# **League of Women Voters** of the Lansing Area 2018 Nonpartisan

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# **Cast YOUR Vote on November 6!**

This election is important to each of us. It's about:

**our** jobs



our communities



our security

our future



The decisions our leaders make in office will influence public policy for years to come. Each vote - YOUR vote - decides who represents us to make those decisions.

On November 6, 2018, Michigan citizens will choose the person who will serve as our governor, the people who will represent us in the U.S. Congress, on the state board of education, and on three university boards of trustees, our state senators and our representatives in the Michigan House, and judges.

We will vote on state and local ballot proposals and for people who directly serve our local communities--positions that affect our lives on a daily basis. Those elected officials make decisions about the taxes we pay, the roads we drive on, the water we drink and the schools our children attend. They affect our communities' safety and well-being today and for the future.

A reason people give for not voting is that they don't have enough information.

The League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area is working tirelessly to break down that barrier with our on-line voting resource, 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.

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

Have your say by voting on November 6th.

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## Thank you for reading the League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area Voter Guide for 2018

The League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area (LWVLA) prepared this Voter Guide with biographical information about the candidates and answers to questions about issues.



The LWVLA does not take responsibility for the views or the facts as stated by the candidates. The words "candidate did not respond" after the candidate's name indicate that no response was received by print deadline. The names of the candidates for each office appear in alphabetical order with the political party of the current Secretary of State (Republican in 2018) always appearing first on the ballot.

A publication by League of Women Voters of Michigan includes candidates for congress and for statewide elected positions. The League is a national organization, working since 1920 to encourage citizen participation in government. It never supports or opposes any political party or candidate but does take action on issues after careful study by the membership.

Beth Moore and Margo Smith, Co-Presidents, League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area

### Michigan Senate District 23

**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.

> Term: 4 years Candidates - Choose 1

> > **Biographical Info**

Andrea Pollock (REP) Candidate did not respond.

**Curtis Hertel Jr. (DEM)** 

Website: www.hertelforsenate.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/CurtisHertelJrForStateSenate/

twitter.com/curtisherteljr Twitter:

**Occupation / Current Position:** State Senator

**Education:** Michigan State University, James Madison College

Ingham County Commissioner (2001-2008) Legislative Liaison, Department of **Qualifications / Experience:** 

Community Health (2005-2008) Ingham County County Register of Deeds (2009-2015) 23rd

District State Senator (2015-present)

#### **Candidate Responses**

#### **PRIORITIES**

1. What are your top three state legislative priorities and how would you address them?

Curtis Hertel Jr. (DEM): My top 3 priorities are investing in and protecting our workforce, investing in education, and investing in our roads and infrastructure. During my first term I have sponsored legislation addressing all of these issues and I'm looking forward to working with a new legislature to continue working and get more done for the people of Michigan.

Andrea Pollock (REP) Candidate did not respond.

#### **EDUCATION**

2. What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?

Curtis Hertel Jr. (DEM): I support investing in our public education and initiatives to reduce the cost of college to increase accessibility. I also support investing in skilled trades training programs and expanding early preschool programs.

Andrea Pollock (REP) Candidate did not respond.

#### **ECONOMY:**

3. What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

Curtis Hertel Jr. (DEM): I support investing in our workforce, including investing in skilled trades training programs, increasing minimum wage, and protecting workers' rights, and other programs that would remove barriers to improved economic position, like more affordable childcare and education.

Andrea Pollock (REP) Candidate did not respond.

#### **ELECTIONS:**

4. What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

Curtis Hertel Jr. (DEM): I support increased transparency regarding campaign funding and protecting and expanding voting rights, including automatic voter registration.

Andrea Pollock (REP) Candidate did not respond.

#### **ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY:**

5. What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

Curtis Hertel Jr. (DEM): I'm proud to support policies that protect Michigan's natural resources for future generations. I support clean energy initiatives and am particularly passionate about clean water for all Michigan residents. I have worked with Clean Water Action and have received the endorsement of Sierra Club.

Andrea Pollock (REP) Candidate did not respond.

#### JUSTICE:

6. What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

Curtis Hertel Jr. (DEM): I am proud to fight for the civil rights of all Michigan residents throughout my career. I have been a vocal ally of the LGBTQ community, and I will always fight for social and racial justice for Michigan's most vulnerable communities.

Andrea Pollock (REP) Candidate did not respond.

### Michigan House District 67

**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.

Term: 4 years Choose 1 candidate

#### **Biographical Info:**

Leon R Clark (REP)

Website: leonformichigan.com

**Education**: Graduate of Mason High School

**Qualifications / Experience**: 24 yrs. Mason City Council 9 yrs Mayor City of Mason

Kara Hope (DEM)

Website: <a href="http://votekarahope.com">http://votekarahope.com</a>

Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/KaraHopeHoltMl">http://www.facebook.com/KaraHopeHoltMl</a>

Twitter: twitter.com/KaraHope7

Occupation / Current Position: attorney/Ingham County Commissioner

Education: Juris Doctor cum laude, 2003, WMU Cooley Law School; Bachelor of Arts with high

honors (Phi Beta Kappa), 1997, Michigan State University

Qualifications / Experience: With nearly 6 years in elected office as an Ingham County Commissioner; two

years working for the state appellate court; over 10 years building and leading the Holt Community Arts Council, an all-volunteer community organization; and even more time serving my community with free legal services and other volunteerism,

I know what public service is all about. It's been my life.

Zachary Moreau (LIB)

Candidate did not respond.

### **Candidate Responses**

#### **PRIORITIES**

1. What are your top three state legislative priorities and how would you address them?

**Leon R Clark (REP)** We need to make Michigan more business friendly. We need to attract new, more diverse businesses to the state in order to bolster our economic base. Our education system is broken, and the only fix offered, is to throw money at it. We need to do a complete assessment, including the teachers and Administrators on the front lines. Once we identify the problems, fix them, then determine the appropriate amount of funding. Once done, we will be in position to offer a better educated pool of possible employees for the new businesses we attract. Infrastructure- we need to lock in a permanent funding stream then fix roads

**Kara Hope (DEM)** 1- Roads and infrastructure: We need a "once in a generation" investment in our roads, bridges, and water and sewer systems. We have to pay for it in a way that does not put too much of the burden on working and lower-income people. 2- Public education: We need to increase funding at every level: from early childhood through post-secondary education, including trade and technical training. 3 – Funding for local governments: We need to restore funding to the services that residents expect, want, and need from their local government: public safety, parks, senior services, and roads and other infrastructure.

Zachary Moreau (LIB) Candidate did not respond.

#### **EDUCATION**

2. What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?

Leon R Clark (REP) See the answer above

**Kara Hope (DEM)** We cannot keep cutting pay and benefits for teachers and expect our best and brightest to join this profession. We cannot let our schools rot while increasing the number of students in each classroom and expect children to reach their potential. We need equitable funding to improve student achievement, especially for under-served children (children of color and children in lower-income areas). We need to invest in professional development and better pay and benefits for teachers to attract and retain quality educators.

Zachary Moreau (LIB) Candidate did not respond.

#### **ECONOMY**

3. What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

**Leon R Clark (REP)** Along with my previous statement, we need to lower taxes, address the high auto insurance premiums. If we fix the education system, and then fund it appropriately, the taxpayers will realize a savings. If we get these issues in line, the residents of the state will have more money to put in their pockets.

**Kara Hope (DEM)** We need to invest in higher education and other post-secondary training to help prepare students for the workforce that modern employers require. We need to create incentives for college graduates to remain in Michigan. We need to stop the assault on workers' rights and labor organizations that drives wages down

Zachary Moreau (LIB) Candidate did not respond.

#### **ELECTIONS**

4. What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

**Leon R Clark (REP)** Campaign funding policies and rules should be reviewed and adjusted. It's sad that elections turn out being about money, and who has the most of it. I favor Campaign reform. I believe every citizen has the right to vote, and they should. I support election day, and the current absentee ballot system.

**Kara Hope (DEM)** Regarding campaign funding, I oppose "dark money" spending to promote candidates or issues closely tied with specific candidates. I support the work of Voters Not Politicians to end partisan gerrymandering as well as the work of Promote the Vote to increase access to the ballot. Voting should be simple and convenient, so I endorse allowing residents to register to vote at any time, including on Election Day. I support widespread access to absentee voting. And I support automatic voter registration.

Zachary Moreau (LIB) Candidate did not respond.

#### **ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY**

5. What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

**Leon R Clark (REP)** I believe we should take every reasonable action to protect all of our natural resources. Technology today allows many, options to do just that. That same technology should be used to develop practical, efficient, economical methods of utilizing renewable energy. As to pipeline 5, I believe that pipelines are the most efficient and economical means to transport products. Increased monitoring, and implementing the most advanced maintenance methods available.

**Kara Hope (DEM)** Michigan's heavy dependence on fossil fuels, including coal, is problematic because it contributes to air and water pollution. We need to crack down on polluters. I am encouraged by the state's commitment to deriving 50 percent of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2030. I am concerned about the condition of Line 5 and the threat it poses to a huge portion of the world's freshwater supply.

Zachary Moreau (LIB) Candidate did not respond.

#### **JUSTICE**

6. What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

**Leon R Clark (REP)** I believe that justice should not be based on race, color, creed, religion, or anything other than the law. I would support any and all policies implemented that would lead to that end. People are people, we are all humans, and the laws we live by absolutely must apply to each of us the same.

**Kara Hope (DEM)** I support equitably funding public schools to close the achievement gap that separates higher-income kids and lower-income kids as well as the achievement gap that separates white students from students of color. I oppose jailing persons who are unable to pay court-imposed fines or fees because imprisonment for this reason disproportionately affects persons of color and lower-income people. I support Michigan's efforts to improve indigent defense for low-income defendants.

Zachary Moreau (LIB) Candidate did not respond.

### **Michigan House District 68**

**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.

Term: 2 years Choose 1 candidate

#### **Biographical Info:**

Rosalinda Hernandez (REP)

Website: Voterosalindahernandez.com

Occupation / Current Position: I am the senior Pastor at I AM Ministries.

**Education**: Graduated from Lansing Eastern: Earned my degree in Leadership and Ministry from

Mt. Hope Bible Training Institute.

Qualifications / Experience: I have served in the ministry for twelve years, working with people and families. As a

Representative that's what my priorities will be, to be a public servant to the citizens and families of our State. My principles and values will reflect my choices in the

legislature.

Sarah Anthony (DEM)

Website: www.VoteSarahAnthony.com

Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/SarahAnthony517/">http://www.facebook.com/SarahAnthony517/</a>
Occupation / Current Position: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/sarahAnthony517/">http://www.facebook.com/sarahAnthony517/</a>
Occupation / Current Position / Current Pos

**Education**: Lansing Everett High School Central Michigan University (B.S. - Political Science)

Western Michigan University (MPA - Public Administration) University of Michigan -

New Leadership Fellowship

**Qualifications / Experience**: I was born and raised in Lansing and have remained active in various community

organizations and committees. As a former legislative staffer for Joan Bauer, I thoroughly understand the legislative process and have formed critical relationships. I will be able to "hit the ground running". As a county commissioner, I have experience

governing, balancing budgets and working with both parties.

**Robin Laurain (GRN)** 

Website: Crowdpac.cvom/profile/robin68 https://electrobinlaurain.godaddy

Facebook: http://CitizensforRobinLaurain

Twitter: twitter.com/Robin68

Occupation / Current Position: Nurse

**Education**: Northwestern Michigan College 1981

Qualifications / Experience: Business owner Co-Founder of the Michigan Association for Children's Mental Health Care. State

Parent Council Coordinator for the Association for Children's Mental Health Co-Founder of Palestinian Assistance Services. Citizen candidate who has been involved in activism in the 68th district for 23

years.

#### **Candidate Responses**

#### **PRIORITIES**

1. What are your top three state legislative priorities and how would you address them?

Rosalinda Hernandez (REP) Infrastructure: Attain Federal funding to fix our deplorable roads! Also increase the revenue percentage from 6 percent to 10 percent from the lottery. Education: Fund before and after school programs for children. Training for trade skills jobs. Smaller classrooms: Aquire teaching assistant's to assist teachers to have more of a one on one Bring in Safety officers, and have Training for the school counselors in trauma and suicide prevention.. School should be a place where children can be educated and trained and be prepared for life. Auto insurance reform: Regulate the company, and reform the auto insurance

**Sarah Anthony (DEM)** Infrastructure, health care, and education are three of my top priorities. Fixing our crumbling roads and bridges is the number one issue I hear from residents. As a state representative, I plan to work with colleagues across the aisle to find creative solutions to fund road repairs. Secondly, I believe health care is a right and I will work to expand and protect health care for all Michigan families. Third, our region has a talent shortage and we need to prioritize investing in education, including early childhood and postsecondary degrees and credentials. I will fight for increased funding for education.

**Robin Laurain (GRN)** The water quality in our district as well as the entire state is sub-standard. I would promote tri-partisan support to pass stronger, water purity laws. Our children have lower reading skills then the National average. I want to adopt a Children's Bill of Rights for the Children of Michigan. Being taught to read would be a right for all Michigan children. No child would be allowed to graduate without being able to read. Affordable housing is another priority we need in our district. We need to get all people off the streets and out of homeless shelters. We need to address the housing needs for our Vets.

#### **EDUCATION**

2. What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?

Rosalinda Hernandez (REP) Education thru preschool and grade school to high school must be brought to its former standards. The common core needs to be replaced, every student can not be measured by the same test, more flexibility and fluidity in the scoring system is a must !! We need to support the teaching staff and administrators and provide further training if necessary to them . Our educators have become babysitters and counselors and are not allowed to do their job as educators !The families of the students need support, I would legislate laws to aid single mothers with school children by funding daycare assistance and insurance

**Sarah Anthony (DEM)** I believe that the number one way Michigan can attract and retain businesses is by ensuring we have a skilled, qualified workforce. Amazon's decision to pass on Detroit for a second headquarters should be a wake-up call that we must increase our college degree attainment rate in Michigan to compete for jobs of the future. In order for Michigan to be a Top Ten state, we need to address our talent

crisis, which will include doubling-down funding on early childhood education as well as postsecondary education and training programs. I support additional revenue for higher education, financial aid and early childhood.

**Robin Laurain (GRN)** I would like to see neighborhood community centers have a social worker who goes door-to-door making contact with people who need help getting connected with services. I believe we need tutors at each community center and parent support groups developed in the neighborhoods. We need to support parents and help them build strong families.

#### **ECONOMY**

3. What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

**Rosalinda Hernandez (REP)** Reducing regulations for businesses, having rention benefits for companies. Lowering rates for leasing properties to assist new businesses for the first 3 years. Tax breaks for companies that are bringing jobs to Michigan.

**Sarah Anthony (DEM)** The crux of economic development is creating an environment that is conductive and attractive for businesses so they can boost local economies and create jobs and also investing in working families. As a legislator, I would advocate for better infrastructure, job training programs and talent attraction/ retention incentives to ensure our region can compete throughout the state and nation.

