate Degree in Nursing</p>	<p>The experiences I've had that prepare me to serve as a school board member include living in the Waverly School District for the past 12 years and having two children attend school in this district. I have also had experience serving as a Parent Liaison for multiple Waverly sports throughout the years and am a member of the Waverly Band Booster. Professionally, I have worked at EW Sparrow Hospital for the last 23 years. In my time at the hospital, I have enjoyed working as an EMT, a bedside Registered Nurse, a Nursing Performance Improvement Specialist and currently, I am the Clinical Student Liaison. During my years at EW Sparrow Hospital I have served on multiple committees and completed several Leadership training courses including the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, the Engagement Committee, Sparrow Women in Leadership Program, and Non- Violent Crisis Intervention.</p>	<p>The role of the school board includes, ensuring our students receive an education that prepares them to be productive and successful members of society, to listen to and be the voice of the community we serve and, to review, edit, and enforce policies that enhance our school district.</p> <p>My priorities as a school board member would be to improve communication and to be willing to ask the tough questions in an effort to ensure Waverly Community Schools continues to experience success.</p>	<p>The school board should prioritize spending on students who have fallen behind during the pandemic by ensuring students have full access to current and potential new resources. These resources should be provided in both virtual and in-person formats to accommodate different learning styles.</p>	<p>I would see bringing the interest of educators, parents, students, and the community together regarding curriculum by improving communication. This includes providing communication in different formats and platforms and, includes displaying data to support decisions surrounding the curriculum.</p>



	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Mary Ann Martin</b> <i>Email:</i> mamartin@sprynet.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Vincent Perkins</b> <i>Email:</i> vinceperkins@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Dennis Raterink</b>  <i>Email:</i> DRaterinkforWaverly-Schools@gmail.com  <i>Campaign Website:</i> DennisRaterinkfor-WaverlySchoolBoard.com  <i>Education:</i> Bachelors, Michigan State University; Juris Doctor, Western Michigan University Cooley Law School  <i>Phone:</i> (616) 319-3995  <i>Address:</i> 1428 Bentwood Drive, Lansing, MI 48917	I am a strong advocate for public education, a parent of two Waverly graduates, and an involved community member. Most of my legal career has been in public service, as an Assistant Attorney General for the Michigan Department of Attorney General and as an Administrative Law Judge for the federal government. My legal training and career have given me skills that would be beneficial as a Board Member, including reviewing large amounts of data, analyzing complex information, and explaining and communicating ideas and information in a clear and concise manner. These skills will allow me to review and distill budget documents, millage proposals, curriculum reviews, and the other complex information as required of Board Members, and communicate this information with fellow Board Members, the superintendent, staff, and Waverly parents.	I see the role of the school board as advocating and being stewards for the Waverly School District. The board members must work together, and closely with the Waverly Superintendent, with significant input from the Waverly community and teaching staff, to set District goals and work to see them achieved. My priorities as a board member would include strengthening school safety, continuing a cohesive working relationship between the district and the families in the district, and maintaining a balanced curriculum.	All decisions regarding school resources require a careful balancing of needs. Clearly, support must continue to be given to students who have been significantly affected by the pandemic. My view would be that these students should be given the same amount of educational support as any students who have been found to be behind their peers, for whatever the cause. It is our responsibility to ensure that all students who are enrolled in the District are given as much support as possible to enjoy a full and enriching education.	The best situation would allow for collaboration among all interested parties to create a curriculum that (1) focuses on preparing students with life skills and further education; (2) is based on historical accuracy and reflects a spectrum of social and political views and experiences; and (3) is chosen by professional educators, with significant input from parents in the district.
<b>Michael G. West</b> <i>Email:</i> mike.west12@outlook.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			

**Williamston Community Schools - Partial Term Ending 12/31/2024**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan                      Partial term expiring 12/31/2024                      Choose 1 candidate**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concer
<b>Jeremy Mourey</b>  <i>Email:</i> jmourey13@gmail.com  <i>Facebook page:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1283082585767579">https:// www.facebook.com/ groups/ 1283082585767579</a>  <i>Education:</i> Bachelor of Arts (Hospitality Business) Michigan State University 2000  <i>Phone:</i> 5173030661	My passion to serve the youth started as a volunteer travel baseball coach at 24. I fell in love with teaching youth life lessons through athletics and beyond. My other experiences are... 1. The MSU Alumni Association (SHB). I created a leadership training endowment for students. I have also served as a Spartan Sponsor, a frequent guest lecturer, and a panelist, and hosted many on-site tours. 2. Founding Member of LifeTech Academy. This helped me understand funding, staffing, and how schools work from	The role of the school board is to help be the checks and balances for the Williamston Community School's operations. We have an outstanding Superintendent who really does the heavy lifting in preparing for meetings and agendas. Our job is to represent the community to give our outside-of-education perspective. My priorities. 1. Retain Talent- We need to keep our top educators 2. Enhanced Curriculum- we need to consider adding to our fantastic curriculum. 3. Funding- Increased funding for communication infrastructure,	Fortunately, it appears Williamston may not have had many students fall behind due to pandemic. If there is a case, we should direct all necessary resources and energy into these students, regardless of costs, making this a high priority if the need is there.	I see us forming a special curriculum committee made up of key stakeholders to create collaboration and consensus. This committee could research, develop and assess curriculum in an continuous improvement spirit.

