

DISTRICT 761 SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

Lloyd Brandt



- My name is Lloyd Brandt, my Wife Laurie and I have 5 Children, 16 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren, we have lived in the district for over 30 years.
- I was raised on a farm in rural Stewartville, after graduation I attended Rochester community technical college.
- I have worked in the food industry, Power Industry and owned my own electrical contracting business for 25 years.
- I have volunteered for the hospitality house, habitat for humanity, beyond the yellow ribbon and my hometown rural church.

Nikki Gieseke



- Hello – I am grateful for the opportunity to introduce myself to those who I have not had the privilege of meeting. I, Nikki Gieseke, am a mom of 4 (Colin Piper class of 2013 passed away his Senior year due to complications from an asthma attack. Holly Piper, class of 2015 who currently works at Bosch. Drake Gieseke, class of 2019 who currently is a Senior at Northern Illinois University and Trevor Gieseke, currently a sophomore at OHS).
- I work at Community Bank Owatonna as the Project Manager/IT Officer having previously worked as Larry Schultz Organic Farm and Jostens.
- I believe in giving back to my community and being involved. I am currently serving my 6th year on the Owatonna School Board and unfortunately, I am not able to attend today as I am at a board retreat for the Minnesota State School Board (MSBA) where I am the District 1 (southeast Minnesota) Director. Prior to this I was on the Owatonna Youth Hockey board for 6 years.
- I have learned many things while being on the School Board as well as MSBA and would like to see some of the initiative I have been involved with to their conclusion. Most importantly my philosophy has always been that I represent all of Owatonna whether they voted for me or not. I have a history of attending various meetings of groups who had invited me to listen. I ask questions to gain a better understanding and anyone who has gone to a board meeting has witnessed this. I want to continue to represent my community and appreciate your support.

Jan Guse



- I've lived in the Owatonna area for most of my life. I've been married to Mike Guse for 40 years. I have 2 children and 4 grandchildren ages 3 to 10.
- My career was at the United States Postal Service for over 33 years. I was in upper management for over 25 years, and I was the Owatonna Postmaster for the last 7 years of my career and retired last year.
- I would like to serve on the Owatonna School Board. I would appreciate your vote on November 8th. Thank you.

Elizabeth Hedlund



- For the last 21 years, I have worked as a Physician Assistant, 15 of those years in Family Medicine, currently with CompCare Urgent Care in Owatonna. Ryan and I were married in 2000 and we have four children, ages 6-20, with many years' experiences in public school. Our family moved to Owatonna in 2016 searching for small town life and fell in love with the community! Over the years, I have remained active in church, teaching Sunday school.
- We are a foster family for MN Prairie County Alliance. I am dedicated to the nurturing, education, health, and protection of all children and look forward to the challenge of working with the school board and families of Owatonna.

Michael Herman



Josh Indahl



- Mike grew up on a farm in Mt. Lake, Mn where his family raised crops, cattle, hogs, and Mike raised horses as a hobby. In 1977 he joined the Marines and in 1999 after 21 years retired from active duty. 16+ years of his 21 years of active duty he was assigned to various locations in Southeast Asia and the Middle East.
- In 2006 Mike accepted a position as the Chief Operating Officer for Driessen Water (Culligan/Ultrapure) where he currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Culligan/Ultrapure has 25 locations across the country and is now headquartered here in Owatonna.
- Mike and his wife Diana reside east of Owatonna where he once again has returned to his hobby of raising horses. Diana and Mike have four kids, three daughters and one son, and two grandchildren.
- Mike is actively involved in various outside activities within the community as well as serving as the Vice Chair of the Owatonna Chamber Board of Directors, Vice Chair for the MN Plumbing Board, Director for the National Water Quality Association Board and is a past President and current Board Member of the MN Water Quality Association.

- Josh has lived in Owatonna for 9 years with wife Lisa and our 2 sons Hank and Jack.
- I work for K and G manufacturing as a machinist.
- I've coached basketball for parks and rec for 5 years.

Jolayne Mohs



April St. Martin



- Jolayne Mohs is the Director of Outreach at Trinity Lutheran Church. She has been an active member of the community in a variety of volunteer roles since moving to Owatonna in 2005. Some of her current community engagements include: Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Member, Owatonna Foundation Trustee, Board Chair of Cannon Valley Special Education Services, Rachel's Light Mentorship Program, Steele County Community Corrections Advisory Council Member.
- Ms. Mohs has served on the Owatonna School Board for the past 9 years. She and her husband own Mohs Contracting & Mohs Homes. They have 3 children enrolled in the Owatonna Public School System.

- My name is April St. Martin and I have been a proud Owatonna resident for over 28 years. Together with my husband, Corey, who was born and raised in Owatonna, we raised all three of our children in this community. We have a wonderful son-in-law, Raul, and two grandbabies, Adrian, and Owen. As a parent who has had all my children attend public schools, I have been active in attending their sports and musical activities.
- I have attended school board meetings for over 16 months, and I am endorsed by the Minnesota Parents Alliance. I currently serve on the Owatonna Lacrosse Board, the Task Force for the current OHS building and the Family Unity Network ministry at my church.

Mark Sebring



Lori Weisenburger



- Mark Sebring grew up in Owatonna and is a graduate of OHS and the University of MN.
- Married to Barb and father of two sons. Working in the financial services industry for 34 years, member of Trinity Lutheran Church and part owner of Mineral Springs Brewery.

- I am an incumbent school board member, running for my third 4-year term. I have been a resident of Owatonna since 1998, where I and my husband John, have raised our three children.
- In my professional life, I am an attorney by training and currently lead the Compliance Department at Federated Insurance. Being a strategic advisor in this way makes me uniquely qualified to serve on the board. I have always been inspired by the work of our public schools. It serves as a foundation for a fulfilling and productive life. It helped me fulfill my own "American Dream" and I want that opportunity for all of our young people. The work on the board is challenging and diverse, the personnel and leadership passionate and inspiring. I look forward to serving another term to address the challenges we face such as teacher shortages and continual underfunding by state and federal governments.

Colin Whalen



- I have lived in Owatonna for 29 years, working as a Systems Developer for Federated Insurance. My wife, Sherri, and I have two children, our daughter is a senior at Gustavus Adolphus College and our son is a sophomore, also at Gustavus. Both of our kids received an education in the Owatonna School District.
- I enjoy playing guitar and have been involved in the community and church for many years. I would appreciate your vote on November 8.