**Robin Laurain (GRN)** Our district needs to require that when contractors come into the district that residents of the district are given first bids to the jobs. We need to attract pro-employee businesses that offer a livable wage and benefits. To attract stellar companies into our district, we need to have a premier public education system, clean water, adequate infrastructure, and affordable housing. The

#### **ELECTIONS**

4. What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

**Rosalinda Hernandez (REP)** Transparency is key!! Full disclosure of donors to campaigns, regulations established for private corporations. I agree that some form of picture id should be presented at the polls, to many voters have not been protected from voter fraud. Paper ballots!

**Sarah Anthony (DEM)** I fully support "Promote the Vote", which advocates fo expanding voting rights and access (i.e. the right to a secret ballot, automatic voter registration, no-reason absentee voting, straight-party voting, and streamlined processes fo military service members and overseas voters).

**Robin Laurain (GRN)** Voting rights should be protected and regarded as a civil right. I do not accept money from PACS. The huge money needs to be taken out of politics so that the average citizen can be a candidate and not beholden to only corporate interests.

#### **ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY**

5. What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

**Rosalinda Hernandez (REP)** I agree that our Great lakes should be protected from illegal dumping! Less pollution and greener solutions are a must for our air and land ... Enbridge could be a possibility to not have to depend on overseas oil! We need to be self sufficient and not susceptible to foreign countries..

**Sarah Anthony (DEM)** I am a strong track record of protecting Michigan's land, water and air. I was recently endorsed by the Michigan League of Conservation Voters due to my voting record and vocal opposition to anti-envoirnmetal actions in Michigan. I support efforts that protect our Great Lakes, ensure safe drinking water, ban harm pollutants in our communities, and protect public and natural lands throughout our state. I believe Line 5 should be shut down. The Great Lakes hold 90 percent of the nation's surface fresh water and pumping oil through Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline presents a real and present danger to our lake and our state.

**Robin Laurain (GRN)** Enbridge Pipeline 5 should be shut down. I support a ban on fracking. We need to create more jobs by using Green energy. Recycling should be a major industry in our state.

#### **JUSTICE**

6. What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

**Rosalinda Hernandez (REP)** Being a minority I have personally dealt with injustices due to my nationality. I dont agree that a person should be judged according to the color of their skin or their gender.. As a Latina female I have struggled in our city with prejudice and discrimination, not only will I advocate for social and racial justice but I will defend and protect those who would be mistreated. Legislating laws that would prevent such atrocities.

**Sarah Anthony (DEM)** I approach each and every policy with a lens for social and racial justice. On the Ingham County Commission, I help lead our efforts to "Ban the Box" and "Raise the Age"; two policies that disproportionately impact low-income people and people of color. At a state level, we need criminal justice reform that embeds an equity lens and address discriminatory housing and lending practices, and create opportunities for economic advancement and upward mobility for disenfranchised and historical disadvantaged communities.

**Robin Laurain (GRN)** Enforce the laws we already have in place to stop systemic racism. End the school to prison pipeline by identifying at risk youth before pre-school and providing their families with services. My Children's Bill of Rights would assure that all Michigan children have the basic things they need to survive. We need to involve families in all decisions made for them. Our police, teachers, and medical staff need to be educated in how to work with people of color, disabilities...seen and unseen, and those who experience substance abuse issues. Adopt alternatives to prison and jail. End the bond system.

### **Michigan House District 69**

**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.

Term: 2 years Choose 1 candidate

#### **Biographical Info:**

#### George Nastas (REP)

**Education**: Ph.D. Business Administration MBA Business Administration BS Mechanical Engineering

Qualifications / Experience: University instructor @ UM-F, MSU; Analyst, DoD

#### Julie Brixie (DEM)

Website: <u>www.JulieBrixie.com</u>

Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/JulieBrixieforStateRep">http://www.facebook.com/JulieBrixieforStateRep</a>

Twitter: twitter.com/JulieBrixie

Occupation / Current Position: Meridian Township Treasurer, 2008-Present (I am currently serving my third term.)

**Education**: Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Geography; University of Illinois; 1988 Master's

Degree in Crop and Soil Sciences; specialization in Environmental Toxicology; Michigan

State University; 1991

**Qualifications / Experience**: Meridian Township Treasurer, 2008 – Present Meridian Township Trustee, 2000 – 2008

Meridian Township Land Preservation Board, 2012 - Present Commissioner, Meridian

Township Planning Commission, 1999 Member, Meridian Township Zoning Board of Appeals,

1998 Environmental Consultant, Michigan Biotechnology Institute, 1994 – 1996 Environmental Chemist, Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber, 1991 – 1994

#### **Candidate Responses**

#### **PRIORITIES**

1. What are your top three state legislative priorities and how would you address them?

**George Nastas (REP)** 1. Undue progressive legislation 2. Reduce influence of special interests and their lobbyists 3. Eliminate taxes on income and wealth, eliminate income and wealth redistribution 4. Improve roads and bridges and their funding 5. Reform high cost automobile insurance 6. Require defined contribution retirement plan for all taxpayer funded pensions, eliminate double dipping 7. Cap compensation and retirement benefits for all taxpayer paid employees, retirees; examine feasibility of claw backs

**Julie Brixie (DEM)** Fixing our crumbling roads and aging infrastructure. I will work to cut our highest-in-the-nation truck weights in half and put together a comprehensive plan to fix our infrastructure. Investing in our children's future by establishing universal preschool and pediatric literacy programs, putting an end to the raid on the School Aid Fund, and making sure our teachers have the resources they need to help every child read at grade level and realize their potential. Making college affordable again by bringing back the MI Promise Scholarship to give every child up to \$30,000 toward technical training or a college degree.

#### **EDUCATION**

2 What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?

**George Nastas (REP)** 1. Require performance standards for students, teachers, administrators, and schools and require reporting of their performance. Tie funding to performance 2. Provide more student and parent control of any tax dollars going to education 3. Require life skills, U.S. history, the Constitution teaching 4. Review sources and uses of funds 5. Redirect to classroom education funds spent for overhead 6. Continuously improve services to provide better value for tax dollar spent

**Julie Brixie (DEM)** Investing in pediatric literacy programs and establishing universal preschool. The best opportunity to impact a child's future is in the first five years where rapid brain development occurs. Putting an end to the raid on the School Aid Fund. Bringing educators to the table when critical decisions are being made about our children's education, not the DeVos family. Making sure our teachers have the resources they need to help every child read at grade level. Making college affordable again by bringing back the MI Promise Scholarship to give every child up to \$30,000 toward technical training or a college degree.

#### **ECONOMY**

3. What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

**George Nastas (REP)** 1. Eliminate unreasonable government imposed barriers to attracting businesses and their expansion 2. Eliminate taxes/ fees on business that are not directly related to the business' activities - pay for service, menu of services approach 3. Level playing field for all businesses, no targeted incentives 4. Business need directed community college skill programs

**Julie Brixie (DEM)** Put Michiganders to work fixing our roads and infrastructure. Far too many families haven't had a pay raise in years. Michigan's median household income has fallen dramatically. It's time to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour to lift everyone up. Bolster our manufacturing sector by increasing renewable energy and continuing our world-leading autonomous vehicle research and development, which is drawing the tech industry to Michigan. Invest in our communities. Leading businesses locate where talented people want to live work and play. Far too many of our children are leaving us for communities they can't find here.

#### **ELECTIONS**

4. What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

**George Nastas (REP)** 1. Eliminate campaign financing laws - the procedure is awkward and difficult to use, has not eliminated influence of special interests and their lobbyists 2. Oppose candidate financial disclosure proposals 3. Oppose progressive ballot proposal to get control of voting district formation - progressives are against strong individual liberty, economic freedom, and private property rights

Julie Brixie (DEM) I support any measure that makes it easier to vote. Nobody should need a reason to vote, it's time for us to allow for no-reason absentee voting; early voting; and automatic voter registration, or at least early voter registration when teenagers obtain their driver's license and Election-Day voter registration. Most importantly, we need to get corporate money out of politics entirely and we need to reduce the influence of PACs on our political process. Dark money and the doubling of contribution limits have given a handful of very wealthy residents a stranglehold on our state and federal government. This must change.

#### **ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY**

5. What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

**George Nastas (REP)** 1. Favor a market based approach to meeting Michigan's energy needs - consumer demand should direct allocation of investor resources to energy supply 2. Favor hardening energy distribution system against potential emp 3. Favor recycling and minimizing the use of landfills 4. Favor relocating pipeline if science based study leads to that conclusion

Julie Brixie (DEM) Protect our Great Lakes from invasive species and shut down Line 5. Innovate and invest in the Natural Resources Trust Fund to put our most ecologically valuable land into the public trust for future generations to cherish. Utilize the best science and engineering we have to protect our fresh water resources and ensure every family has access to safe, affordable drinking water by preventing sewage discharges and instituting a state-wide lead testing and abatement program. Increase our renewable energy standards to 33% by 2030, 100% by 2050, and create a grant program to ensure our local governments can achieve too.

#### **JUSTICE**

6. What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

**George Nastas (REP) 1.** Oppose social justice programs and spending - it is inherently discriminatory and leads to misallocation of other peoples money 2. Favor equal treatment under the law while preserving freedom of association

Julie Brixie (DEM) Make it right for the children of Flint by investing in pediatric literacy programs and universal preschool. Amend the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act and Ethnic Intimidation Act to include "sexual orientation and gender identity or expression". Establish school programing and support staff to create a safe and welcoming environment for all students. Fund body cameras for our officers statewide and bolster our sensitivity training in new and innovative ways with the help of the NAACP, ACLU, etc. We also need to incentivize police departments to hold community conversations, so there is a healthy, open dialogue.

#### **Ingham County Commissioner**

The 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.

**Partisan** 

2 years term

Choose 1

# **District 1**Biographical Information

William F. Renfrew (REP)
Campaign Phone (517) 484-7292

Candidate did not respond.

Victor G. Celentino (DEM)
special education teacher
Web Site: http://www.votecelentino.com
Education Diploma; Waverly High School AD,
LCC; BA, Olivet College;
MA, Western Michigan University
Campaign Phone (517) 321-702

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

#### Victor G. Celentino

I am a life long resident of Ingham County. I've served 18 years as a County Commissioner (representing District 1), Chairperson of the Board of Commissioners in 2004, 2006, 2014, currently serve as the Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners. Member of the Law and County Services Committees; Capital Region International Airport Authority Board; member of the NAACP; Italian American Club of Lansing; St. Gerard Catholic Church. Former Lansing Township Trustee (1992-2000). I'm a special education teacher and have taught at Dwight Rich Middle School (1992-2017), I'm presently at J.W. Sexton High School (teaching 7th & 8th grade) for the Lansing School District. I am running for re-election because I would like to continue to offer the people of Ingham County positive, progressive leadership and to continue to work for regional cooperation throughout the community.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected? **Victor G. Celentino** 

Developing the 2019 budget is a priority. Developing a balanced budget while offering citizens efficient and effective services. Another priority is the upgrading of our infrastructure. Monitoring the resurfacing of Waverly Road (from Old Lansing Road to St. Joe) in the spring of 2019. Monitoring the implementation of the Justice Complex Millage proposal. At the August 7th primary election, the voters will consider a .85 mill increase that would replace the current County jail, the Sheriff's administrative offices and court facilities located in Mason, along with additional programming funds in order to expand services. Strengthening our local economy by supporting job creating and economic initiatives which will attract and retain businesses in our area in order to create good paying jobs. I will continue to be a proponent of regional cooperation between local units of governments on how to work together when providing essential services for our citizens.

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?

#### Victor G. Celentino

Making sure the Board of Commissioners continue to focus on providing recreational opportunities for our citizens by enhancing our county parks, which provides environmentally safe areas for our citizens to enjoy nature and our green space, which also includes environmentally safe trails for our citizens. Making sure our ground water is environmentally safe for our residents. Making sure septic tanks and wells within our County are properly inspected to avoid any contaminated ground water. Ingham County has an Environmental Health Department which monitors the inspections which can ensure that the properties are in compliance.

# **District 2**Biographical Information

Patricia Muscovalley (REP)
Campaign Phone (517) 372-0468

Candidate did not respond.

Ryan Sebolt (DEM)
Communications Director,

Michigan AFL-CIO

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://www.voteryansebolt.com">http://www.voteryansebolt.com</a>

**Education** B.A. Albion College **Campaign Phone** (517) 927-3917

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Ryan Sebolt** I worked for the state legislature for nearly 12 years before recently beginning a new career with the Michigan AFL-CIO. I understand the interaction between federal, state and local governments and have policy experience in a number of areas thanks to my time at the state capitol. I am seeking a second term as County Commissioner because I believe local government can be very impactful on the day-to-day lives of our residents. I believe that the county can and must play a role in building efficiency and eliminating redundancy in regional local government.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

**Ryan Sebolt** Like most other local governments, Ingham county dealing with insufficient revenue sharing from the state while still needing to provide quality services for residents and meeting our obligations to retirees. The county has turned to special millages to fund many of the services or constituents rely on to improve the quality of life in our region. However, we need the state to meet its obligations to local government. The county must also continue to work regionally to provide services in coordination with other local governments and reduce costs for taxpayers. 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?

**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?

#### Ryan Sebolt

Protecting our groundwater is an extremely urgent issue facing the county. Currently there is no state-wide standard for septic tank inspections. Some counties do not inspect these systems at all, leaving groundwater susceptible to leaking sewage. Ingham County is currently exploring moving from a point of sales in section (which may occur once a generation or less with family farms) and moving to inspecting every septic system once every 10 years. This will help to keep or groundwater clean and usable for generations to come.

# District 3 Biographical Information

**Beverly K. Hansen (REP) Campaign Phone** (517) 708-7485

Candidate did not respond.

Derrel E. Slaughter (DEM)

Commission Analyst,

Michigan Public Service Commission

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://slaughterforlansing.com">http://slaughterforlansing.com</a>

Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/Slaughterforlansing/

Education Bachelor of Science, Public Policy,

Michigan State University

Campaign Phone (248) 910-2741

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Derrell E. Slaughter** I was raised in a single-parent household. I watched my mom sacrifice to make sure I would be the first in my family to graduate from college; I saw her work hard so I could realize my dreams. Today, I know it's time to pay it forward by giving back to my community — I want to make sure Southside families can realize their dreams, too.

I have been involved with local nonprofits and community activist groups, like Turning Point of Lansing and the Lansing Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Currently, I hold several positions – serving as: Chairman of the Ingham County Board of Health, Coordinator for the Old Everett Neighborhood Association, 4th Chair of the Ingham County Democratic Party, Vice Chair of the Lansing Area American Civil Liberties

Union (ACLU), Board member for the ACLU of Michigan. My employment with the Michigan Public Service Commission has provided me the opportunity to learn about Michigan's infrastructure problem

- 2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

  Derrell E. Slaughter It is my belief that access to quality, affordable health care is essential to the well being of our community. As Chair of the Ingham County Board of Health I know the issues, & already work to protect health reform here. I will fight to ensure our health center has the resources it needs. I want to make sure everyone can enjoy our public spaces without fear. I have worked with local law enforcement to promote more progressive policing policies. I will continue that work as County Commissioner, working tirelessly to create partnerships between county and city law enforcement officials to keep our communities safe in a fair, smart, cost-effective way. I'm ready to fight to bring investment back into South Lansing. I will work with local businesses and the City of Lansing to find innovative ways of attracting businesses so our corridors can thrive. I will work very hard to make sure the Southside corridors are family-friendly and attractive, so young people will settle here.
- 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?