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concer
<i>Address:</i> 2087 Mitchell, Williamston 48895	behind the scenes 3. Williamston Stings Baseball and Softball Club. Over the first decade, Stings grew organically to 20 teams. We have helped raise over \$20,000 in various field enhancements to increase player safety and upgrades 4. Williamston Baseball Boosters- I assist and direct field/facility up-grades with key stakeholders. These volunteer roles along with my business ownership background have given me a unique insight into what kids need today and in the future!	security, and technology. 4. We need to start collaboratively and strategically plan for Williamston's future growth and opportunities. This could bring new buildings, facilities, fields, and indoor practice/training spaces for our youth. The time to start planning is now! I believe through these objectives, we can help shape our WSC... for the future, together. My goal is to cement Williamston as the number one destination to raise a family in Mid Michigan.		
<b>Deborah Sue Wolf</b>  <i>Email:</i> deborahswolf@gmail.com  <i>Facebook page:</i> Deborah Sue Wolf, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083319953839">https:// www.facebook.com/ profile.php?id=100083319953839</a>  <i>Education:</i> B. S. and M.A. both in Special Education, Western Mich. Univ., Special-ist Degree, Univ. of Conn.  <i>Phone:</i> 5174905230  <i>Address:</i> 503 Bismark St, Williamston 48895	I have been serving on the school board since March when I was appointed. I worked nearly 40 years in education as a special education teacher (twenty-one years), elementary principal (thirteen years), and for five years I worked as a Principal Advisor, an Educational Advisor to the Director of Special Education for the United Arab Emirates, and as a Kindergarten principal of a new school with children 3 ½ - 5 years of age. I've worked in many different capacities from special ed. to gifted ed. to Early Childhood Ed. I am involved in the community in Rotary, in a book club, an international dinner group, a card group, as well as teaching yoga and attending Williamston United Methodist Church. In addition, I am an administrator for the Lansing Area Spark in the Dark group on Facebook and I am the General Meeting Director for HELO Club, which is a large Lansing area organization. I have taught classes for Western Michigan University at both the Hope College and Battle Creek locations.	The role of the school board, in keeping student achievement as a top priority, is responsible for developing policies and procedures to ensure the school district attains the highest achievement levels for all students. This requires an ongoing look at the system's data to review the progress toward this challenge. Additionally, the board is responsible for making sure that this work stays within the district budget allocations. Furthermore, there must be effective communication with all the district stakeholders including the community-at-large. The board must be transparent and open in all board business dealings and meetings and needs to encourage active participation. Finally, the board needs to work closely with the superintendent on meeting board goals, and lastly, to hire and, if needed, fire the superintendent. My priorities are to help create stronger ties between the board and the community, and to work collaboratively to provide the highest quality education for students.	Research studies have shown that the cumulative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students' academic achievement has been large. The school board must support educators in their attempts to first identify those students who have been affected the most and must also engage students who may have fallen behind during the pandemic and may be in need of both educational and emotional support. When these areas of need are identified, it is the role of the board to seek financial support to begin to close any learning gaps. This should be accomplished by providing best practices that are evidence-based with clear data to support students. The greater the need evident should provide the basis for a higher priority in spending. Fortunately, the State of Michigan is providing the highest amount per pupil in history. Williamston has hired a Mental Health specialist and a nurse to assist students and will support educators in their efforts to close any learning gaps shown by students.	Involving schools, parents, families, businesses and organizations and the community-at-large in the schools is vital to raising academic performance and school improvement. All stakeholders can contribute by dialoguing and discussing matters concerning the curriculum and other matters as well during open houses, parent- teacher conferences, special curricular events, and meetings as needed. Strong schools result in thriving communities. Our Williamston Sunrise Rotary provides scholarships for teachers and also for academic teams and special projects. Our police and fire departments escort our athletic teams through town as they head to state finals. Also, our police work closely with the superintendent and schools to ensure safety. As school board members, we must be open at all times to dialogue with community members to inform them, dispel rumors and share the successes of the school district at every opportunity.

**“We all have to vote like our lives and the world depend on it, because they do. The only way to be certain of the future is to make it ourselves.”**  
*Billie Eilish*

