

Our Lady of the Wayside School Advisory Board Nominees

Listed below are the 2009 School Advisory Board nominee biographies. These are the candidates that are running for the three open positions on the board. The School Advisory Board elections will be held Saturday, April 18th and Sunday, April 19th after all weekend masses. Each parishioner, 18 years and older may vote. You may vote three times for the same candidate or vote three times for different candidates. Absentee ballots will be available in the school and parish offices April 6th through April 18th. If you have any questions do not hesitate to call Jeff Scardami at 847-259-7217 or Doug Hamilton at 847-577-8986.

Name: Patrick Sexton **Years in Parish:** 14
Number of Children: 4 **Occupation:** Associate General Counsel, Chicago Board Option Exchange
Education: BA, Juris Doctor, University of Notre Dame; Notre Dame Law School

Parish organization memberships and/or volunteer experience: 2008 OLW finance committee; Wildcat Dad and Daughter; AHPD Coach

Statement: Our family believes strongly in Catholic education and the values it instills. All four of our children attend OLW and we have been very happy with their experience. I would like to contribute by serving on the Board and helping to reinforce the quality of education OLW provides, while being open to new ideas and programs that would enhance the growth of the students of OLW.

Name: Carolyn W. Miller **Years in Parish:** 9
Number of Children: 2 **Occupation:** Reading, L.D. Researcher and Therapist; Indoor Environmental Health Consultant
Education: BA E.L. Education, Purdue University; MA Reading and Language Development, University of Chicago; Post Grad. Early Childhood Development, University of Colorado; Post Grad. L.D. Middle School Certification, National Louis

Parish organization memberships and/or volunteer experience: Chair the Welcoming committee for 8 years (member 8 years); Co-Chair/Founder . Women's Golf -5 years; Usher . 8 ½ years, coordinator 1 year; Eucharistic Minister ½ year; P.L.C. member . 3 years; Capital Campaign . phone caller

Other: 45 years experience in education. I taught preschool, Head Start, first grade, H.S.; adult education, English as a Second Language; private practice: reading therapy, reading research: language development of 3 toddler . normal, delayed and gifted and effect on first grade reading success; effects of premature birth on first grade reading success; at risk factors of minorities at Cabrini Green Housing Center on first grade reading success; adverse effects of allergies, chemicals and heavy metal toxicity on reading success; use of room air purifiers to reduce classroom VOC (volatile organic compound) and improve attention, health, behavior, and motor skills in a reading disabilities classroom of students.

Statement: Many schools focus on pedagogy to increase achievement. However, research on the proliferation of toxic chemicals in the past 50 years in the classroom can reduce achievement even more. Simultaneously, operational expenses escalate. In order to remain competitive schools must institute Green Policies: reduce chemicals, decrease energy/water consumption 30/42% and broaden waste management and recycling.

Name: Patricia Pulikowski **Years in Parish:** 11
Number of Children: 2 **Occupation:** Supervisor, Facilities Mngt, Lutheran General Hospital
Education: Maine Township HS South; BS Political Science, NIU, DeKalb; Masters, Public Service Mngt, DePaul University, Chicago

Parish organization memberships and/or volunteer experience: Over the last three years that my children have attended OLW, I've been ready and always willing to give my time. I have volunteered for classroom activities, parties, field trips, baking, the Book Fair, etc. Throughout the years I've served various organizations throughout Chicagoland such as: Chicago Cares Serve-a-Thon, organizer for Advocate Healthcare Service Days; Horizon for Youth, Chicago, organization providing mentoring and educational scholarships to inner city, potentially at-risk youth, to attend private schools (Chicago Catholic schools; Our Lady of Ransom, Niles Catechist & High School Youth Group Leader; OLW, Catechist & Substitute Catechist; Lutheran General Hospital, various areas.

Other: Working in the non-profit sector for the last 16 years and being a Waysider for the last three years, I know there are many talents that I can share with members of the School Advisory Board and the OLW community.