**Derrell E. Slaughter** I believe that lead poisoning is one of the largest environmental issues facing Ingham County. According to the Ingham County Health Department (ICHD), 70% of Ingham County children live in rental properties that contain lead. <a href="http://hd.ingham.org/ForParents/HealthyHomes/LeadPoisoningPrevention.aspx">http://hd.ingham.org/ForParents/HealthyHomes/LeadPoisoningPrevention.aspx</a>

From a county perspective, I want to make sure that the work that the ICHD's Healthy Homes initiative does around lead poisoning prevention is fully funded and supported. Our focus needs to continue to be the safety and the health of the children, and I am committed to ensuring we, in fact, make our homes healthy.

# District 4 Biographical Information

Vickie Niklas (REP)
Campaign Phone (517) 303-0221

Candidate did not respond

Bryan L. Crenshaw (DEM)
Ingham County Commissioner
District 4

**Education** Associates in Business-Major Criminal Justice Lansing Community College 1996

**Campaign Phone** (517) 256-6573

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Bryan L. Crenshaw** I was appointed to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners in 2013, I have been active in all major issues before the commission. I have been a member of the County Services, Finance and Law & Courts Committee. I am the current Chair of the Law & Courts Committee, and also served as Chair in 2016.

The reason I am running for re-election is to continue the work and the momentum on issues before the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. This year, as Chair of the Law & Courts Committee, I worked with the Sheriff and members of the committee to put before the voters a Justice Millage, which would allow for building a consolidated court, sheriffs office and county jail. This effort would provide efficiencies in operation and savings instead of continuing to provide a "band aid" fix on repairs at the current Ingham County Jail. Through the generosity of Ingham County residents, this millage passed and we will begin building a new combined facility for these entities.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

Bryan L. Crenshaw One of the priorities is to review the current millage's as they come up for renewal and determine their impact on the quality of life for Ingham County residents. Millage's must also align with our strategic plan passed by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, and if these don't then we should not renew them.

We also need to see if the full millage needs to levied, or can we lower this, thus providing some less collected in taxes from Ingham County Residents.

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?

**Bryan L. Crenshaw** We must operate our current and future facilities in a manner that are environmentally friendly. We need to look at how we can retrofit current facilities and be cognizant of standards as we build new facilities. Our County Health Department also plays a role in information the Ingham County Board of Commissioners on issues related to the environment and providing recommendations on how to address these.

William Douglas Ames (REP) Campaign Phone (517) 282-8085

Candidate did not respond.

District 5
Biographical Information

**Todd Tennis (DEM)** 

Lobbyist

Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/toddntennis/

**Education** Bachelors Degree, University of Michigan

Phone 517-202-2303

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Todd Tennis** Before I was first elected to the Ingham County Board, I spent over a decade working on public policy at the state level. My work has allowed me to participate in policy discussions in areas ranging from public health to public utilities, and it was a terrific preparation for my role as a county commissioner. Now, twelve years later, I have been able to work on county-specific issues such as providing access to primary health care through our Ingham Community Health Centers, expanding recreational opportunities by improving our parks and trails, and promoting regionalism by working with our municipal partners.

I'm running for re-election because I think that I've done a good job representing the residents of south Lansing at the county level, and I believe there is more work to be done.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

Todd Tennis The top priority for most Michigan residents is the poor quality of our roads and infrastructure. We work hard at the county commission to maintain the county roads that are primarily in the rural parts of the county. Even though the county does not have jurisdiction over roads in Lansing, we can still do more to partner with the city and Lansing Township so that our crews and theirs can better coordinate and improve efficiency. However, the sad truth is that unless the state makes good on promises to improve road funding, we will continue to watch our roads deteriorate.

I also make access to health care a top priority. Ingham County has been a statewide leader not only in preserving programs like the Ingham Health plan that provide coverage for working families, but also in working directly with the Ingham Community Health Centers to ensure that all residents can access primary care. I pledge to continue that work if reelected.

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?

**Todd Tennis** Our county commission has been at the forefront of using county governmental agencies to promote a cleaner environment. Ingham County has been exploring updates to our septic inspection protocols to make sure that our surface and ground waters are not polluted by leaking septic systems. We have also been a leader, through the County Drain Commission office, in building drains that function not only to prevent flooding but that also improve the quality of the water. Our Health Department leads the state in programs to recycle hazardous materials and to inspect businesses that store hazardous materials to make sure they done so responsibly and safely.

# **District 6**Biographical Information

Randy Mailville (REP)

Engineer

Brandon D. Currin (DEM)
Campaign Phone (517) 604-1821
Candidate did not respond.

**Education** University of Michigan, BS Aerospace Engineering, BS Mechanical Engineering, Leslie High School

Campaign Phone (517)202-4919

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

Randy Maiville Professional Employment Experience Engineer Eaton Aeroquip 30 Years, Local Government Experience Ingham County Commissioner, District 6, 2013-present (elected incumbent); Onondaga Township Supervisor, 2004-2011; Onondaga Trustee, 1996-2004; Onondaga Planning Commission 1990-2004 Why am I running? I wish to continue to serve the people of my district and Ingham County. I have the most experience as an incumbent and previous township official. I continue to be a voice for the out-county areas and not special interests. As a previous local elected official, I was outspoken with matters at the county level. I was asked to run by incumbents recognizing my work as a township official and to be outspoken on county issues such as the road commission and the sheriff department. We need to have regionalism be win-win and serve the entire area including the tri-county area.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

Randy Maiville 1) Restoring Sheriff Department funding and staff and supporting a new jail and court facilities. Sheriff department funding can be as incremental increases when and as the economy and tax base improves. Jail was to be initially funded through staff efficiencies in a new design and using money from other bonding projects as they are paid off. However, changes in retirement requirements have forced us to go for a millage for this critical need. 2) Continue the effort to address underfunded retirement costs while maintaining the promises that were previously made to county employees. This can be done by careful revenue annually and trying to exceed the minimum payments the state recommends. 3) Have regionalism be win-win and benefit multiple agencies or the entire tri-county area, not just one entity at the expense of taxpayer's money and lack of critical services. Regionalism has often been used by some local units of government to force a shift of county funds to that one entity only.

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?

**Randy Maiville** I believe the most important environmental issue locally is groundwater. Once an aquifer or groundwater is compromised or polluted it cannot be easily mediated. I have supported a revisit to a groundwater study performed in the 1970's to have it updated and reviewed again. This support is despite lack of support from others on the board. Ingham County does have several polluted groundwater sites. The County Government can help by support efforts to monitor and minimize impact. Some of this

can be done through our Health Department's Environmental Health efforts and the Drain Commission office to reduce the movement of some of the known polluted plumes.

# **District 7**Biographical Information

Alexa Krueger (REP)
Campaign Phone (616) 745-4466

Candidate did not respond.

Chris Trubac (DEM)
Administrative Assistant

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://christrubac.com">http://christrubac.com</a>

Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/christrubac/

**Education** B.S.. Conservation of Natural Resources

**Campaign Phone** (517) 643-1418

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Chris Trubac** Ingham County is a great place to live—I know because I grew up here. But I also know there's room for improvement, especially where government is concerned.

I studied environmental conservation at the University of Masschusetts because I believe we need lawmakers who understand environmental issues. Since graduating, I've worked in government at both the state and local levels, trying to fully understand the issues that impact today's working families.

I'm running because I want to bring a fresh perspective to the challenges facing Ingham County. I hope to leave Holt and South Lansing even better than I found them.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

Chris Trubac In 2014, Ingham County residents voted in favor of a new millage for the creation and management of parks and trails. Voters were promised a "county-wide system" of trails that would connect our communities and create new opportunities for outdoor recreation.

To date, Delhi Township has not received one thin dime of that money, even though our homeowners pay into the millage just like everyone else.

Building a county-wide system of trails will go a long way toward increasing the value of our communities, and it should be a top priority for the Board of Commissioners. Researchers have demonstrated a clear connection between outdoor recreation and mental health, and no one should be denied the opportunity to safely enjoy time outdoors—especially when they're already paying for it.located in Mason, along with additional programming funds in order to expand services. Strengthening our local economy by supporting job creating and economic initiatives which will attract and retain businesses in our area in order to create good paying jobs. I will continue to be a proponent of regional cooperation between local units of governments on how to work together when providing essential services for our citizens.

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?

**Chris Trubac** In addition to the benefits I mentioned above, parks and trails have the benefit of encouraging environmental stewardship. That's because spending time outdoors gives everyone a vested interest in protecting the land, air and water. If we're going to ask local families to do more to protect the environment, it's only fair we provide them with opportunities to enjoy it.

I also believe in the power of local governments and developers to work together for the restoration of brownfield sites. These hazardous, polluted areas often present unique challenges and potential risks to local residents. But when the right people work together, they can be leveraged to create new business and employment opportunities that attract economic activity and strengthen our community.

I also believe it's vital that we continue to support Potter Park Zoo, as it is an excellent resource for outreach and education regarding environmental issues and conservation initiatives.compliance.

# **District 8**Biographical Information

Bernard Fedewa (REP)

Retired

Education B.S., M.S. MSU

**Campaign Phone** (517) 896-8943

Mark Grebner (DEM)

County Commissioner, political consultant, attorney **Education** BA, MSU, James Madison College, Urban

Political 1001, UR 1005

Policy, 1981. JD, UM, 1985

**Campaign Phone** (517) 351-6682

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

#### **Bernard Fedewa**

Running because good government needs qualified people with tested knowledge and experience depth with public and private sector entities. Several year career in housing finance/community development, Leader/participant in finance program creation and

production of multi-millions worth of statewide housing development. Affordable home ownership and rental housing. Senior living and services specialty. Founding role Michigan Housing Development Authority/Great Lakes Capital Fund for Housing. Community volunteer work, Past East Lansing Planning Commissioner, extensive neighborhood association leadership, Urban Land Institute Advisory Board, East Lansing Rotary Club. My candidacy offers a results oriented approach to the County Board of Commissioners based on proven business-like practices, fiscal soundness, responsive action, and tempered with a strong bi-partisan approach.

#### **Mark Grebner**

First elected County Commissioner, 1976. Served 1977-1980, 1985-2012, 2017-present. Selected Board Chairperson, four one-year terms. Chair of Finance Committee, eight one-year terms. Author of Ingham County Ethics Policy, 1993.

Because of my long tenure, I am often the only source of information about, or explanation of, various county policies and procedures. Most of my colleagues serve only three or four terms, and then leave, often to run for higher office. As a result, my presence has become essential to stabilize county policy, and assure that long-term programs can be proposed, implemented, and carried out. I believe I am the only member of the current board who thinks in terms of improving the structure and procedures under which we

I believe I am the only member of the current board who thinks in terms of improving the structure and procedures under which we act.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

#### **Bernard Fedewa**

As with all levels of government priority issue is reality of diminishing taxpayer revenue versus needs. Undertake a new outreach to residents market research effort, to seek out their assessment of County needs and priorities. Perform business disciplined analysis of how County taxpayer dollars are being spent. Determine where County may better direct resources and be more efficient at it. Revisit County Mission Statement. Embark on more regional government efforts, cost sharing where feasible. Demonstrate bang for buck results. Increase use of post program auditing. Better explain to citizens confusing roles of federal, state, city, township, county programs and their interaction. Implement a PR effort on where County government fits. Regarding human services and social safety needs, studies show biggest cost driver is deterioration of the family structure as our social building block. As an underlying goal across all County programs, seek how to strengthen our family structure.

#### **Mark Grebner**

The principal problem facing Ingham County government for the past ten years has been the squeeze on revenues caused by the collapse of property values during the 2008 recession, combined with repeated cuts in revenue sharing from state government. Combined with the need to address the funding shortfalls for our previous pension system and retiree healthcare costs, the overarching problem at every meeting is the need to continue streamlining our payroll and programs while scrambling to find additional revenue. I don't expect this problem to abate in the next five years.

A more short term problem is the need to replace the county jail, including associated sheriff's administrative and court facilities. The current jail has reached the end of its useful life, and is becoming increasingly inefficient to operate, and is even becoming unsafe for both employees and inmates.

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?

#### **Bernard Fedewa**

The County at a minimum should play an informational/educational role on how to lessen harmful environmental impacts. This would assist playing an effective local role, given most of the issues require state and federal level policies and resources to have impact. Recycling is becoming a more urgent issue because some markets for recycled material are diminishing due to mismatching of supply versus demand. Otherwise successful local recycling programs may no longer assume status quo, and may depend upon more local overhead to be feasible. Continued issues with storm water and flooding need across jurisdictional planning, and our commendable County efforts should be supported, with emphasis on equitable cost sharing fair to all. Our old combined storm and waste water systems are immense financial challenges which for now need expert management but in the long run need new bond issues and federal infrastructure funding as now being discussed. Regional approaches are paramount.

#### **Mark Grebner**

Michigan appears to be the only state without any legislative mandate for septic system inspection and upkeep. Ingham County, ten years ago, was one of the first counties to require that septic systems be tested at the time of real estate closings.

We are now beginning to discuss replacing our "point-of-sale" inspection requirement with a requirement that every septic system be periodically tested and brought back into working order. Because there has not been any such requirement, we believe that a large percentage of existing septic systems are contributing to surface water pollution. We expect the implementation of regular, periodic testing will be controversial and will be met by considerable resistance. It will be necessary to move firmly but deliberately in order to preserve the political will necessary to keep the program moving forward so the real world changes, rather than just adopting a symbolic statement.

District 9
Biographical information

Jackson Keith (REP)
Campaign Phone (734) 347-0334

Candidate did not respond.

Carol N. Koenig (DEM)

Attorney

Facebook page elect carol n nkoenig@electcarolnkoenig Education Thomas M Cooley Law JD University of Detroit BA

East Lansing High School
Detroit elementary schools

**Campaign Phone** (517) 482-9598

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Carol N. Koenig** I currently serve as the Board Chair of the Ingham County Commission and have served on every standing committee and more sub-committees than any one else serving. I have learned more in the last decade about county government than I ever knew there was to know. I have been elected as the District 10 Commissioner in East Lansing many times and each time I learn something new. I am running again because now more than ever we need experience and a sense of humor.

- 2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

  Carol N. Koenig We are having growing pains right now. We are building a new Animal Control Shelter, with a ground breaking next week (thank you voters) and we desperately need a new Justice Complex so that we can do a better job of managing that part of our criminal justice system. A new jail is probably our biggest issue. We are working through issues related to a possible District Court Consolidation and have been discussing how to help Lansing figure out their lock up needs. We are full steam ahead with our parks and trails mileage with 22 NEW PROJECTS starting this spring or summer and we are glad for all of the interest and applications for new trails countywide. Now seems to be the time to be engaged with partners of all kinds and I welcome their input and engagement. If elected I will continue to meet with our partners and bring everyone to the table to get things done and find solutions together. And of course OPEB and MERS retirement contributions continue to challenge our finances.
- 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?