**Grand Ledge School District**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan**  
**6 year term expiring 12/31/2028**  
**Choose 2 candidates**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Jason Devenbaugh</b>  <i>Email:</i> jasondevenbaugh 4glschool-board@ gmail.com  <i>Website:</i> www.jason-devenbaug h4gl.com/  <i>Facebook page:</i> www.facebook.com/ jason4glboard  <i>Address:</i> P.O. Box 251, Milliken, 48861	I have been in management and customer service for 17 years. Being in this role has taught me how to interact with people and to really listen to their needs. The knowledge of watching spending, and the needs of the business is key. Making sure staff is trained properly and is given the proper tools to do the job. I have 3 children in the school district and a wife who works in the school system. This has helped me learn more about the school system and what goes on. I was a part of the Autism Speaks Walk Committee here in Michigan for 3 years, as well as the PTIA President for 2 years. Overall being a parent and involved in my Childrens education as prepared me for this role.	I believe the role of a School Board Member is to work with not just the Admin and Staff of the District, but the Students and Families they represent. Being it is an elected position a Board Member works for the community members. I believe they need to be able to listen to all sides whether it is good or bad and should be able to respond to questions asked by the Community. My priorities as a Board Member will be to look at the budget and see how to get the district out of a major deficit. Evaluate the school's safety and security procedures. I want to make sure all staff are trained properly when it comes to school safety. I want to make sure all policies are being followed when it comes to school safety. But first and foremost is that we are giving our students the proper education they deserve.	We need to find out where we have fallen short in educating our students due to the pandemic. I would see about adding different services that can help all students. We do need to look at Special Education and make sure students who already get help through either IEP or 504 are getting the help that is already a part of their plan. I would like to see tutoring programs happening after school that students who are doing great can help assist their peers who need extra help. Overall we need to figure out why they are falling short. There could be other issues going on outside of school. We need to get to know the families and help them help their students succeed.	School Districts have to follow the guidelines of the State Board of Education. We can't just add classes that don't fall in line with the State. If you want to add a class maybe it can be more of an after school club then a class. But with that being said I will always be open to listen to the reason why or the concerns of all from Teachers to Parents. We need to find a way to work together and come together as a School District and a Community.
<b>Denise DuFort</b>  <i>Email:</i> denisedufort@gmail.com  <i>Website:</i> electdenisedufort.com  <i>Facebook:</i> Denise DuFort - Candidate for Grand LedgeSchool Board  <i>Education:</i> MA Lang.& Literacy, MSU. BS Elem.Ed, Oakland University	I have served on the GLPS Board of Education for the last six years. During that time I earned the Certified Board Member Award as well as the Level Two Award of Merit through the Michigan Association of School Boards. I also have a Master's degree in Language and Literacy from MSU, as well as a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Oakland University. I retired from a career in education after serving in a variety of roles for over 30 years.	In my opinion, the Board of Education has four primary responsibilities: 1.) to provide high expectations for academic achievement for all students, 2.) to develop and follow policies and procedures at a district level, 3.) to be accountable to all stakeholders within the community, and 4.) for selecting and supervising the Superintendent and evaluating them on an annual basis. These four points are, and will continue to be, my priorities as a Board member. Our long term strategic plan will also continue to be an essential component to monitor and support these priorities.	The Board needs to continue to support staff members and building principals in their work through the Multi-Tiered System of Support that is in place in each of our buildings. Continuing to include the necessary staff commitments, and to adequately fund these positions is crucial. This allows staff to determine students' needs and adjust their instruction accordingly. This is an effective way to identify and support individual learners' needs on an ongoing basis.	Curriculum needs are generally identified by staff, which would then be followed by a pre- approved pilot, review for possible selection/ purchase, approval by Board and implementation. All curriculum is shared on the school website by grade level so any interested parties can review specific areas of interest. Questions/ concerns are addressed initially to building level (teacher/ principal). If needed, individuals may continue to take their concerns through academic services, superintendent and finally before the Board. All stakeholders have an opportunity to bring any thoughts, concerns or comments to the Board at every meeting. I feel this process allows for all GLPS community members to be involved in curriculum discussions. New curriculum is presented for parent review for their input. Teacher and student input is collected and addressed in the piloting phase as well as during the review phase.



	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<p><b>Ashley Kuykendoll</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> ashleykuykendoll.glps@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Website:</i> www.ashleykuykendoll4glps.com/</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> www.facebook.com/AshleyKuykendoll-4GLP S</p> <p><i>Education:</i> B.A. Family Community Service- MSU &amp; Masters in Business Administration (MBA)-Davenport University</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 517-862-7507</p> <p><i>Address:</i> P.O. Box 184 Grand Ledge, MI 48837</p>	<p>I obtained my Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Family Community Service from Michigan State University and my Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Davenport University. I've been involved in creating positive and effective environments of influence through community service and giving back for 15+ years. I am an experienced professional with an emphasis on strategic planning, goal/metric setting, and making data driven decision. I pride myself on being a person of integrity committed to accountability and transparency. I am the most qualified candidate for the Grand Ledge Public School Board of Education because I am an involved parent and professional who understands the importance of education, collaboration, and execution for the success of the district. As a candidate, I am willing to do the work necessary to review concerns from multiple vantage points and make sound, data driven decisions. I would like to see continued progression and positive momentum in GLPS.</p>	<p>The school board member's role and responsibility is to collaboratively and effectively work with the school administration in providing the best education and experience possible. The school board is responsible for elevating the concerns of the community and working towards a resolution. The board hires the superintendent and reviews their performance. Ideally, the board will be the bridge between the administration and the community. We should all be showing up with the best interest of the students at the forefront of our minds and decision making. Top priorities as a school board member include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Maximize access to resources for engagement and academic achievement</li><li>2. Prioritize safety for all who are engaging with GLPS</li><li>3. Create more opportunities to encourage parent involvement and collaboration in supporting the district</li></ol> <p>Promote environments that welcoming and safe to all. This includes students, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers, and more</p>	<p>The Board should prioritize spending on programs that have proven to increase student learning through data. Some strategies that have proven to recover learning loss include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. District wide one-on-one tutoring programs, emphasis on integrating classroom lessons into various after-school and support activities</li><li>2. Individualized learning plans with targeted concentration on comprehension gaps</li></ol> <p>Focus on expanding community partnership with established and vetted organizations, growing capacity to provide more individualized attention There are many factors to consider when prioritizing spending for a district and it can be difficult to articulate an exact plan without knowing all the factors of influence.</p>	<p>I believe parent/ guardian and teacher collaboration, along with family involvement and community partnership, are critical pillars of support in every student's success. I recognize teachers and administrators as professional educators, with experience and accreditation in curriculum development. Their expertise, in alignment with researched and data proven strategies of success, are essential for designing the best curriculum maximizing academic achievement. I think these items should also be paired with feedback from the community. I also believe the community has an opportunity to support the continued development of students through Career and Technical Education (CTE). Adding CTE as viable employment and career opportunities supports the development of skilled trades and labor. This type of exposure creates awareness that allows students to find the best career fit for them. All of these systems work together for Grand Ledge to offer a robust and exceptional education.</p>
<p><b>Ashley Oneil</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> ashleyoneil4glboard@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> www.ashleyoneil4glboard.com</p> <p><i>Facebook page:</i> https:// www.facebook.com/ profile.php?id=100078472477667</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Bachelor of Science in Management</p>	<p>I have over 13 years of combined analytical, project management/ lead, and analysis experience. Working with large groups and departments to discuss what the end desire is and what needs to be done to achieve those goals. I have been a lifelong resident of Grand Ledge participating in school functions and booster clubs.</p>	<p>I see the role of a school board as one that listens to the parents, students, teachers, and community members. To work together with the school administration for the greater good for all students and the community. My priorities as a school board member are school safety, quality education for all students including expanding trade opportunities, and transparency.</p>	<p>The first thing that would need to be analyzed and addressed is where the student has fallen behind and why. Resources for those students should include (no limited to) tutoring, outside credit recovery if needed, and support during the coming year(s) to assist in them not falling behind further. Working with parents, students, and teachers/counselors to create a customized plan to get the student back on track.</p>	<p>Having open forums with educators, parents, students, and the community to see what is needed, lacking, or where enhancements are needed. Taking what is discussed with those participating and creating a plan to move forward with implementing enhancements where possible. All while making sure we are following any state board of education requirements and core curriculum (reading, writing, arithmetic, science is being met.</p>

