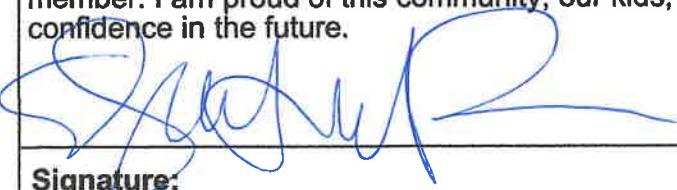


SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE APPLICATION & BACKGROUND

Note: This information will be released to media personnel and the general public.

Candidate First & Last Name: Elizabeth Ratcliff	Home Phone: 5073803937
Resident Address: 100 Ichabod Lane	Work Phone:
City/State/Zip: Mankato MN 56001	Email: liz.ratcliff@pantographlabs.com
Place of Employment: Pantograph Labs	
Children in the District: 2 children that have graduated from Mankato East	
Background: I am a current school board member (in my first term), a former federal civil servant of 13 years, currently a digital strategist for an advertising firm, and a climate justice activist. I graduated from Northern Michigan University in Marquette, MI with a bachelor's degree in Biology. I have lived in Mankato since 1998. I am married with 2 children that have been educated in and graduated from Mankato schools. I also have a grown stepchild who lives outside of Mankato.	
1. Explain why you would like to serve on the Mankato Area School Board. I am a firm believer that public schools are the cornerstones of communities and our democracy. They function as community hubs that should serve ALL students equitably. I am seeking a second term on the school board to ensure that our District continues to do that and improve upon it. I am very proud of our current board's accomplishments, and I am excited to continue our future focused work. We have a positive working relationship and the momentum to really accelerate improvements within the district.	
2. How can you contribute to a successful school board? My current experience as a board member has informed my understanding of District governance. I collaborate well with colleagues, and I effectively advocate for students, staff, and the district. I have the energy and commitment to see that our District continues to grow and be on the leading edge of providing a top-notch education for our community's kids and great jobs for our teachers and staff. I am dedicated to recruiting staff that reflect our student body and preparing the whole student for success after graduation. I have helped to develop a career pathway pilot program with a local business and initiated a Sustainability Committee to address climate change and environmental	
3. Is there anything else you would like to share with the School Board? It has been my great honor and privilege to serve the Mankato community as a school board member. I am proud of this community, our kids, and our schools, and I have great hope and confidence in the future.	
	Signature:
	Date: 8/9/24