Carol N. Koenig The issue at the top of the list for Clean Water Action has been a new septic code. If the State of Michigan does not adopt a septic code on their own Ingham County may well be the leader again in developing higher standards, at least for the people of Ingham County. Right now, we inspect septic systems to make sure they are not leaking at POS or Point Of Sale. Because some homes remain in families for generations--they never get inspected. If we changed to a 10 year review (eliminating any that have been done recently at POS) we may be able to reduce surface water contamination that otherwise would never get addressed and do it cost effectively. Ingham County may lead the way in creating a higher standard.

### District 10

**Biographical Information** 

Kathleen A. Groff (REP)
Campaign Phone (989) 339-7889

Candidate did not respond.

Thomas Morgan (DEM)

Chairman, Ingham County Economic Development Corp.

**Campaign Web Site** 

http://www.electthomasmorgan.com

**Facebook page Thomas Morgan for County Commission** 

(http://facebook.com/electthomasmorgan/)

Education Bachelor of arts degree with honor in journalism,

Michigan State University

**Campaign Phone** (517) 927-4487

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Thomas Morgan** I've dedicated my life to fighting for the underdog, and I'll continue that fight as a County Commissioner. The son of a factory worker and a waitress, I grew up near the poverty line. As a teen, I left high school to work and help put food on my family's table. After obtaining my GED, I juggled a full load of classes at community college with working 40 hours a week so I could fulfill my goal of being the first person in my family to graduate college.

After graduating with honor from MSU, I began my professional career as a watchdog journalist at City Pulse, where I worked to shine a light on local government. After a few years in journalism, I turned to professional advocacy. I've led the charge for campaigns on behalf of nurses, teachers, children, people with disabilities and skilled trades workers, among many others.

I'm running for County Commission to rewrite the rules that favor corporate special interests, and instead create more opportunities for working families.

- 2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected? **Thomas Morgan** From the disastrous policies of the Trump Administration all the way down to the local level, the rules have been rigged to favor wealthy corporate donors while regular working families struggle to get by. With your vote on Tuesday, Aug. 7, I will:
- Fight to fix our crumbling roads and make sure corporations pay their fair share for road repairs, while also improving coordination between local governments to make road repair projects more efficient.
- Protect the life-saving health care services that so many local children, seniors and families depend on, and work to strengthen critical programs like Meals on Wheels and Community Mental Health.
- Hold wealthy CEOs accountable when they take our local tax dollars but don't invest in our community or create good-paying local jobs.
- Advocate for open, honest and transparent government. After all, politicians aren't in charge people are.

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?

**Thomas Morgan** Throughout my career, I've played a central role in numerous environmental advocacy efforts, including the 2012 statewide ballot proposal to increase the renewable energy standard and reduce our state's reliance on dirty, imported coal. I have two little boys: Jackson, 4, and Alex, 10 months. I fear for what the world could look like for them in 20 years. Climate change is an existential threat, and we must do our part to reduce CO2 emissions — including at the local level. This is the most urgent issue, both as a nation and right here in our community. Promoting the use of clean, renewable energy will improve our air, water and land, while also creating good-paying jobs in the energy sector.

Cleaning contaminated brownfield sites is also critically important for the health of our community. I have served on the Ingham County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority since 2011, working to clean up toxic sites and promote environmentally responsible development.

#### **District 11**

**Biographical Information** 

**Aaron Clark Beauchine (REP) Campaign Phone** (517) 898-6450

Candidate did not respond.

Emily Stivers (DEM) Manager, EduGuide

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://emilystivers.com">http://emilystivers.com</a>

Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/EmilyKStivers/

**Education** BA, International Relations; specialization in Women's Studies; MSU Master of Public Policy, UofM

Campaign Phone (517) 395-2585

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Emily Stivers** Driving home from work one day, I saw workers FINALLY filling the potholes on Haslett Road. But a few months later, the potholes were back, and worse than ever. I'm running for County Commissioner because hot patches aren't good enough for my family and community. We need long-term, permanent fixes for roads, and also for our environment and justice system.

I'm a bisexual woman, devoted wife, and mother to an adorable toddler. My 15-year career has been about lifting up less-advantaged people, and I worked for poverty-fighting organizations ONE and the UN Foundation. When the housing bubble burst, I started my own business helping hundreds of Michigan families keep their homes, while providing full-time care for an ill family member. For 5 years, I've worked at nonprofit EduGuide, helping young people build the social-emotional skills needed to overcome obstacles. I currently serve on Meridian Township's Planning Commission, and was previously vice-chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

**Emily Stivers** The greatest challenge facing Ingham County is its budget. As Commissioner, my Master's degree from the most quantitative-intense Public Policy school in the nation will serve me well as I conduct careful cost-benefit analyses of our options and endeavor to regularly survey and represent the values of my constituents.

Most critically, I'm committed to raising the money needed for long-term solutions and maintenance for our roads and infrastructure; building a new County Jail and improving our justice system to better meet the needs of prisoners, many of whom are wrongfully incarcerated for marijuana-related crimes; and hiring only Union and prevailing wage labor for these and other projects so we make sure the work gets done right. I'm also committed to protecting LGBTQ+ rights at all levels of government, including a policy and training for staff at County parks so they're prepared to handle and diffuse any complaints about an individual's right to use the bathroom of their choice.

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?

**Emily Stivers** Energy efficiency and smart investments in solar energy are the most urgent environmental issues at the County level. As Commissioner, I will push for investments in either BWL or Consumers Energy's solar parks for all County buildings, an investment that will pay for itself in 8 years, and begin returning dividends. Meanwhile, the County needs a comprehensive energy audit in outdated County buildings to cut waste, save money and improve the environment.

We also must continue to be smart stewards of our natural spaces, parks and trails. I'm committed to continuing the work already initiated through our Parks & Trails millage, especially by connecting the trail system.

Those are the kind of investments I'll look for as County Commissioner: instead of "hot patch" solutions, I'll focus on what's best for our community for generations to come.

# District 12 Biographical Information

Unopposed

Mark Polsdofer (DEM)

Program Specialist- MDOT, Chairman, Ingham County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Campaign Web Site http://markpolsdofer.com

Facebook page

http://www.facebook.com/votemarkpolsdofer

**Education** BA, Western Michigan U, 1994. Political Science, Minor in International Business. MSU Law, 1996-98.

**Campaign Phone** (734) 604-0856

1. Please describe your qualifications and experiences, and explain why you are running for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners.

**Mark Polsdofer** I currently serve as Chairman of the Ingham County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, and am a member and past Chairman of the Ingham County Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.

I have an extensive background with transportation issues, having served as Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Department of Transportation, and currently working in MDOT's Office of Research Administration. In addition, I had the privilege of working directly with Governor Jennifer M. Granholm as Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs.

I believe my background will allow me to hit the ground running on day one to effectively and vigorously advocate for the needs of Okemos and our entire region.

2. What are the priority issues facing the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and how would you address them, if elected?

**Mark Polsdofer** Our wonderful, diverse community is routinely ranked at or near the top of various lists highlighting the best places to live and raise a family, but we can get even better. As a father, I want my sons and other children in our community to have the best possible place to grow up in.

I want to put my experience to work for you, ensuring that we get our fair share of funding for road repair and infrastructure improvements once the Jolly/Okemos Road project is complete. There will still be much to do on neighborhood streets, preparing for the new McLaren Hospital and working with state and township officials and local residents and business to make the Downtown Okemos project a success.

From repairing roads to improving services like animal control and preserving the Ingham Health Plan, enhancing our parks and many other issues, I would like to take my experience and go to work for you.

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?

**Mark Polsdofer** Our most urgent issues locally are shutting down the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline in the Straights of Mackinac. It's rupture or leak will decimate Michigan's supply of fresh water and harm our economy for many decades.

In the most local sense, we need to continue our work cleaning up Brownfield sites. The County Commission approves appropriate projects, which in turn helps provide the resources to restore these contaminated locations and put them back into productive use.

# District 13 Biographical Information

Randy G. Schafer (REP)

retired skilled trades teacher with 42 years of service

**Education** HS. Pewamo- Westphalia College: MSU: Bachelors', Masters' and many classes at LCC and specialty

**Campaign Phone** (517) 655-1325 Candidate did not respond to questions.

# District 14 Biographical Information

**Robin Case Naeyaert (REP)** 

Candidate did not respond.

#### **Ingham County Judge of Probate Court**

Probate courts are established on a county or multi-county basis. The major activities include filing and safekeeping of wills, probating of estates of deceased persons, trust administration, appointment and supervision of guardians and conservators for minors, adults, and developmentally disabled persons and processing mental health matters. Probate judges are elected for six year terms and their salaries are set by the legislature.

#### **Biographical Information**

Shauna Dunnings

Circuit Court Administrator

Unopposed

#### Campaign Web Site <a href="http://shaunaforprobatejudge.com">http://shaunaforprobatejudge.com</a>

Education Howard University School of Law, Juris Doctorate, University of Michigan, BA Communications

1. Please provide your qualifications and experience, and explain why you are running.

#### **Shauna Dunnings**

I have been a licensed attorney for 27 years. For the last five years, I have served as Ingham County's Circuit Court Administrator. In this role, I have worked with Circuit and Probate Judges and court staff to serve those appearing before the court. This often involves service to those who cannot care for themselves - the disabled, children, and those in turmoil.

In 2003, I was appointed to serve as Assistant Friend of the Court and Attorney Referee in Eaton County. As Attorney Referee, I was responsible for resolving disputes regarding child custody, support and parenting time. In 2007, I was appointed to serve as the Ingham County Friend of the Court. During my years in private practice, I specialized in family court matters.

I am running for Probate Judge because I want to continue to protect children, families, and those who cannot protect themselves. As Probate Court Judge I will continue my commitment to be a servant leader in the justice system.

2. What are the priority issues facing the court and how would you address them, if elected?

#### **Shauna Dunnings**

Priority issues facing the court include legislation to raise the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to 18, and elder abuse and elder financial exploitation that is predicted to increase.

The work of the Probate Court has a substantial impact on the lives of families and children. Our Family Court handles everything from child delinquency, abuse and neglect, to wills and guardianships - it literally serves the public from the cradle to the grave. As Probate Judge, I will give people an opportunity to be heard, and continue using "best practices" to ensure that the court provides families with the best services available while supporting public safety. There are no routine cases in the Probate Court, and every single case is crucial to the parties and families involved. As our next Probate Judge, I will treat all who appear before the court with kindness, professionalism, and respect. Given the stakes involved, I believe the public should expect no less.

#### **54A District Court Judge**

The District Court is where most people 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. It also conducts the preliminary examinations in all felony cases. The court administrators a small claims division. The legislatures designates district courts, based on population and caseload.

Non Partisan Term: 6 Years Choose 1 candidate

Biographical Information

Ayanna Neal (N)

**Assistant Prosecuting Attorney** 

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://AyannaNealforLansing.com">http://AyannaNealforLansing.com</a>

Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ayannanealforlansingjudge/

Education Thomas M. Cooley Law School Lansing, MI University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI J.W. Sexton High School

**Campaign Phone** 517-281-9259

Cynthia Ward (N)

Lawyer

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://cynthiawardforjudge.com">http://cynthiawardforjudge.com</a>

Facebook page <a href="https://facebook.com/CynthiaWardforJudge">https://facebook.com/CynthiaWardforJudge</a>
Education B.A., Rutgers University J.D., Villanova Law School

**Campaign Phone** 616-606-3120

1. Please provide your qualifications and experience, and explain why you are running.

Ayanna Neal I've been practicing law for over 16 years. For the past 14 and a half years I've served this community as an Assistant Prosecutor. I've worked in all the courts in the county-family, district and circuit court handling pre-trials and trials. I've handled thousands of cases, from misdemeanors to homicide cases. I currently serve as the major drug prosecutor for Ingham County, served 9 years as the arson prosecutor and have had numerous special assignments. I've handled all of the type of cases that are handled in district court-I've ran hundreds of preliminary examinations, pretrials, and have had numerous trials. I've written and reviewed hundreds search warrants. I'm running because of my 14.5 years of continuous courtroom practice. I have keen knowledge of Lansing-I was born&raised here&from my work experience. I care about people, am fair, patient, compassionate and want to serve my community and make positive improvements to our judicial system&provide public safety & justice.

Cynthia Ward The collection of my experiences over 23 years makes me well-qualified to serve as District Judge. I am licensed in three states and admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. I have state and federal trial court experience and appellate court experience. I have practiced in all Ingham County courts, and also practiced in Clinton and Eaton counties. I have 17 years of law teaching experience and have served for eight years in law school administration as the assistant dean of students. I currently work for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. My inspiration for running is a vision of a justice system that is open, fair and effective for all. Our justice system requires judicial leadership to bring about needed reform. I am running as a community leader who has demonstrated courage, earned the community's trust, and possesses the diversity of professional experiences to offer different perspectives. The court can be of one purpose, but not of one mind.

2. What are the priority issues facing the court and how would you address them, if elected?

Ayanna Neal The priority issues that are facing the court are: the drug epidemic, the direct correlation between the lack of education and criminal activity, the direct correlation between the lack of good paying and stable employment and criminal activity, and housing. I would address those priority issues as follows: I will do all I can to have a drug specialty court in which people would get treatment during probation &if successful wouldn't end up with a felony conviction on their record. I would order people on probation to finish their education who haven't done so. I would order those on probation to participate in a work-seek program or vocation/trade so they can obtain a skill set and become employable and obtain good and stable work. Regarding the lack of stable housing for those before the court I would seek out resources to assist those who don't have housing to help them participate in building programs and/or working programs to maintain housing for themselves and their families.

Cynthia Ward The need for a new district court building and the discussion concerning consolidation of the Ingham County district courts are issues facing the court, the people of Lansing, and our out-city neighbors. If elected, I will keep an open mind and ensure infrastructure decisions are guided by what is in the best interest of the people and by the understanding that our court exists for the people and not for the judges. The health and welfare of litigants is another priority issue. Persons with mental illness or substance use disorder will need the types of support and treatment provided through a specialty docket (e.g., mental health court, domestic violence court, drug court). If elected, I will seek to preside over a specialty docket (after completion of appropriate community needs and available support services assessments).

### Lansing Community College Board of Trustees - 6 year term

Lansing Community College is directed and governed by a Board of Trustees, consisting of seven members, elected at large in the community college district on a nonpartisan basis.

Nonpartisan Term: 6 years Candidates: Choose 2

Lawrence Hidalgo, Jr. (N)

Campaign Phone (517) 455-7934

Shaquila Myers (N)

Legislative Director, Michigan State Senate

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/pg/shaquilamyers4lcctrustee/posts/">https://www.facebook.com/pg/shaquilamyers4lcctrustee/posts/</a>

**Education** Masters of Public Administration

**Campaign Phone** (313) 608-3240

Samantha Wilbur (N) Community Organizer

**Education** Masters of Social Work- Clinical BA Liberal Arts- Psychology

Campaign Phone (775) 997-9464District 1

1. What special qualities do you bring to the Lansing Community College Board?

Lawrence Hidalgo, Jr. Candidate did not respond.

**Shaquila Myers** I bring several qualities to the Lansing Community College Board of Trustees. I have spent the last ten years working for the Michigan legislature working on policy and budget issues for the Senate. I have an understanding and relationship with the legislature and have insight into legislation that most effects and benefit the LCC community. I have worked on a number of budgets, including the Capital Outlay budget, which handles all of the building projects for colleges and universities.