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Martin Luther King, Jr

1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
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**Grand Ledge School District**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.

**Nonpartisan**      **4 year term expiring 12/31/2026**      **Choose 1 candidates**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Toni Hughes Glasscoe</b>  <i>Email:</i> toniglasscoe4glps@gmail.com  <i>Website:</i> toniglasscoe.wixsite.com/toniglasscoe4glps  <i>Facebook:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082318504052">https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100082318504052</a>  <i>Education:</i> Doctorate in Educational Leadership  <i>Phone:</i> 517-712-8284  <i>Address:</i> 6701 Ambassador Avenue, Grand Ledge, MI 48837	I currently serve as the Associate Vice President of External Affairs, Development, and K-12 Operations for the Executive Office, and in conjunction with the Executive Leadership Team, provide leadership, supervision, and coordination for all community relations activities of Lansing Community College. I represent the college on the College and Career Readiness (C3R) Advisory Board, the Cristo Rey Community Center Board, and the Lansing Promise Board. Additionally, I worked for fourteen combined years in Human Resource Management for the City of Lansing and State of Michigan. I also spent ten years in the classroom and overseeing K-12 programs and activities.	Board members have a governance role and a responsibility to carry out board policy. School Board members have the responsibility to put all children first in all decision making; to put the district first and not personal agendas; provide leadership and be accountable to all stakeholders including the superintendent and other school district employees; appreciate and support diversity. My top 5 priorities as school board member would be to: On-board and support the new superintendent; Align academic programs to meet individual needs and improve student achievement by keeping the focus on teaching and learning; Implementation of the Strategic Plan; Adopt an implementation plan for the Report from the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee; Address budget gaps without jeopardizing student success and safety.	The budgetary priorities of the school board will always start with supporting instruction and student supports, making sure that teaching and learning comes first. Whether it is addressing academic gaps due to the pandemic, or for any other reason, school districts have received federal funding to run summer camps, summer school, virtual learning, and purchase educational resources that address gaps in reading, writing, and math.	Making curriculum decisions is not the role of the school board; I trust the curriculum experts to make recommendations and present them to the board. However, my suggestions for collaborating on curriculum decisions and addressing the interests of all stakeholders includes: discussing all major curriculum decisions in board meetings where the community, parents, and others can provide public comment; providing district wide professional development where input can be obtained; and hosting listening sessions for people, to include business and industry, to give their input.
<b>Kim Laforet</b>  <i>Email:</i> kim4grandledge@gmail.com  <i>Website:</i> www.kim4grandledge.com  <i>Facebook page:</i> kim4grandledge  <i>Education:</i> Associate Degree Business Management  <i>Phone:</i> 517-204-3444  <i>Address:</i> P.O. Box 80043, Lansing 48908	As a self employed individual since 1976, I have employed personnel, trained them, created and stayed within budgets and created a business that will continue beyond myself, providing careers for others. • Serving as trustee for the Greater Lansing Association Realtors for 4 years, another 4 years as trustee for Habitat for Humanity, 12 years as a Delta Township Planning Commissioner and countless volunteer activities in both the schools and non profit endeavors has given me a broad range of experience to relate well to all walks of life. Understanding all aspects of education, not merely relying on formal education has given me the experience to understand all areas of being a trustee for our school system. I believe education is a life long goal, and have continued this throughout my adult life in both business and personal growth.	• The role of a school board member is to listen to the wants and needs of the community as it pertains to the education of their children, and apply them as necessary while keeping within the bounds of school policy, finances and state law. My priority as a Grand Ledge School Board member will be to analyze the budget, create a safe learning space in all our schools for all children and make their learning a priority over all other issues	The Board needs to address specifically where we have fallen behind through the pandemic, and create tutoring and additional learning opportunities for the students in need.	Local school boards have to go by the guidelines of the State Board of Education, but there is room for creativity that we can employ through clubs, extra curricular activities and such to address the specific needs of certain groups, which may not be addressed in a classroom setting. Much of todays division comes from specific activities or ideas being employed in the classroom that does not address the actual curriculum to which must be adhered. Sticking to the basics of learning, other measures can be taken out of classroom time for these activities, allowing those who wish to engage in them to do so.

