Washington Township School Board Director Vacancy

As required by the Pennsylvania School Code, public school districts are governed by a School Board that is composed of directors/trustees who serve terms. In compliance with state and federal laws, school boards establish policies and regulations by which their schools are governed.

You must be a resident of Washington Township; if you would vote in the following election precincts, you would be qualified:

- Washington 1 — Church of Transfiguration, 13646 Summit Avenue, Blue Ridge Summit, PA
- Washington 2 — Rouzerville Community Center (Ruritan), 11962 Old Route 16, Rouzerville, PA
- Washington 3 — Church of the Apostles, 336 Barnett Avenue, Wayne Heights, PA
- Washington 4 — Zullinger Community Center, 4569 Buchanan Trail East, Zullinger, PA
- Washington 5 — Waynesboro Bible Church, 8216 Stottlemyer Road, Waynesboro, PA

Applicants for the vacant seat to serve, upon board approval, through December 2027 on the Waynesboro Area School District School Board of Directors should submit their cover letter, application, Financial Interest Form, and the responses to the questions listed below to Mrs. Fortney, School Board President, at rachel_fortney@wasdpa.org. Interviews for candidates will be conducted on September 22nd at 6:00 PM during the regular school board meeting. Applications are due to Mrs. Fortney by **September 15, 2026, at 5:00 PM.**

1. What opportunities do you see for the Waynesboro Area School District?
2. How would you effectively promote the Waynesboro Area School District to our community?
3. What differentiates you from the other candidates and/or board members?
4. What particular experiences or skills have prepared you to serve as a board member?

According to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association:

Principles for Governance and Leadership
Pennsylvania school boards are committed to providing every student the opportunity to grow and achieve. Actions, as elected and appointed board members, ultimately have both short and long-term impact in the classroom. Therefore, school board members pledge that they will:

Lead Responsibly

- Prepare for, attend, and actively participate in board meetings
- Work together with civility and cooperation, respecting that individuals hold differing opinions and ideas
- Participate in professional development, training, and board retreats
- Collaborate with the Superintendent, acknowledging their role as the 10th member of the board and commissioned officer of the Commonwealth

Act Ethically

- Never use the position for improper benefit to self or others
- Avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest
- Recognize school directors do not possess any authority outside of the collective board
- Accept that when a board has made a decision, it is time to move forward collectively and constructively

Plan Thoughtfully

- Implement a collaborative strategic planning process
- Set annual goals that are aligned with comprehensive plans, recognizing the need to adapt as situations change
- Develop a comprehensive financial plan and master facilities plan that anticipates short- and long-term needs
- Allocate resources to effectively impact student success

Evaluate Continuously

- Make data-informed decisions
- Evaluate the superintendent annually
- Conduct a board self-assessment on a recurring basis
- Focus on student growth and achievement
- Review effectiveness of all comprehensive and strategic plans

Communicate Clearly

- Promote open, honest, and respectful dialogue among the board, staff, and community
- Acknowledge and listen to varied input from all stakeholders
- Promote transparency while protecting necessary confidential matters
- Set expectations and guidelines for individual board member communication

Advocate Earnestly

- Promote public education as a keystone of our Commonwealth
- Engage the community by seeking input, building support networks, and generating action
- Champion public education by engaging local, state, and federal officials

Govern Effectively

- Establish and adhere to rules and procedures for board operations
- Develop, adopt, revise, and review policy routinely
- Align board decisions to policy, ensuring compliance with the PA School Code and other local, state, and federal laws
- Remain focused on the role of governance, effectively delegating management tasks to the administration