Samantha Wilbur I dropped out of high school at 16 to attend college early. The philosophy that Simon's Rock is built on is unique. Everyone on campus is addressed by their first name because we are all equals in the pursuit of knowledge. This is vital for student empowerment. I attended graduate school at DU and completed a post-graduate certificate program at the UofM. The dual certificate on sex therapy and sexual health education gave me the opportunity to learn about educating. We learned about finding ways to make the classroom accessible for everyone. I feel my education gives me insight into helping structure Lansing Community College to become not the first stepping stone, not the fallback, but the preferred institute of higher learning in the Lansing Area. I have spent time as a member of various boards. I am currently elected to three executive boards within the Michigan Democratic Party. I am well versed in Robert's Rules and I have chaired committees in an organized, timely manner.

2. What is your vision for LCC? What do you see as the role of the community college? What are your priorities? Lawrence Hidalgo, Jr. Candidate did not respond.

**Shaquila Myers** My vision for LCC is to continue the history of serving the local community. LCC has done a great job of evolving with the changing needs and demographics of the area. From the Early College to the multitude of degree programs and continuing education options, not to mention the youth and adult enrichment, LCC offers something for everyone.

Samantha Wilbur Learning how to learn is just as important as what you learn. I would like to see LCC focus on creative thinking, observation skills, critical analysis, how to give and receive feedback, and how to organize your thoughts in order to prepare students to work in any and all fields. When we hoard knowledge by limiting access everyone suffers. I will work to reduce costs and fight for tuition free college for any and all that want to learn, regardless of ethnicity, orientation, identity, race, SES, age, religion or education level. LCC is a community resource and the student body should reflect the entire community. We have an obligation to teach our students how to be productive members of society, which means civic engagement. My first two actions if elected will be to include voter registration as part of student registration, and to change LCC board meetings as to not conflict with Lansing City Council meetings so that the community may attend both.

#### **Mason City Council**

The seven member city council is the legislative and policy-making body that governs the city.

Nonpartisan

Term: 4 years

Candidates: Choose 3

**Biographical Information** 

Marlon I. Brown (N)

Government

**Campaign Web Site** 

http://www.marlonbrown.com

Facebook page www.facebook.com/marlon4mason/

Education M.P.A. in City Management, University of Delaware; B.A. in Political Science, American University

**Campaign Phone** (517) 244-0548

Jon Droscha (N)

Self- employed

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Jonformason/?ref=bookmarks">https://www.facebook.com/Jonformason/?ref=bookmarks</a>

Education Mason High School Michigan State University Eastern Michigan University

**Campaign Phone** (517) 525-0867

Jerry Schaffer (N)
Campaign Phone (517) 525-2457
Candidate did not respond.

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

#### Marlon I. Brown

I was first elected to the Mason City Council in 2012 and currently serve as Mayor Pro Tem. I am also on the board of trustees for the Michigan Municipal League, and I have previously served as treasurer of the Mason Area Chamber of Commerce and chairperson of the Mason 150th Anniversary Committee. My full time occupation is in state government, where I am a section manager in the State Budget Office, working on fiscal and policy issues in health and human services.

Mason is a wonderful community that I am proud to call home. I'm running for re-election to the city council because I'm passionate about keeping our community vibrant and strong. I understand the challenges facing our city and my experience in state and local government enables me to bring a unique perspective to the council. I work very hard to be a strong voice for our community. It has been a tremendous honor to serve on the Mason City Council and I humbly ask for your vote this November.

#### Jon Droscha

I have lived in Mason all my live with the exception of 3 years in Ypsilanti, and 6 years in Grass Lake. All of that time away I commuted to Dairy Hill, which I am a partner with my father. Mason has always been in need of city leadership that keeps the interest of the city as a whole in mind, rather than pet projects. I have been that that leader for 8 years and will continue if elected for a third term.

Jerry Schaffer Candidate did not respond.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

#### Marlon I. Brown

The priority issues facing the City of Mason are economic development, responsible budgeting, and delivering high quality municipal services. Regarding economic development, we have balanced the goals of retaining and attracting new businesses. This is evident in the expansion of Dart Bank and Gestamp, as well as new developments like Klavon's Pizza and our first national chain hotel. Secondly, the most important task of the council is to pass a budget each year. I'm proud that we have instituted multi-year budgeting linked with capital improvements planning, which allows us to anticipate funding needs in future years. Finally, our residents expect high quality services, and the council has remained committed to investing in our streets, sidewalks, and parks. If re-elected, I would continue focusing on these issues and advocating for a diverse economic base, fiscally sustainability, and effective and efficient services that enhance the quality of life in our community.

#### Jon Droscha

Priorities for Mason continue to be focused on providing critical services: police, fire, water, and sewer. The Waste water treatment plant is undergoing renovations and improvements, a new Department of Public Works building is underway. Street repairs are still behind, but catching up, and in the next year or two should be back on schedule. Mason's six parks are seeing improvements.

Our next step is to diversify the business tax base. Gestamp has nearly finished its expansion and is adding jobs. Klavon's will be open soon and is providing new jobs. The new Main Stay Suites hotel will open next year providing still more jobs. Encouraging more businesses to take root in Mason will be key to not becoming dependent on the taxes from a few businesses.

**Jerry Schaffer** 

Candidate did not respond.

#### **School Board Elections**

#### **East Lansing 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 12/31/2022 **Choose** 4 candidates

#### **Biographical Information**

Terah Chambers (N) Associate Professor

Campaign Web Site http://voteterahchambers.com/

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/TerahChambersforBOE/">https://www.facebook.com/TerahChambersforBOE/</a>

Education Ph.D. & MA, Educational Policy Studies, U of Illinois; B.S., Family Social Science, U of Minnesota

Campaign Phone (832) 421-3456

Kath Edsall (N) Veterinarian

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://kathedsall.com">http://kathedsall.com</a>
Facebook page Kath Edsall for School Board

Education BS (MSU '84), DVM (MSU '86) and MBA(MSU '92)

**Campaign Phone** (517) 214-0552

#### **Noel Garcia (N)**

Retired Lieutenant, Lansing Police Department - Current Law Enforcement Instructor, Wilson Talent Center

Facebook page Noel Garcia for East Lansing School Board

Education Michigan State University, Master of Science, Criminal Justice - Bachelor of Arts, Criminal Justice

**Campaign Phone** 734-210-1798

**Chris Martin (N)** 

Attorney

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://facebook.com/chrismartin.elps">http://facebook.com/chrismartin.elps</a>

Facebook page facebook.com/chrismartin.elps

**Education** BA, History, University of Texas-Austin MS, Teaching, Pace University JD, University of Virginia **Campaign Phone** chrismartin.elps@gmail.com

**Kate Powers (N)** 

COO & Chief Development Officer, Ele's Place

Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/PowersforELSchoolBoard/

Education Bachelor of Arts, James Madison College, Michigan State University

Campaign Phone (517) 648-1011

Thasin Sardar (N)

IT Infrastructure Architect

**Education** Master of Science in Software Engineering Administration

Campaign Phone (517) 944-5056

**Todd P. Swales (N)** Small Business Owner

Campaign Web Site http://TBD

Facebook page TBD

Education B.S., Michigan State University

**Campaign Phone** (517) 391-0360

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

#### **Terah Chambers**

Three parallel experiences fuel my interest in serving on the Board at this time. First, the professional expertise I have amassed over the last 10+ years working in K-12 educational leadership brings an important perspective to the Board. Second, I have been deeply engaged in a number of ELPS initiatives, both before my appointment in November and since, that have helped me better understand the district's strengths and needs. Finally, I believe it is important for ELPS students to have diverse role models. As an African American woman, I did not experience this for myself until I went to graduate school. I want students in East Lansing to see representation in district leadership that is as diverse as they are. I want to be an example of what they can achieve, and I would strive to be a model for all of our students in the district.

#### **Kath Edsall**

I came to MSU as a freshman in 1978. I played varsity basketball, club rugby and received my BS, DVM and MBA at MSU. My wife and I are the parents of 8 children including 4 graduates and 4 current students. I am a veterinary surgeon at the Capital Area Humane Society spay/neuter clinic. I also co-own a successful small business which provides feline blood to veterinary colleges, emergency practices and referral clinics across the country. In regards to the ELPS school district, I have served on parent council, Red Cedar playground committee, K-8 facilities committee, Reproductive Health committee, Bond YES committee, District Bond implementation committee, and in 2013 I was elected to the Board of Education. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience and the opportunity to give back to our community. With my business/accounting training, I was an asset on the finance committee as well as the two years I served as BOE Treasurer. I am running again to continue moving our district forward.

#### **Noel Garcia**

My parents were migrant workers from Texas who made huge sacrifices which included having to leave school at early ages to provide for their families. They always stressed the importance of education with their children as a result of them not having had the opportunity to complete school themselves. I retired from the Lansing Police Department in 2014 and became a teacher at the Wilson Talent Center teaching the law enforcement program. I have also taught at the college level for Baker College, Ferris State University and Michigan State University. I have nearly a decade of board experience; I chaired the Cristo Rey Community Center Board of Directors for 4 years and am currently in my 6th year on the Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan. It would be an honor for me to represent my neighbors, friends and my family as a servant on the school board to ensure that every child gets the best educational opportunities in East Lansing, a place I am proud to call home.

#### **Chris Martin**

I am running for School Board because I am the product of public schools, where I have been either a student or teacher for most of my life. After college, I worked as a teacher and coach—first in Harlem (New York City) and then in Virginia. I learned firsthand how important great teachers can be to the communities that count on them. After teaching, I went to law school to advocate for children and families in the legal system. Our family came to East Lansing when my spouse joined the faculty of MSU College of Education.

As an attorney, I have worked on a variety of complex matters. I currently represent the victims of elder abuse and financial exploitation, domestic violence, and crimes against animals. In addition to traditional courtroom work, I also focus on restorative justice programs and securing services for people in need. I am running for School Board because my experience as an educator, advocate, and problem solver will benefit our district in this time of transition.

#### Kate Powers

As a member of the East Lansing Public Schools Board of Education for nearly the last four years, serving as both Treasurer and now President, I have a proven commitment to kids and the East Lansing community. One of the architects of the ballot proposal which has allowed our school district to construct 5 new elementary and renovate a sixth, this not only allows the district to provide state of the art facilities to our K-5 level learners, we will also be able to provide affordable preschool programming for our youngest community members. Throughout my time on the board, I have worked hard to listen to the needs of other community members and to ensure what is best for all students, teachers, and staff. As some one who is passionate about serving children at risk, both professionally through my work as the COO of Ele's Place, but personally through my volunteer committments, my time on the ELPS BOE has allowed me to do so in a broad environment.

#### **Thasin Sardar**

I have lived in East Lansing for 22 years.

My desire to serve on the East Lansing Board of Education stems from a natural progression of my yearning to serve the community I love very dearly.

I live in East Lansing with my wife and two sons, one of whom graduated from East Lansing High School last year and the other a sophomore this year.

I have a Masters Degree in Software Engineering Administration and work as an IT Infrastructure Architect.

I volunteer extensively in my faith and the interfaith community. I am very concerned about social justice issues.

Past positions: President of the Islamic Society of Greater Lansing Chairperson of the Greater Lansing Islamic School. Community advisory board member for East Lansing Info. Founding member of the City of East Lansing's Technology Panel. Served two terms on the City of East Lansing Crystal awards committee.

#### **Todd P. Swales**

I am an East Lansing resident, MSU graduate, former Sales Director, current small business owner, as well as ELPS employee and substitute teacher. I am a single parent of one first grader at Pinecrest Elementary School and I am running for the ELPS School Board to ensure that ELPS continues to maintain and improve upon the solid foundation of diversity, athletics and academic excellence that we currently enjoy. I am running to ensure our East Lansing children are schooled in safe buildings and that they return home unharmed to their parents and guardians. I am running to make sure that every child in our district enjoys a learning environment that is supported regardless of any protected class, gender identity or gender expression. I am running to ensure our new elementary buildings are built on time and on budget. I am running to ensure the planned redistricting of elementary schools is consistent, fair and interrupts as few children as possible and to ensure our future success.

#### 2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

#### Terah Chambers

I believe ELPS is already on a great trajectory. We have an established district leadership team, world class teachers, and updated middle and high schools with a plan for rebuilding/remodeling our neighborhood-imbedded elementary facilities. The district should keep moving on its current path. However, there are always places to improve. First, so much of our success is linked to our teachers and staff. We must ensure they receive necessary compensation and training. We also need to hire more teachers from minoritized backgrounds. Second, we must continue our tradition of academic excellence by ensuring all students receive appropriate attention, including students with special needs, LGBTQ students, and students of color (understanding some students fit several of these categories). Finally, with so much discord happening in the world our students need to learn how to come together. Remaining a leading district requires us to cultivate an inclusive, supportive community for all.

#### Kath Edsall

I feel every child who attends school in East Lansing, along with every educator in our district, must be given the tools to be successful. As a progressive, I feel our school board should reflect our predominantly liberal community. As a BOE trustee in 2015, I pushed for and we negotiated the first multiple year teacher contract in many years. I hope to continue this positive working relationship. When we hire new teachers, we need to pull from a more diverse pool so that our teaching staff more accurately reflects our diverse student body. We need to continue to work on our disproportional disciplinary rates toward Black and Hispanic boys and continue to implement successful restorative justice practices instead of expulsions. I plan to continue to be the voice for students with disabilities and our often silent LGBTQ youth. Previously, I recommended and it was adopted, that our nondiscrimination policy for students include sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

#### **Noel Garcia**

The priority issues facing the office include student safety and support, both issues that need an effective board to handle. During a decade of working on boards and commissions, I have learned how to navigate group dynamics and mediate when group performance begins to stall. As a police officer, I was involved in training officers how to respond to school active shooters. Law enforcement soon learned that as important as it was to ensure proper police action, it was even more important to ensure school preparedness for active violence incidents as many incidents were over before police arrived. I am proud I was able to convince my school district to adopt a new mindset of school safety to counter the threat and evacuate the students. I would like to work with East Lansing Schools to ensure our students safety. I am also committed to exploring the causes and conditions of the achievement gap to ensure all students have an opportunity to reach their educational dreams.

#### **Chris Martin**

- •Academic Excellence and Innovation As a former teacher, I am motivated by student achievement. The School Board must enable and empower students and teachers to achieve at the highest level. I will positively challenge our students and faculty, and seek to identify and remove any obstacles to student performance.
- •Building for Our Future As an attorney, I will bring a new perspective to the Board as our district is constructing five new elementary schools. I will advocate on behalf of the community for quality construction, responsible spending, and keeping the promises the School Board has made to the people and neighborhoods that depend on our schools.
- •Creating Caring Classrooms The current social climate requires our schools to do more than just effectively deliver a core curriculum. I will prioritize kindness, empathy, and respect, and ensure a meaningful response to acts of bullying and intolerance that may occur within the community or in our national dialogue.