The **Eaton Rapids Board of Education** is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.

**Nonpartisan                      6 year term expiring 12/31/2028                      Choose 2 candidates**

Eaton Rapids Board of Education	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<p><b>Joe Loren</b> <i>Email:</i> josephloren@aol.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> MS Management Websters University and BS Mechanical Engineering United States Military Academy</p>	<p>I have a vast array of experiences during my 22-year career in the United States Army which prepared me to make difficult decisions. My Army career also taught me to make good financial decisions to safeguard the use of taxpayer funds. For the last 5 years I have been a member of the Eaton Rapids School Board, during the very difficult time of the pandemic.</p> <p>The pandemic required many difficult choices to be made to balance the educational needs of the students as well as the health and safety needs of the students, faculties, and the greater community. My Army career and my time on the school board make me an ideal candidate to continue on the Board to serve our students and our community.</p>	<p>The function of the school board is to provide oversight of the management of the School District for the students, parents, faculty and community. The board ensures that funds are spent in a legal manner that best fits the needs of the students and the goals of the District and Community. The priorities of any board member should be to ensure that the educational needs of all students are met.</p>	<p>The District has already funded several programs to help students during and following the pandemic. The past two summers the District funded at no cost to the students/ families a robust summer school program aimed at students that are behind in all grades.</p> <p>The High School students in particular that participated in the program had enormous success over the past two summers. The District has worked to keep class sizes as low as possible to allow more one on one contact with teachers as well as special programs to pull students out for academic interventions. Going forward the District will continue to use interventions.</p> <p>Additionally, the District has invested in training for all teachers focused on building better relationships with the students which provides significant benefits in learning for the students.</p>	<p>Curriculum must be based on the Standards set by the State, a curriculum which does not cover the requirements from the State cannot be used by any School District. However, the method of delivery of the curriculum is not specified by the State. This allows the professional educators of the District to determine how best to meet the needs of the students.</p> <p>Testing conducted during the year is used to determine how well students are learning the State mandated curriculum. These tests provide individual feedback for each student to their teachers to determine the areas each student needs additional instruction and practice. The District conducts monthly curriculum meetings that are open to all members of the community where new curriculum and new ideas are discussed on how best to serve the students of the District.</p>
<p><b>Becky Sue Thompson</b> <i>Email:</i> beckysuethompson@outlook.com</p> <p><i>Education:</i> BA Criminal Justice/ Psychology-Michigan State University w/ masters studies in Criminal Behavior <i>Phone:</i> 5175998164</p>	<p>I am actively involved in community events as well as frequently attending board meetings. I am currently working on the Sex Education Advisory Board at Eaton Rapids Public Schools.</p> <p>I have worked with the State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for 11 years. All of my positions have been with departments that work directly with the community.</p> <p>As a parent in the community, I am committed to ensuring our children receive the best education available.</p>	<p>I will actively work with the board to ensure the needs of the students and staff are met. I believe the main priorities include learning and teaching, leading and managing, the student environment, the parental relationships and community involvement. These are my main concern as a board member and by collaborating with the board, staff and community, better solutions can be found.</p>	<p>I believe resources should be dedicated to summer programs. These programs are the best way to start getting students back to where they need to be educationally. I also believe we need to make sure the current curriculum is on track with where students need to be.</p>	<p>I believe it starts with listening to the community to understand their needs. It will require a strong collaborative response to ensure the needs are being met. I believe in keeping communication open and valuing others opinions. I would like to see more active involvement from the community at board meetings. I believe a review of the curriculum is important to ensure it is up to date.</p>

**“We do not have government by the majority.  
We have government by the majority who participate.”**

*Thomas Jefferson*



Eaton Rapids Board of Education	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Valerie VanSandt</b> <i>email:</i> vansandts@gmail.com	As a Board Member for the past 10 years. I have experienced difficult financial, staffing, and political times. I have balanced difficult budgets while prioritizing the welfare of staff and students. My experience working with people has prepared me to listen with an open mind to all points of view. An example of this is I averted a contract crisis with our valued bus drivers simply by listening to their concerns and facilitating a meeting. By listening, respecting and valuing people that make this district work; students, parents, teachers and bus drivers, I work to make our district a place of opportunity for success for our students.	My priority is always a district that works for the success of students. Keeping kids in school and having each find their own strengths and gifts. That involves resources and making good financial decisions. Being a small district that involves smart and creative decisions. I bring that to the table.	This is at the heart of why I am here, the students. Investing dollars where needed and encouraging communication between students, parents and staff. In this day and age we need to expand opportunities for students to be successful. Opportunities like: We have invested dollars in free summer school opportunities, including credit recovery at the high school level for the last couple summers. I would encourage an upfront discussion by parents, with their student's teacher about concerns right away. We have many interventions throughout the school day for those that are struggling, and I would like to expand access to reach all who need it. I would also like to expand what we have done in paying staff for their tutoring time afterschool.	Challenges facing our curriculum committee can be addressed with communication between our amazing teachers, parents and other experts to give our students the best education our district can offer. I encourage and invite parents with questions and concerns to attend our meetings and I will continue to address concerns.... As chair of our curriculum committee over the last year I have answered every parent question or concern, as well as invited them to join us for all of our curriculum discussions. I will continue to reach out to bring any and all voices to the table.