Statement: Being a part of changes and/or improvements within OLW, I would know that I am doing all I can to create a wonderful educational environment for my (our) children. While we already have a wonderful school with exceptional families, there are ways we can grow to further nurture our children and ready our children for what awaits them in the future.

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Name: Beth Martin

Number of Children: 3

Education: BS Accounting, Marquette University 1993, MBA Finance, DePaul University 1997

Years in Parish: 9

Occupation: Homemaker/Accountant

Parish organization memberships and/or volunteer experience: Group Leader of CFM for 2 years; CFM Action Coordinator for 1 year; CFM Leadership Trainer for 1 year; Room Parent at OLW school; Treasurer of FSA for 2 years

Statement: I have been Treasurer of FSA for 2 years, which has given me a strong knowledge of the many different programs and functions of the school. I would apply this knowledge to help enable the school to meet its goals. I am a hard worker and could utilize my strong accounting background to advise on the annual school budget and other financial matters.

Name: Drew Smith

Number of Children: 2

Education: BS, Southern IL University

Years in Parish: 16

Occupation: Deputy Fire Chief

Parish organization memberships and/or volunteer experience: Member of the Facilities Committee for OLW School Advisory Board Five Year Strategic Plan; Past member of OLW CFM; Over the past several years, I have made several classroom presentations on the topic of fire safety to grades PK3 through second; Boy Scout leader in the 1980s.

Other: 20-plus years of experience working on a variety of standing and ad-hoc committees at the state, regional and local level. These committees have involved a variety of stakeholders including peer professional, elected and appointed officials, and a variety of civilian members. Product of a Catholic education at Saint Raymond's in Mount Prospect. 25-plus years of experience in creating and operating multimillion dollar budgets involving building maintenance and personnel issues.

Statement: With two children currently attending OLW, one for nine years, I feel I am very familiar with the issues facing the school and parish. I enjoyed being part of the school advisory board's five year strategic plan process. My daily work in government can make positive contributions in the discussion and planning at the school board level.

Name: Danielle Kenney

Number of Children: 2

Education: BA History, University of Notre Dame

Years in Parish: 5

Occupation: Full-time Mom

Parish organization memberships and/or volunteer experience: Vacation Bible School, Co-Director; OLW Five Year Plan Sub-committee member; OLW Brownie Leader; Junior League of Chicago, Board of Directors; Marketing Council VP; Co-founder Next Step for Teen Moms Signature Project; Co-Founder Breakfast Networking Forum; Youth Mentoring Program while at Notre Dame

Other: Board experience through junior League of Chicago; Ability to work with varied groups of people and build consensus; Previously worked as commercial Sales Manager, Marketing Communications Manager and Product Manager

Statement: I attended Catholic grade school where my parents were very involved. It's a lesson they instilled in me: ~~get~~ involve and serve. I would like that opportunity on the School Advisory Board. I also want to explore bringing about some environmentally friendly changes to our school and parish.

Name: Kate Schraeder

Number of Children: 3

Education: B.A. University of Colorado, Fulbright Scholar

Years in Parish: 9

Occupation: Marketing Consultant

Parish organization memberships and/or volunteer experience: I have spent my time at OLW working to bring about our new OLW Foreign Language Program (Spanish and French), to children of all ages. I've dedicated time to sharing the Good News of Wayside by serving as editor of our new online OLW School News Letter that is both financially and ecologically sound (sign up at olwnnews@yahoo.com). I continue to help on a regular basis as an Art Mom, Room Mom and Cub Scout Leader. In addition, I have served on the School Advisory Board five year committee for Finance and Enrichment.

Statement: It is very important to me that OLW students continue to receive the best moral, ethical and academic training possible to be successful. I will use my business, marketing and teaching skills to bring about more student enrichment opportunities and to develop new ways of spreading the Good News about OLW.