#### **Kate Powers**

My priorities if reelected would be to continue much of the great work I have started as a Board trustee and Treasurer and President of the School Board, including being able to finish the oversight of the bond project, as well as the implementation of an affordable preschool program, exploring and furthering mental health support for students, and providing and safe and welcoming learning environment for all of our students. Additionally, I think it is important that our community continue to have a voice that is representative of the entire population. Free, public education is one of the greatest rights we are afforded, and serving the students and families of ELPS allows me to be a very small part of the solutions to problems which arise, as well as ensuring excellent opportunities for all kids to learn and grow.

#### **Thasin Sardar**

Red Cedar elementary school closure as well as reopening was contentious in the past. I will rely on the expertise of the Superintendent who is currently working on reconfiguring boundaries of the elementary schools while at the same time making sure the questions and concerns of the parents are taken into consideration.

Improve the traffic flow to avoid congestion and resulting risks to students and families.

Increase conversation on race, diversity, inclusion and acceptance.

Ensure the safety and security of our children in the school system.

I am a firm believer in not allowing guns in our schools.

Promote awareness on child sexual abuse and trauma.

Examine how the new science curriculum is faring and the effects after elimination of several pre-AP course offerings.

Hear concerns and feedback on the start time of our schools, academic year start- and end-dates

Be proactive on mental illness, suicide prevention.

#### **Todd P. Swales**

1. Building safety: Our buildings need to be safe from outside intruders planning to harm our children. 2. Safe learning environment: All of our children need to be schooled in an environment that is safe from bullying and supported by teachers and administration regardless of belonging to any protected classes of the Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act, as well as any other sub group such as gender identity and gender expression. 3. Responsible financial management: Ensuring available funding is allocated well to ensure all students have the best educational experience available. 4. New elementary construction: Ensure all buildings are built on time and on budget. 5. Redistricting of elementary schools: Ensure a

consistent and fair redistricting. 6. Vocational: Ensure vocational learning opportunities for all students. 7. Improve state rankings: To improve access to highly qualified schools of choice students. 8. Educational partnerships: Work to create community partnerships

#### **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 4 year term expiring 12/31/2022 Choose 2 candidates

Greg Michaud(N)
Campaign Phone (517) 927-4071

Biographical Information
Cammy Wheeler (N)
Campaign Phone (517) 614-6440

No questionaire was sent.

#### **Holt Public Schools**

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 12/31/2024 Choose 2 candidates

**Biographical Information** 

Julie Bureau (N) Campaign Phone (517) 230-7670 Robert G. Halgren (N) Campaign Phone (517) 256-5693

No questionaire was sent.

#### **Lansing 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 12/31/2022 Choose 3

#### **Biographical Information**

Farhan Bhatti (N)
Nathan Burroughs (N)
Rachel R. Lewis (N)

**Campaign Phone** (517) 575-9993 **Campaign Phone** (812) 606-3711

Candidate did not respond. Candidate did not respond.

**Campaign Phone** (517) 225-3549

Social Worker

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/RachelLewis.BOE/">https://www.facebook.com/RachelLewis.BOE/</a>

Education Master of Arts, Social Work May 2015 BS, Family Community Services BA Psychology Michigan State

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

Rachel R. Lewis I have been employed with Bethany Christian Services since September 2011. I have worked as a foster care case manager, foster care adoption specialist, pregnancy counselor and foster home licensing specialist. In 2015, I earned a Master's degree in Social Work from Michigan State University and was named the first branch director in 2017. I was elected to the Lansing School District Board of Education in November 2011 with my term beginning in January 2012. Since that time, I have served in the following capacities: Board President, 2017- Current (youngest board present), Board Vice President, 2015 and 2016 and Board Secretary, 2014. I joined that Capital Region Community Foundation in January 2014 as a trustee and currently serving as board secretary and chair elect. I was born and raised in Lansing, MI and graduated from Everett High School in 2006. It is my goal to continue to serve children in Lansing and make the school district a Mid-Michigan destination district.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

Rachel R. Lewis The Lansing School District Board of Education has done some great things over my tenure. We passed a \$120 million bond and implemented the Pathway Promise. For the first time, the focus on success beyond high school in three distinct pathways starts in Kindergarten. We have the Lansing SAVES program, Lansing Promise, and many other initiatives that have continued to grow over the past seven years. It has been my privilege to work with a group of talented individuals to tackle some tough problems. We have a board that is solution focused and wiling to make some tough decisions. Top priority areas to tackle moving forward include increasing growth and performance on state standardized test, steading enrollment, and student success, ie. increased graduation rates

#### **Lansing Public Schools - Partial 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.

Partial term expiring 12/31/2020

Biographical Information

Nino Rodriguez (N)

Nonpartisan

**Campaign Phone** (517) 505-4771

**Choose 1 candidate** 

No questionaire sent

#### **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 4 year term expiring 12/31/2022 Choose 3 candidate

#### **Biographical Information**

Steven J. Adams (N)Campaign Phone (517) 745-9955Candidate did not respond.Deann Maynard (N)Campaign Phone (517) 881-4915Candidate did not respond.Kevin McDaniel (N)Campaign Phone (517) 257-7821Candidate did not respond.Adrian Poulisse (N)Campaign Phone (231) 835-0738Candidate did not respond.

John Wayne Stewart (N) Campaign Phone (517) 403-4641

Retired

Facebook page John Wayne Stewart

**Education** Master of Arts - Education Western Michigan University - BIS New Mexico State University

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

**John Wayne Stewart** I am married with two daughters; both are teachers, one in Lansing, MI, and the other in White Pigeon, MI. My wife and I have resided in the Leslie area since 1993. My wife and her daughter have Biggby Coffee Stores in Mason, Jackson, and Mt. Pleasant, MI. My wife and I have a tavern in Hartford, MI. I have served on the Leslie School Board for the past nine years, serving as Vice-President for the last two years. Prior to serving on the board I was a Leslie City Council member for one year. I taught at the college level and retired from the auto industry. I am a veteran of the United States Air Force, and a active American Legion Member.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

John Wayne Stewart The biggest issues facing Leslie Public Schools are the following: Student Safety, Student Learning, and School Finances. Student Safety is in my opinion the biggest problem facing not only Leslie Public Schools, but all schools. I will do whatever it takes to provide a safe environment for our students. This will include camera technology, safety doors and locks, training all school personnel, and working with our law enforcement agencies. Student Learning, Leslie Public Schools has long been recognized or its outstanding educational opportunities. Providing our students with a great education has and will continue to be our top classroom priority. I will work to ensure that we as a district continue to challenge our students and provide them with the skills needed to function as productive adults in whatever fields they desire to work and compete in. Finances continue to be problem and must be addressed constantly in order for the school board to provide a quality education.

#### Leslie Public Schools - Partial 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 4 year term expiring 12/31/2020 Choose 1 candidate

Biographical Info:

Shauna M. Howe (N)
Campaign Phone (517) 812-6578
Candidate did not respond.

James Wood (N)
Campaign Phone (517) 745-6014
Candidate did not respond.

#### Mason Public Schools - 6 Year Term

Biographical Info:

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 12/31/2024

y 12/31/2024 Vote for no more than 2 candidate

**Kurt Creamer (N)** 

**Campaign Phone** (517) 449-4466

Candidate did not respond.

Steve Duane (N)

Engineer

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/mpsduane/">https://www.facebook.com/mpsduane/</a>

**Education** BS Electrical Engineering, Michigan State University; Masters Applied Stat, Penn State (in progress)

**Campaign Phone** (517) 614-0855

Matt Hall (N)

Sr. Engineer - Consumers Energy: Environmental Regulations and Strategy

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://www.facebook.com/MattHall4MasonBOE">http://www.facebook.com/MattHall4MasonBOE</a>
<a href="www.facebook.com/MattHall4MasonBOE">www.facebook.com/MattHall4MasonBOE</a>

**Education** B.S. Biosystems Engineering - MSU 2001; J.D. Cooley Law School - 2009

**Campaign Phone** (517) 449-1854

Michael Kelly (N)

Technology and Education Consultant

Campaign Phone (517) 394-6612

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

**Steve Duane** I have lived in the Mason area most of my life. I completed my K-12 education here and graduated in 1999. I work at Dart Container as an engineering supervisor and serve as a leader in Cub Scout Pack 141 at North Aurelius, where my son attends school. I became involved with the district when the second school study committee was formed after the first bond failed. While I had concerns about the content of the prior proposal and the way it was communicated, I recognized the importance of investing in our district so I volunteered to help develop a

proposal that would address the concerns raised by voters. As that work was wrapping up, a vacancy opened on the Board of Ed and I applied to expand my role to other areas where I felt my skills and experience would be valuable to the district. I received my appointment in August of 2017. I'm running to continue the work I began a year ago and I want to make sure that future generations of Mason students enjoy the same opportunities I did.

Matt Hall My wife and I have three children in Mason Public Schools. We moved back to Mason in 2012 shortly after I hired in to Consumers Energy. My current role focuses on environmental regulatory analysis and compliance efforts. I represent Consumers Energy on a number of stakeholder groups, where I have gained valuable experience in working with parties that have varying viewpoints. My interest in running for a position on the Board of Education came from my involvement in the Mason School Study Committee. That group was a community effort to assess the current needs of Mason's schools in light of a failed millage request. Taking a deep dive into public school finance was eye-opening and I want to continue being involved. I feel that my professional experience in both technical and legal disciplines will serve me well on the Board. I want to ensure that Mason Public Schools continue to advance so that students are best prepared for their next steps upon graduation.

**Michael Kelly** I am a 15-year resident of the Mason school district and currently have children attending Mason Public Schools. I have worked for more than 20 years developing and implementing innovative educational programs for secondary and post-secondary schools throughout Michigan and around the country.

Board members should encourage and respect input and participation from the community and all of our educators to identify clear priorities and direction for the future of our school district. Decision-making (including capital spending) should support innovative, forward-looking academic programming as well as the values of our own community. We must continue to find ways to improve the services we provide to our children by maximizing the use of current resources, understanding the successes and failures of other communities, and supporting and respecting our teachers.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

Steve Duane The district must responsibly manage a \$70 million project over the next several years. As a member of the school study committee, I understand the project and the needs, challenges and risks associated. Prior to the bond passage, I frequently spoke with community members and understand their concerns and hesitation about committing that much money to be spent at the discretion of the Board. That feedback has influenced my decision-making for the first phase of the project and if elected I will continue to listen and represent the taxpayers to ensure their investment is handled wisely. Additionally, there is a lingering issue of trust with respect to the school district and the Board. I want to help restore confidence by being accessible and transparent in the things we're working on. This way we can work together to ensure our schools provide excellent opportunities to our students and are a regional asset that promotes the economic well-being of Mason residents.

Matt Hall Mason recently passed a millage increase designed to modernize the Mason Public Schools infrastructure. I was an active member of the community stakeholder group that worked to design that millage request, and firmly believe that it represents a good balance between the school needs and taxpayer responsibility. One priority, if elected, is to ensure that the work performed matches the intent of the millage design. Another priority is to continue to modernize curriculum to ensure Mason students are prepared at graduation to be successful, no matter what their next steps are. Effective communication is the backbone for success here. One goal of mine is to increase communication efforts regarding Board activities. It is not uncommon for there to be less than five community members at Board meetings. I have often been the only community member present. Moving Mason Public Schools forward requires better community involvement, and better communication is key.

#### Mason Public Schools - 4 Year Term

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Nonpartisan 4 year term expiring 12/31/2022

Biographical Info:

Vote for not more than 2 candidate

Ralph S. Beebe (N)

**Business Owner** 

**Education** BS Michigan State University MS Michigan State University

**Campaign Phone** (517) 256-4424

Michael Kelly Candidate did not respond.

Patrick J. O'Connor (N)

Consultant

Facebook page <a href="https://m.facebook.com/PatrickForMason/">https://m.facebook.com/PatrickForMason/</a>

**Education** Doctorate & Masters – Michigan State University; Bachelors - Western Michigan University

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

**Ralph S. Beebe** My wife Sally and I moved to Mason in 1992 because of the excellent schools and the wonderful quality of life that the area offers. Together we raised three children who all attended Mason Public Schools. My involvement in the community including youth soccer programs and serving on the PTO lead to being elected a School Board Member for the past 14 years.

Serving with Steve Duane and the other board members under the leadership of Kurt Creamer on the current board has indeed been an honor and I would welcome the trust of the voters to return the three of us to office.

My wife Sally and I moved to Mason in 1992 because of the excellent schools and the wonderful quality of life that the area offers. Together we raised three children who all attended Mason Public Schools. My involvement in the community including youth soccer programs and serving on the PTO lead to being elected a School Board Member for the past 14 years.

Patrick J. O'Connor Experiences with Mason Students, Teachers, Staff and Community: • Multiple year in-classroom parent volunteer - Alaiedon Elementary School • Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Board – Alaiedon Elementary • Mason High School Athletic Boosters Board • Mason High School Baseball - Junior Varsity Volunteer • Parent Representative on Mason Middle School Advisory Committee • Volunteer/Participant – various Mason Public School Foundation events • Mid-Michigan PONY League Youth Baseball Board • Mason Youth Baseball & Softball Club Board • Catechist / Instructor (5th Grade) - St. James Church, Mason • Member of Mason Knights of Columbus Other: Related Experience: • 25-year resident of Mason area (Alaiedon Township) • Father of Mason Public Schools alumni – Honors Students • On-Call Faculty, Project Manager, Instructor, Guest Lecturer - Michigan State University. I am running to help my community by helping strengthen Mason schools.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

**Ralph S. Beebe** Besides the normal (and very important) issues of finance and test scores - one of the largest issue facing the district is School Board continuity. There are so many positive things happening in the Mason Public Schools and the momentum is great!

I have never been focused on a single issue - and feel that those candidates that approach community service with a single main issue or negative issues do the community a disservice. Let's focus on the positives and move forward!

The current Board has been entrusted by the community to lead a huge investment in our facilities and infrastructure by the voters by passing the Bond issue. Having the same Board members that started the process continue to work on it will ensure that the project continues to move forward responsibly. I have always had the best interest of the children of our District in mind – and if re-elected will continue to do so.

#### Patrick J. O'Connor

I am honored to be running for the Mason Public Schools Board of Education. As a parent I have seen the amazing things Mason teachers, staff and administrators have done through the years. I believe that the best way to build a bright future for Mason is to help our students pursue academic excellence by providing a safe, secure, and positive learning environment. Giving students and teachers the resources to learn, teach, and grow is my goal. Providing opportunities to students through strong classroom and extracurricular activities is the key to preparing students for the future. I will make providing opportunities a priority as I serve Mason Schools.

#### **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 12/31/2024 Choose 3 candidates

Biographical Info:

**Dean Bolton (N)** 

Program Manager, Michigan Public Health Institute

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/boltonforokemosschools">https://www.facebook.com/boltonforokemosschools</a>
<a href="Education">Bachelor of Speech, Northwestern University</a>

**Campaign Phone** (517) 349-0914

Adam Candeub (N)

law professor (Michigan State)

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Candeub.Okemos.Schools/">https://www.facebook.com/Candeub.Okemos.Schools/</a>
Yale University, B.A. University of Pennsylvania, J.D.