**Leslie Public Schools**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.

**Nonpartisan**      **Partial term expiring 12/31/2024**      **Choose 1 candidate**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Mary Louise Crowl</b>  <i>Email:</i> marylcrowl@gmail.com  <i>Education:</i> B.S. Geology, Michigan State University & A.S. Civil Engineering Technology, Frederick College  <i>Phone:</i> 517.937.6699  <i>Address:</i> 1400 Baseline Rd., Leslie 49251	I have served my school district in many capacities: as a volunteer, substitute teacher, and as a school board member for a number of years. I value open discussion, listening and learning, working with others to achieve the best possible outcome for a situation. I am honored to serve my community as a public school board member, and if the voters approve me in this November's election, I will continue to serve the students, parents, and staff as a school board member. I deal with conflict, resolution, collaboration, and logic every day with my job/ career, and I extend that to work with our public school board and superintendent to achieve the best outcome for the children of our school district. While we may not always agree on every issue, the focus is to educate our children to the absolute best of our abilities and resources. Our children are the future of	A public school board member has 3 functions/ responsibilities/ roles: To hire and evaluate the superintendent, set policies and procedures, and to set and approve a budget. My ongoing and future priorities are to continue providing the best education possible for our children, continue to look at ways to keep our schools safe, and upgrade our internal HVAC systems to eventually move our school year to a balanced calendar. I would like to see a bond passed to provide funding to upgrade our classrooms, windows, and HVAC systems at all buildings, particularly at the elementary and middle schools. Working within the funding we receive from the state to keep our district operating is always a priority. Our district receives some of the lowest funding in Ingham County, and while the gap has closed a bit over the years since Proposal A was passed in the	Our board has always prioritized spending to help those students who struggled to learn through the pandemic. We were one of a few schools in the state who offered in person instruction and on line learning in the 2020-2021 school year. It was a challenge for our students, staff, and families, but it was the best choice for our district, and it worked, thanks to all the efforts of our staff and admin team. We still prioritize our struggling students while also providing advanced classes for those learners who are in need of additional challenging learning opportunities. The Title funding we receive from the federal government is used in every way possible to help all our students, particularly those students who struggle to learn for any number of reasons.	Communication. Communication. Communication. Our curriculum is constantly evaluated to meet the needs of our children We usually have a group of individuals (staff, parents, students, admin) to look at and review curriculum. We are bound by the parameters of state and federal regulations/ mandates in regards to curriculum, ie, the state sets the standards for learning based on the federal standards and laws. I have learned that there are always two sides to a story, there is always room to improve, there are situations where you can never make everyone happy, but you can always listen and value what students, parents, and staff want to communicate. I know there are many styles of teaching and many styles/ modes of learning, and we have to look at each child to find the key and spark to help them learn and achieve to be the best they can be for them to be successful

Eaton Rapids Board of Education	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities as a school board member?	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
	this country, and the world, and we must educate all of them as stated in the founding principles of our country.	1990's, we are still a low funded district when it comes to state funding. We do not have a huge industrial base in our community.		adults in their world after completing their public education. I am energized by the passion and care our staff.
<b>Bradley S. Dunlap</b>  <i>Email:</i> braddnlp@gmail.com	I think the most important experience I have is I am a parent of a student in the school district. I have also lived in the district my entire life. I am part owner of a small business that is located in school district. I also sit on our township planning commission. The business I am part owner of is our family farm, myself with my brother are fifth generation on our family's farm. Running a business is very similar to being on the school board. We have to make choices everyday that seem like there is no correct answer. We just have to remember we should all be sharing in the common goal of how to best educate the children in our community.	It is my belief the roles of a school board is to set goals and track how the district is doing to achieve the goals. The board should establish policy, as well as, hire and evaluate the superintendent. The school board should also oversee the district budget and make sure the budget reflects the districts goals. The school board should also approve or decline recommended curriculum based on the goals and values of the community. The board also determines facilities needs and communicates with the community any facility needs. I believe all of these roles are equally important. If I had to prioritize one I would say curriculum oversight would be my highest priority. Children are easily influenced and the wrong curriculum or even the wrong inference of curriculum can shape a child's life.	With all of the COVID relief money that was provided spending should be prioritized addressing learning loss. Ensuring high- quality instruction is a must for our schools to work to get caught up. The school board should prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic by identifying the needs of students. Looking at benchmark assessment scores, state testing scores, retention rates, and getting teacher/school/ community feedback. Offering extra tutoring, hiring additional tier II support, reading coaches, engagement specialists, or other additional support systems that might be able to be offered based on grade level or school need	Learning should include all aspects of a child's life to be successful. Looking for input from educators, parents, students, and the community. As a school board member, it would be vital for the school's success to offer a district support group allowing parents to come collaborate and be involved in their students academics. There could be three groups, elementary, middle and high school, that meet once a month or more frequent if the desire is there. In this group, they can talk about things going well, things they would like to see improved on or community engagement. This should be a group that collaborate together and offer solutions to barriers. Or a Google form where parents can bring to the "team" concerns they have in the curriculum for the team to discuss and offer solutions. Something they review each month and discuss. Teachers can offer their perspective and why the lesson is set up the way it is and parents can address the barriers at home.