**Campaign Phone** (517) 918-7147

Mary Gebara (N) Child Life Specialist

Facebook page Mary Gebara for Okemos School Board @mgebaraboardofeducation

**Education** MA in Child Development - MSU; BS in Business Administration and Psychology - CMU

**Campaign Phone** (586) 604-9383

Michael Kieliszewski (N)

IT Professional

**Education** Graduated from Okemos High School. Studied Computer Science and Electrical Enginnering at MSU.

**Campaign Phone** (517) 420-1072

Vincent A. Lyon-Callo (N)

Professor of Sociology and Anthropology

Facebook page Vin Lyon-Callo for Okemos School Board

**Education** PhD Anthropology. UMASS MS Labor Studies. UMASS BS Economics. UCONN

**Campaign Phone** (517) 337-8355

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

**Dean Bolton** I want to ensure that all Okemos students receive the best education possible. I want to build on our tradition of excellence in preparing our children for success and to continue to meet the high expectations of our community.

I have volunteered in Okemos schools for the past 18 years, including my current role as President of the Board of Education. My district-wide experience includes: Chair of the Okemos Education Foundation (6 years); The Okemos Citizens Millage Committee for the last four campaigns, co-chairing the 2011 Building/Site Sinking Fund and 2013 Technology/Security/Transportation campaigns; Central Elementary PTO Vice President (3 years), Chippewa Parent Group President (2 years), and Okemos Parent Council Representative (3 years).

Adam Candeub My wife, Julie Taiber, and I have three kids in the Okemos public schools. Like many other parents, we found time in our schedules to volunteer for classroom help and trips, mileage club, teacher appreciation events, and the butterfly garden at Bennett Woods Elementary. As school board member, I would work for excellence in education, common sense in administration, and safety in everything. To maintain Okemos's reputation for academic excellence, we must welcome innovation and give teachers the freedom to convey enthusiasm and love for their subjects. But excellence in education needs common sense administration, which in today's world, often requires standing up to—or having the patience to work around—bureaucratic mandates that unfairly burden students and teachers and inhibit learning. As a veteran D.C. lawyer, now a law professor at MSU, I have worked with and in agencies for my entire practicing career. I'd like to use my skills to help our schools and students.

Mary Gebara Mary and her husband have four daughters and are strong advocates for equality and education. Mary has worked in the healthcare industry as well as investment banking. After moving to Okemos, she changed careers to focus on children, her true passion. While at MSU, she studied autism and inclusion, and curriculum and teachers' best practices. Mary managed a multi-site research program and mentored many undergraduate students. She believes in evidence based practices and has years of experience conducting assessments, analyzing and interpreting data, and working with teachers and administration. Mary believes that children deserve the best possible environment to grow and learn in, while gaining a first class education. She knows that a child's educational experience is not just about curriculum, but that in order to flourish, they must be in the safest, most inclusive atmosphere possible.

**Michael Kieliszewski** Michael Kieliszewski is a lifelong resident of the Wardcliff neigborhood in Meridian Township and a graduate of Okemos High School. Michael studied Computer Science and Chemical Engineering at Michigan State University. He and his wife, Anna, have two sons who are attending Bennett Woods Elementary School in the Okemos School District.

Michael has a passion for building community, and has been a volunteer for the Wardcliff Community Garden since it was established in 2010. He currently works as a supervisor and system administrator at Liquid Web, a Lansing-based web hosting company.

Michael is running for office because he would like the opportunity to represent the Faculty, Staff, and Students of Okemos Public Schools; as well as representing his community.

**Vincent A. Lyon-Callo** Vin and his family moved to Okemos in 2002. He and his wife, Sarah, have a son who is a senior at Okemos High School and a daughter who is a freshman. Sarah is the state epidemiologist for the Michigan Department of Community Health. Vin is a Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Western Michigan University. Vin's academic work focuses on poverty, racism, homelessness and other inequalities as well as the subject making impacts of living with exploitation, oppression, and ecological challenges.

Vin has coached youth sports and volunteering in the schools. He was first elected to the Okemos Board of Education in 2011. He has served as Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and as a member of the policy committee. Advocating for the well-being of and equity for all students, being open and responsive to community members, and continuing the hope that public education can assist with crafting actual democracy have driven his work on the board and will continue to guide his work.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

**Dean Bolton** Creating a safe and inclusive environment that promotes equity and removes barriers to learning in order to improve the academic growth and performance of all of our students and reduce the achievement gap between our lowest and highest achieving students; The impact of unstable K-12 state funding on the district's budget; Addressing our facility issues to accommodate growing enrollments.

I will approach every issue from the perspective of what is best for student learning and achievement in order to maintain and to improve on the excellent record Okemos schools have for a strong academic curriculum and a broad range of opportunities in the arts, athletics, and extracurricular activities that educate the whole child and prepare them for the challenges and opportunities they will face after graduating from high school.

Adam Candeub I would work for excellence in education, common sense in administration, and safety in everything. Many parents share my frustration at canned-curricula, bureaucratic burdens, and teachers forced to do paperwork rather than encouraged to create exciting, engaged classrooms. As a veteran DC lawyer, now a law professor at MSU, I have worked with (and in) agencies for my entire practicing career. I wish to use my skills to help our schools thrive even when caught in administrative thickets. My priorities include • Enhance curricula and academic performance, with creative approaches such as delaying high school start times • Solve in a sustainable way the overcrowding in our elementary schools. Excellent education needs the best facilities, but we must shepherd limited resources • Stay in the closest contact with parents, teachers, and students to respond to safety concerns • Keep student performance at the highest national levels • Improve sports infrastructure

Mary Gebara The safety and mental health of our children are at the forefront of my agenda. If elected, my plan is to work with parents, teachers and our community to ensure that Okemos students receive the exceptional educational experience they deserve. I will work diligently to make certain that there are more mental health experts, social workers and resources within our schools allowing the children and staff to receive the support they need. For too long, the responsibilities have fallen on our teachers and other staff members to not only teach, but to be safety officers, mental health counselors, and fulfill so many other roles outside of their scope. I will also make it a priority for every student to feel included and welcomed by reinforcing the Okemos Equity Plan, encouraging and facilitating more opportunities for acceptance and inclusion for everyone. When students feel safe, accepted and empowered, they succeed. Together we can make that possible for every child in Okemos!

Michael Kieliszewski Students in Okemos have access to high quality education, excellent music and fine arts, and a wealth of athletic and club activities. With these points of excellence, we also acknowledge that there are areas that can be strengthened. I am running for re-election because there are contributions I can make as we work together to face our challenges and provide a supportive and high quality education for all. Balancing limited funds with needs, providing safe and secure environments, managing physical facilities, attracting excellent and diverse educators, hiring the next superintendent, continuing and expanding our unfolding work on equity, developing a district wide strategic plan to guide our work, responding to the growing emotional and mental health challenges facing too many young people in our nation and community, and rethinking how and what we teach to craft a curriculum for the challenges of the 21st Century are all critical issues we must face and respond to together.

#### Okemos Public Schools - Partial 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 Partial term expiring 12/31/2020

**Choose 1 candidate** 

Biographical Information

Katie Cavanaugh (N)

Web Site <a href="http://Katie4Okemos.com">http://Katie4Okemos.com</a>

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Katie-Cavanaugh-for-Okemos-School-Board-520183745093116/">https://www.facebook.com/Katie-Cavanaugh-for-Okemos-School-Board-520183745093116/</a>
BA in English & Anthropology, Albion College MA in American Studies, George Washington University

**Campaign Phone** (517) 347-4945

Don Romain (N)

**Campaign Phone** (517) 347-4945

Candidate did not respond.

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

Katie Cavanaugh Katie Cavanaugh is an Okemos native and Okemos High School graduate. She and her husband, Dr. Bill Truluck, have two children who attend Okemos Public Montessori at Central. Katie and Bill purposely chose to start their family in Katie's hometown, a perfect place to raise kids. Katie was Assistant Director of the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame. She has been in the classroom as a substitute teacher in several districts, and taught courses at Baker College in Jackson. Katie now is fortunate to be home with her kids while managing her husband's medical practice. Katie has a longstanding commitment to community service. She has volunteered with Big Brothers/Big Sisters and served as a Board Member of Michigan Capital Council Girl Scouts and the Michigan Women's Studies Association. She is a classroom volunteer and coaches multiple youth sports teams. Katie founded Secure Our Schools to lobby the board to lock school doors and install camera and buzzer systems

**Don Romain** Candidate response is not yet available.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

**Katie Cavanaugh** I am thrilled to be a candidate for Okemos Public Schools Board of Education. Okemos is my hometown, and I have always been proud to be a product of Okemos schools. My two children are thriving at Okemos Public Montessori at Central and I am grateful that OPS offers unique opportunities for students. Okemos is already a great district – I've watched my nieces and nephew, as well as my own kids, grow and learn in our fantastic schools. I want to serve on the Board of Education to ensure that Okemos continues to provide the best opportunities for our children with an outstanding faculty in safe and supporting schools.

My plan: • Invest in Our Students, Teachers, and Classrooms • Make the Best Choices for Student Well-Being • Improve Communication and Increase Transparency Within the District • Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – Reduce unnecessary spending on new buildings, Reuse current schools by expanding them to meet our needs, Recycle unused buildings if our district continues to grow.

**Don Romain** Candidate response is not yet available.

#### **Williamston 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

6 year term expiring 12/31/2024

**Choose 2 candidates** 

#### **Biographical Information**

Michele Bisard (N)

Childcare Provider

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://Michele Bisard for Williamston school board">http://Michele Bisard for Williamston school board</a>

Facebook page Michele Bisard Michele Bisard for WCS School Boars

**Education** High School Early Education/State of Michigan Program management training

**Campaign Phone** (517) 749-1021

Julie Conley (N)

Williamston Community School Board

Campaign Web Sitehttp://www.facebook.com/conleyforschoolboard/Facebook pagehttps://www.facebook.com/conleyforschoolboard/

Campaign Phone 920-403-0447

Jeffrey S. West (N) Financial Advisor

Facebook page Jeffrey S. West- retain trustee for Williamston School Board

**Education** Bachelors from Western Michigan University

**Campaign Phone** (517) 881-1145

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

#### Michele Bisard

My husband John, and I were born and raised in Williamston. We decided to stay in Williamston to start our family. We knew there was no other place we would feel more comfortable having a family. We have 3 amazing kids. One is a 2015 graduate and is now continuing her education at LCC. Our other 2 kids are still going through the WCS schools and thriving with their education. We love the Williamston community and always strive to lend a helping hand. I was a childcare provider for 10 years in Williamston. I take deep pride in knowing I have helped shape these young minds of many students in the district. As a school board member I will be representing all of the hard working families just like ours in Williamston. Who like me want the very best education possible for kids. My goal as a member of the Williamston School Board will always be to put the needs of the students at the forefront.

#### **Julie Conley**

We know how important parental involvement is in molding our future generation. All students deserve a safe school environment. All students deserve compassion and support. I want every child and parent that walks through the doors of a Williamston Community School to know that they are both important to our success. I will work to ensure that parental and student rights are encouraged, secured, and protected.

I will provide the encouragement and support that is needed to expand the STEAM program into the high school. STEAM has successfully

implemented at the elementary and middle schools. We need successful marketing campaigns to bring more children to the Williamston Community School District. I would like to work with local organization to develop a program for skilled trades to be offered for high schoolers.

#### Jeffrey S. West

I have been on the Williamston Community Schools since July of 2013. I want to continue the good work I have been a part of with the school board.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

#### **Michele Bisard**

- · Making sure students are always the center of a decision.
- To continue to increase our fund budget.

To continue to support the staff

#### **Julie Conley**

Parental Rights, Compassion and Equality for all students, budget reform, STEAM advancement, skilled trade advancement

#### Jeffrev S. Wes

To continue supporting the Superintendent with evaluation feedback to help him manage the school district. School Board members hire and evaluate the Superintendent. We write policies that wil benefit the school district and update and change those that may not or are no longer up to

date. We are holding a seat that someone else will at some point. We approve the finances of the district that are heading in the right direction thanks to increased enrollment and our generous tax payors who have approved a recreation millage and a sinking fund millage while I have been on the board and recently have renewed the sinking fund in August to allow for safety improvements. Thank you Williamston!

#### Williamston Community Schools - Partial Term Ending 12/31/2020

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** 

**Biographical Information** 

Partial term expiring 12/31/2020

**Choose 2 candidates** 

Scott Gaffner (N) Campaign Phone (517) 655-2223

Candidate did not respond.

### **Recall Election - Williamston Community Schools**

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 Term ending 12/31/2020 Ch

Term ending 12/31/2020 Choose not more than 1 candidate
Biographical Information

Nancy Deal (N)

Special Education Teacher

Campaign Web Sitehttp://www.keepwilliamstonboard.comFacebook pageNancy Deal for Williamston School Board

**Education** Attended Michigan State University receiving degrees in Special Education and Child Development.

**Campaign Phone** (517) 281-0562

Walter Holm (N)

**Campaign Phone** 626) 667-4656

Candidate did not respond.

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

#### **Nancy Deal**

My husband and I have lived in Williamston for 22 years. We have 2 daughters who went through the Williamston school system and now attend Big 10 Universities. I attended Michigan State University receiving degrees in Special Education and Child Development. I have been in the education field for over 20 years-10 of which were with Williamston as a special education teacher. I'm also a member of the Council for Exceptional Children, and the National Association for the Education of Young Children. I currently work for Ingham Intermediate School District and am a member of a cross-department leadership committee. I have sat on the Williamston Community Schools Board of Education since 2014, during this time, our enrollment has increased, test scores are up, new innovative programs have been added, staff has been increased, and our financial situation has improved. I'm very proud of the positive course Williamston is on for our staff and students.

Walter Holm Candidate did not respond.

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

#### **Nancy Deal**

As a school board we are consistently multitasking. We are dealing with finances, facilities, safety concerns, curriculum, athletics, parent/community concerns and the arts, just to name a few. It is very difficult to prioritize one when they are all important and have an impact on our students. I feel, as a school board member, you always must make decisions based on what is best for students. It is my priority to make sure all our students have opportunities to be challenged in a safe and nurturing environment while they are preparing for their futures.

Walter Holm Candidate did not respond.

#### **Recall Election - Williamston Community Schools**

Nonpartisan Term ending 12/31/2020

Choose not more than 1 candidate

Biographical Information

**Karen Potter (N)** 

International/National Sales Director

Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/PotterforSchoolBoard/

Education B.S. Business Management MA Ed. CPS

Campaign Phone (517) 410-7113

**Greg Talberg (N)** 

teacher

**Campaign Web Site** 

http://keepwilliamstonboard.com/

Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/votegregtalberg/ **Education** Master's Education Leadership (MSU) Master's curriculum and instruction

(University of Florida)

Campaign Phone (517) 672-2126

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

#### Karen Pottei

Karen believes compassion, forgiveness, respect and kindness should be the foundation to every classroom. She has demonstrated that throughout her work in education and business worlds. Karen believes that the School Board and Administrators set the tone and the culture for our schools. It's our job to model kindness, compassion, love, respect for others. She pledges to make that happen. Empowering students who are struggling to have a voice at WCS and embracing a restorative justice policy that helps emphasize compassion and restoration is the right model for WCS. As a board member Karen will partner with the business community to find ways for our students to have opportunities to explore careers, apprenticeship programs and internships that lead to amazing jobs. The lack of career and technical trade classes hold many students back from rewarding careers that do not require 4-year college degree.