**Mason Public Schools**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan                      6 year term expiring 12/31/2026                      Vote for not more than 3**

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<b>Matt Bennett</b> <i>Email:</i> bennett.matthew.s@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Bryan Wilson Droscha</b> <i>Email:</i> bdroscha@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Liz Evans</b>  <i>Email:</i> lizevens66@gmail.com  <i>Facebook page:</i> Liz Evans for Mason School Board  <i>Education:</i> BS - Family Community Services from MSU  <i>Phone:</i> 15177196965  <i>Address:</i> 94 Primrose Ln, Mason 48854	I have served on the Mason Public Schools School Board for the past 6 years. I have served on several committees and as secretary during this time. I have also worked with children and families for over 15 years in both Ingham and Jackson Counties. This work has taught me to look holistically at the impact of decisions.	The role of the School Board is an oversight group that ensures that the district is making thorough and responsible decisions with tax dollars, with the subject curriculum that is being taught, and making sure that the district is functioning and meeting the needs of the students, staff, and community.	Making sure that there are appropriate interventions for academic and behavioral health supports are equally important. There are many experiences and needs to be met as public schools return to fully functioning and fully in person learning.	It is important that all curriculum is meeting the items dictated by the State for the items that must be taught in core courses. It is also important that the educational experience that is provided to our students be well rounded. Making sure to offer a spectrum of offerings to bring out the creative sides of our students is also important. As the policy committee chair, we have heard from our community about additions to the diversity, equity, and inclusion into the everyday teaching in every classroom. When we hear from community members we listen and reflect about the request to make sure that all feel comfortable with what their children are being taught.

	1. What experiences have you had that prepared you to be a school board member? as a school board member?	2. What do you see as the role of a school board? What would be your priorities	3. How should the school board prioritize spending to support students who have fallen behind during the pandemic?	4. How would you see bringing together the interests of educators, parents, students, and the community concerning curriculum?
<p><b>Matt Hall</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> matthallmpsboe@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Facebook page:</i> “Matt Hall for Mason School Board”</p> <p><i>Education:</i> Juris Doctor, B.S. - Biosystems Engineering</p>	<p>I currently sit on the Mason Board of Education after being appointed to fill a vacancy in September 2021. The last year has been eventful for Mason Public Schools, beginning with a successful return to full time in person classroom education and culminating with the selection and hiring of a new Superintendent. I have been active in my role, engaging with fellow Board members and participating in various school events. Aside from my direct BOE experience, I have represented my employer in a number of local, state and federal forums, work-groups and policy discussions. I have direct experience advocating for specific issues as well as communicating results back to our team. The BOE role requires the ability to process information, act on that information as a member of a team, and make decisions that are in the best interest of both the Mason Public Schools and the Mason community at large. My experiences position me to be successful as a full term school board member.</p>	<p>The school board represents the community in setting policy for the public schools to implement. Additionally, the school board ensures that the schools follow those policies as well as applicable laws, rules and regulations. Another important role is ensuring the schools are led by a qualified superintendent. My priorities as a school board member are to be transparent, consistent and open. I want the community to know how I vote on issues, why I vote the way I do, and to be comfortable with approaching me about any decisions or actions I take in this role.</p>	<p>It is an unfortunate truth that schools will continue to deal with the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic for years to come. Schools should continue to promote reading and reading comprehension among its student body, and should ensure that adequate resources are placed at the elementary and middle schools to provide struggling students with the support they need to reach grade level and above reading targets. Schools should also ensure that counselors have the resources necessary to help struggling students. Budgets should recognize that substitute teacher costs are rising and administrators must allot for those increases. It is imperative that during those times where teachers are out of the classroom dealing with illness, or the needs of a sick family member, that students continue to receive the best education possible. Being prepared to deal with increased substitute teacher costs is one way to aid that.</p>	<p>The best results are born out of open and honest conversations. Decisions should include input from stakeholders and not be rushed. Curriculum development should follow those principles. Curriculum development should not be the responsibility of just one or two stakeholder groups. There is bound to be conflict over curriculum at some point but affording the time for open and honest dialogue among the stakeholders and getting to core concerns will help ensure best results for the public school system.</p>
<p><b>Robert C. Kerr</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> kerr.ingham@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Candidate did not respond by print deadline.</p>			
<p><b>Amy Lark</b></p> <p><i>Email:</i> amymylark@gmail.com</p> <p><i>Campaign Website:</i> www.facebook.com/ AmyLarkforMPS-Board/</p> <p><i>Facebook page:</i> www.facebook.com/ Amy-LarkforMPSBoard/</p> <p><i>Education:</i> PhD - Curriculum, Teacher Education, and Educational Policy; Michigan State University</p> <p><i>Phone:</i> 9062317221</p> <p><i>Address:</i> 2589 Hagadorn Rd, Mason 48854</p>	<p>I am professionally trained as an academic in the fields of science and education. I earned my BSc in Biology from Oakland University, and attended graduate school at Michigan State (MSc - Zoology; PhD - Curriculum, Teaching, and Educational Policy). During my doctoral program and as an Associate Professor of Education at Michigan Technological University, I taught education classes that prepared undergraduate students to embark on careers as secondary teachers. I also designed and taught professional development courses for in-service secondary teachers. I have spent countless hours in Michigan schools and classrooms and am knowledgeable about educational policy and laws. My career as a teacher educator has given me insight into the lives and classrooms of teachers and their students. I myself have twenty years of teaching experience, and possess expertise in curriculum and assessment development. I am prepared to serve Mason, its students, and its teachers.</p>	<p>The Board is essentially a representative body. It is the responsibility of the Board to actively reach out to members of the community to determine what is most important with regard to education, and to use knowledge gleaned from these efforts to inform decisions about practices and policies in the district. It is the responsibility of the Board to ensure that *all* voices are heard, and that decisions are balanced and just and serve as many people in the community as possible. My priorities as a board member will center around issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the district; ensuring teachers are well prepared and supported to do their jobs (and, by extension, to support students and their learning); and to ensure that the district employs best practices as determined by research and education professionals.</p>	<p>Funding is a complex issue and varies from district to district and year to year. If elected to the board, I will be sure to closely scrutinize our existing budget and funding practices to understand the specific needs of Mason Public Schools. That said, I strongly believe that school spending should primarily focus on students, teachers, and infrastructure. With regard to the pandemic, some students may have fallen behind academically, and it would make sense to prioritize spending on remediation and special education to help those students get back to a level commensurate with their grade so that they graduate on time. Many teachers began using distanced learning resources during Covid, and may decide to continue using these tools; they should have all of the resources and professional development training required for them to do so successfully. Finally, as the pandemic continues, schools need to maintain procedures for keeping schools safe and students and staff healthy.</p>	<p>As a former educational professional, I deeply understand the rigor of teacher training. Most K-12 teachers have spent four or five years studying to prepare for their profession - they possess not only a strong understanding of subject matter, but also of child development and behavior. In addition, teachers are constantly growing and increasing their knowledge via accruing classroom experience, professional development, and other professional activities. That is to say, teachers are professionals on par with doctors and lawyers, and should be respected as such. We should trust teachers, as professionals, to do what is right for our students. We should trust them to follow best practices to enact curricula that have been developed and vetted by educational professionals. We should trust that they will appropriately differentiate instruction to meet student needs. What they teach should never be dictated by politicians or community members who do not possess the training that they do.</p>