#### **Greg Talberg**

I am the proud parent of two Williamston Hornets.

I have been a public school teacher for over two decades. I care deeply about our students and our schools. I am also the president of the Williamston Community Schools Board of Education. In my nearly four years of service as a school board trustee, I have never missed a board meeting. My experiences in public education provide the foundation on which I base my school board service. While serving on the board, I have completed several courses through the Michigan Association of School Boards in order to learn how to best serve our students.

I love Williamston. I love our downtown and our back roads. I love our winters and our summers and all the great things our community has to offer. I appreciate our sense of community and look forward to our future.

I am running as a result of a special recall election. Recall has been sought as a result of my vote to accept and support all students regardless of their gender identity.

1. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

#### **Karen Potter**

1. Restoring Trust with All Stakeholders (Parents, Community, Staff, Students) -Boards need to be transparent, inviting and accommodating to working parents. We need to make our meetings view-able, we need public forums to discuss important matters and gain feedback and we must never forget who we serve- the people and students in the entire district. I will use live streams, social media, newsletter and other technologies to keep even busy working parents informed, invited and engaged in our important work. 2. Finances -Junk bond status is not good and must be corrected. 3. Restorative Justice and Compassion programs. 4. Career and Tech Education must be promoted and enhanced. I will also work with local businesses to provide internships, job shadowing and more. We need students to see all their options for rewarding careers.

#### **Greg Talberg**

As a school board trustee, my role is to support policies that will enable our students to thrive academically and socially and leave our schools prepared for the future.

The top issue faced by the board is preparing students for the future. For me, this is all about making schools places where opportunities abound. Students must have opportunities to learn and grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Students are most likely to find success if they feel safe and supported.

The Williamston Community has high expectations for our schools. In order to meet those expectation the board must also responsibly manage our finances. This is an ongoing challenge in most Michigan communities and one we have managed with much success in Williamston.

Another priority I have is to continue to build on the strong foundation in Williamston. We are fortunate to have supportive parents, outstanding staff, and thoughtful leaders. We must provide them with the resources they need.

#### **Recall Election - Williamston Community Schools**

Nonpartisan Term ending 12/31/2022 Choose not more than 1 candidate

**Biographical Information** 

Sarah Belanger (N)

Williamston School Board Member,

Childhood Specialist, College Instructor, Business Owner

Campaign Web Site <a href="http://keepwilliamstonboard.com/belanger">http://keepwilliamstonboard.com/belanger</a>

Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SarahBelangerMI">www.facebook.com/SarahBelangerMI</a>
Education <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SarahBelangerMI">Master of Arts in Child Development from Michigan State University</a>

**Campaign Phone** (517) 281-0053

Debbie Hutchison (N)

**Campaign Phone** (810) 772-0277 Candidate did not respond.

Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

#### Sarah Belanger

I am running to retain my seat on the WCS Board of Education. I have been a Board Trustee since Jan. 1, 2017. I am being recalled because I voted on a policy to accept and support ALL students regardless of their gender identity. Some claim my vote on the adopted policies reduces parental rights. This is simply not true. The district follows all laws and there has been no change in parental rights with policy 8011 and 9260. I am a Williamston alumna, third generation resident, mother of three district students and a career educator. I have a MA in childhood development from Michigan State University and I have nearly ten years of experience working in post-secondary education. I am the Board Treasurer, Board Liaison to the WCS Foundation, I chair the facilities subcommittee and I sit on the policy and finance subcommittees. Since taking office, enrollment has increased, test scores are up, we've added innovative programs, hired more social workers, and improved our financial situation.

**Debbie Hutchison** Candidate did not respond.

# 2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected? Sarah Belanger

Earlier this year, I worked with the WCS Board of Education to update the Board's 2018-2020 goals. The goals outlined on the WCS website (<a href="https://www.gowcs.net/domain/35">https://www.gowcs.net/domain/35</a>) include objectives and strategies for 1. Providing high quality educational experiences for all students, 2. Increasing the fund balance to 5%, and 3. Strengthening communication with students, parents, staff, and community. Another priority I support is our newly voted upon safety enhancements. As a school Board Trustee, my responsibility is to support ALL our students, staff and administrators. The adopted board goals, objectives and strategies articulate my resolve as a Board Trustee to ensure we are competitive with other districts in a global economy. As a current board member, candidate for office, tax payer, district resident and parent, I am dedicated to supporting our students and the district as a whole. Learn more how I'll continue to support and fight for our schools at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/SarahBelangerMI.Recall">www.facebook.com/SarahBelangerMI.Recall</a> Election - Williamston Community Schools

**Debbie Hutchison** Candidate did not respond.

**Recall Election - Williamston Community Schools** 

Nonpartisan Term ending 12/31/2022 Choose not more than 1 candidate

**Biographical Information** 

Craig Hagelberger (N)
Campaign Phone (517) 230-7990
Candidate did not respond.

Christopher Lewis (N)
Digital Director

Campaign Web Site

http://keepwilliamstonboard.com/

Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/ChristopherLewisForWCS/

Education Ed.D - Eastern Mich Univ. MS - Miami

Univ. BA - Western Michigan Univ. **Campaign Phone** (517) 763-5056

1. Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for the office.

Craig Hagelberger Candidate did not respond.

**Christopher Lewis** 

I have lived in the Williamston Community for the past 9.5 years. For 20 years I have worked in college administration working with students as they have transitioned from high school to college.

I am running to retain my seat because I believe that the Williamston Community Schools are stellar and as a member of the current board the success that our district has found comes back to the vision that was set by the current board. I have loved being able to push the board to expand communication methods to include a weekly email from the Superintendent, monthly podcast, blogs and more. I also am proud of the work that has been done by the board and the district to bring our finances back. The board set a vision for the fund balance to be at 5% in 3 years and we will surpass that in only 2! I also believe all kids need to be supported no matter what and that safety in our schools is of utmost importance. As a member of the board we have made that clear & are working to make this happen

2. What are the priority issues facing the office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?

**Craig Hagelberger** Candidate did not respond.

**Christopher Lewis** 

As a member of the current board we have been focusing on a number of issues that are still very important for the district. As mentioned in my other answer, communication is important and continuing to share out important information will be critical to make sure that all constituents know what are happening within our schools. We also need to make sure that our schools are safe for all students. Our Superintendent has been working hard to make sure that we understand where needs exist and with the extension of the sinking fund as a board member I know that I will work to support these new initiatives. Finances within the district need to continue to grow. We will meet the 5% goal this year, but that will not be enough. We need to make sure that we continue to grow our fund balance so that we will not be in the place where we were over the past few years. Finally, we need to support all students to find academic success and to have a plan for their future upon graduation!

#### **PROPOSALS**

#### INGHAM COUNTY FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION INITIATIVE MILLAGE QUESTION

For the purpose of protecting farmland and other open space lands, including waterways, wildlife habitat, wetlands, and other natural lands, and to encourage urban development, at the same millage level previously approved by the voters in 2008, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Ingham, Michigan, previously increased by up to 14/100 (0.1400 of one mill, \$0.14 per thousand dollars of state taxable valuation, be continued and renewed for a period of ten (10) years (2018-2027) inclusive? (If approved and levied in full, this Millage will raise an estimated additional \$1,036,059 for farmland and open space preservation in the first calendar year of the levy based on state taxable valuation.)

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### INGHAM CENTRAL DISPATCH PROPOSITION FOR 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICE SYSTEM FUNDING

Shall the County of Ingham, Michigan, be authorized to assess a charge on all landline, wireless, and voice over internet protocol service users located in Ingham County of up to \$1.80 per month to be used exclusively for the funding of 9-1-1 emergency telephone call answering and dispatch services within Ingham County, including facilities, infrastructure, equipment and maintenance, and operating costs?

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

# CITY OF LANSING A PROPOSAL FOR THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN TERRITORY IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELTA, EATON COUNTY, MICHIGAN TO THE CITY OF LANSING, EATON AND INGHAM COUNTIES, MICHIGAN

Shall the following listed parcels and described land, which is contiguous with the City of Lansing and generally located West of Waverly Road and North of Jolly Highway within Delta Charter Township, be annexed from Delta Charter Township to the City of Lansing, such that this land will thereafter be included within the jurisdiction of the City of Lansing?

Parcels to be Annexed:

Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-236-00, 11907 W. Jolly Hwy.; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-320-00, 5058 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-310-00, 5050 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-300- 00, 5030 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-297-00, 4902 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-260-00, 4848 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-250-00, 4820 S Waverly Rd.

Legal Description of Property to be Annexed:

A parcel of land situated in the State of Michigan, County of Eaton, Township of Delta (Township 4 North, Range 3 West), Section 36, residing entirely within the Southeast One-quarter of said Section 36, further described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast corner of Section 36, said point being a steel bar and cap #25837 as recorded in liber 1989, page 165 of corners, Eaton County records; Thence North 89°41 ' 32" West, 580.80 feet along the south line of Section 36 (said line being a straight line between the said Southeast corner and a steel bar and cap # 47942 at the South 1/4 Corner of Section 36 as recorded in liber 2546, page 1102 of corners, Eaton County records); Thence North 00°06' 38" East, 825.00 feet parallel with the east line of said Section 36 (said east line being a straight line between the said Southeast corner of Section 36 and a steel bar and cap # 47942 at the East 1/4 Corner of Section 36, as recorded in liber 2546, page 1117 of corners, Eaton County records); Thence South 89°41 ' 32" East, 580. 80 feet parallel with the said south line of Section 36, to the east line of said Section 36; Thence South 00°06' 38" West, 825.00 feet along said east line to the point of beginning. This description contains 479157. 16 square feet, 10.9999 acres, more or less.

A "YES" VOTE MEANS THE PROPERTY WILL BE ANNEXED.

A "NO" VOTE MEANS THE PROPERTY WILL NOT BE ANNEXED.

#### LESLIE TOWNSHIP ROAD IMPROVEMENT MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall Leslie Township impose an increase of up to 0.5 mills (\$0.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX. Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it for five (5) years, 2018 to 2022, inclusive, for the purpose of improving, maintaining and repairing roads within the Leslie Township, raising an estimated \$48,685 in 2018?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELHI LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

As a renewal of previously authorized millage which expired with the 2017 tax levy, shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed on taxable property within the Charter Township of Delhi, Ingham County, Michigan, be increased by 1.4961 mills (\$1.4961 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of eight (8) years, 2018 to 2025, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for law enforcement services in the Charter Township of Delhi? It is estimated that 1.4961 mills will raise approximately \$1,147,326 when first levied in 2018. All millage dollars shall be subject to an independent yearly audit and be reported on a public website.

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### TOWNSHIP OF DELHI FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

As a renewal of previously authorized millage which expired with the 2017 tax levy, shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed on taxable property within the Charter Township of Delhi, Ingham County, Michigan, be increased by 1.4961 mills (\$1.4961 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of eight (8) years, 2018 to 2025, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for operational costs of fire protection and emergency medical services in the Charter Township of Delhi? It is estimated that 1.4961 mills will raise approximately \$1,147,326 when first levied in 2018. All millage dollars shall be subject to an independent yearly audit and be reported on a public website.

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELHI FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed on taxable property within the Charter Township of Delhi, Ingham County, Michigan, be increased by 0.50 mills (\$0.50 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of four (4) years, 2018 to 2021, inclusive, as new additional millage for the purpose of providing funds to repair and replace fire, emergency medical and ambulance equipment and vehicles? It is estimated that 0.50 mills will raise approximately \$383,439 when first levied in 2018. All millage dollars shall be subject to an independent yearly audit and be reported on a public website.

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELHI PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed on taxable property within the Charter Township of Delhi, Ingham County, Michigan, be increased by 1.00 mills (\$1.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of four (4) years, 2018 to 2021, inclusive, as new additional millage for the purpose of providing funds for restoring, operating, maintaining, acquiring, constructing and equipping parks, trails and recreation facilities? It is estimated that 1.00 mills will raise approximately \$766,878 when first levied in 2018. All millage dollars shall be subject to an independent yearly audit and be reported on a public website.

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by 22 mills (\$22.00 on each \$1,000 by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by 22 mills (\$22.00 on each \$1,000 by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by 22 mills (\$22.00 on each \$1,000 by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by 22 mills (\$22.00 on each \$1,000 by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by 22 mills (\$22.00 on each \$1,000 by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by 22 mills (\$22.00 on each \$1,000 by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, Mic of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2019 to 2028, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2019 is approximately \$9,729,657?

**Yes** - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 1 mill (\$1.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2019 to 2028, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for the purchase of real estate for sites for and the construction or repair of school buildings, for school security improvements, for the acquisition or upgrading of technology and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2019 is approximately \$1,145,786?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

#### **Tips for Voters on Election Day**

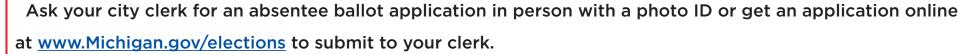
- Go to www.VOTE411.org
- For the first time in many years, Michigan voters will not have the option of voting a straight party ticket.
- Since the ballot is long, it is important to be prepared. Print out your sample ballot from <a href="https://www.VOTE411.org">www.VOTE411.org</a>.
- Mark it with your choices and take it with you to the polls.
- You can also take your phone to consult about your sample ballot. You cannot use your phone to take pictures, make phone calls, etc.

  You cannot wear clothing or signs promoting a particular candidate.

### What about Absentee Ballots?

You may vote by absentee ballot if you are

- 1) unable to go to the polls without assistance
- 2) 60 years old or older
- 3) expect to be out of town on election day
- 4) in jail awaiting arraignment or trial
- 5) unable to go to the polls due to religious reasons
- 6) appointed to work as an election inspector.



Absentee ballot applications must be submitted by 2 p.m. November 3, 2018, and the ballot must be returned by 8 p.m. on November 6, 2018.

For more information about voting and elections, go to <a href="https://www.vote411.org">www.vote411.org</a> or <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/vote">www.michigan.gov/vote</a>

The League of Women Voters Education Fund website has an online voters' guide with candidate



and ballot proposal information for the races applicable to every voter. All federal, state and local races

are available online for the voters in the Tri-County area. Registered voters can enter their address on the site to

receive personalized information about where to vote, local candidates, and what is on their ballot before they vote. An absentee ballot application is available as is a sample ballot that you can take with you to the polls. <a href="https://www.vote411.org">https://www.vote411.org</a>



"Every election is determined by the people who show up."

- Larry J. Sabato



### Election Day is Tuesday, November 6, 2018.

Voting is a fundamental right and all eligible voters should have the equal opportunity to exercise that right.

We are dedicated to ensuring that our elections remain free, fair and accessible.

League of Women Voters of the United States



### **Making Democracy Work:**

Membership in the League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area (LWVLA) is open to all men and women over age 16. For information about joining or donating to the work of the LWV, please visit: <a href="http://lansing.mi.lwvnet.org">http://lansing.mi.lwvnet.org</a>.

P.O. Box 971 East Lansing, MI 48823 517-624-9224

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