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<b>Brandon Leffew</b> <i>Email:</i> leffew2000@gmail.com <i>Facebook page:</i> https:// www.facebook.com/ profile.php?id=100084136099447 <i>Education:</i> Lansing Community College <i>Phone:</i> 5179301293 <i>Address:</i> 44 Fir Dr W, Mason 48854	I am the father of two students at Mason High School, and I have been a Special Education Paraprofessional going on my fourth school year. I have heard the concerns from both my fellow parents as well as my fellow educators. I have also shared in both the joys and concerns that each side has to offer.	A school board needs to develop and establish a road map for the success of not only the students, but the schools as a collective unit. They need prioritize the needs of not only the students in the district, but the educators who will guide them. My priorities as a board member would be to identify the issues that our schools are facing and to investigate how we can improve them.	The board should look into educational alternatives to help bring students up to speed with their classmates. Now that the pandemic seems to be winding down with more and more students returning from virtual learning, they need to feel relaxed and accepted while integrating into a more normalized routine.	I would suggest that a committee be formed, where we could look at where Michigan students fall in comparison with the rest of the nation. From there, we can see where our educational strengths and weaknesses are and adjust the curriculum accordingly. We need to see how we can spark the educational interests of all students from kindergarten through high school.
<b>Katelyne Thomas</b> <i>Email:</i> thomaskatelynee@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Bethany Walter</b>	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			

**Potterville Public Schools**  
The Board of Education is responsible for setting educational, fiscal and administrative policies of the school district. It hires the superintendent, negotiates staff contracts, and sets the budget. The board members are elected at large and have overlapping terms.  
**Nonpartisan                      4 year term expiring 12/31/2026                      Vote for not more than 4**

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<b>Katherine Bus-sard</b> <i>Email:</i> katherin.schmidt@1791.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Thomas Marciniak</b> <i>Email:</i> kkaz177@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Cyndi O’Neil</b> <i>Email:</i> michigan.lady2003@yahoo.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Loren Smalley, Jr.</b> <i>Email:</i> lsmalley6872@gmail.com  <i>Education:</i> High school  <i>Phone:</i> 517-213-9922  <i>Address:</i> 608 concord ct, Potterville, MI 48876	I’ve been on the board 8 years and have went and taken cba classes at Michigan Association of School Boards along with financial classes for board members provided by the Dept of Treasury. Have been on the bylaws and resolution committee and government relations committee at the Michigan Association of School Boards.	We are there to make policies and procedures and to make sure every child receives a great education. To finish our construction and I would like to see 1000 students attending within the next couple of years. Somehow tackling bullying either through student led anti bullying committee or other ways.	To have a support staff that is able to get the kids up to where they should be that have fallen behind.	By continuing to have forums and educating about curriculum.
<b>Meghan Snider</b> <i>Email:</i> msnider113@gmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			
<b>Jack Temsey</b> <i>Email:</i> jtemsey@hotmail.com	Candidate did not respond by print deadline.			

# MAKE A PLAN TO VOTE

## ✓ Vote at Home

- Request your ballot today at [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote).
- Ballots will be mailed out beginning September 29.
- Use one of our 15 Drop Boxes for fastest Ballot Return.

## ✓ Vote Early or

- Starts September 29
- South Washington Election Unit - 2500 S Washington Ave - 8am-5pm Mon-Fri
- Extended Hours on Wednesdays until 7pm at Election Unit
- Weekend Hours at Election Unit
- City Hall - 9th Floor - 124 W Michigan Ave - 8am-5pm Mon-Fri

## ✓ Vote November 8

- Polls Open 7 am - 8 pm. Visit [LansingVotes.gov](http://LansingVotes.gov) for your location.



**CHRIS SWOPE** LANSING CITY CLERK

[LansingVotes.gov](http://LansingVotes.gov) (517) 483-4131

