

2024 Application for Appointment to Springfield Public Schools Board of Education, Position 2

Please complete this application and **submit with a resume or letter of interest** by 12 p.m. on Friday, August 23, 2024. Applications can also be submitted by emailing Martie.Steigleder@springfield.k12.or.us or at the District Administration Office at 640 A Street, Springfield.

Name: *

Michelle Akehurst Jolicoeur

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I am passionate about serving on the Springfield Board of Education because I believe in fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all students. As a parent of an elementary school student and an active member of the PTO, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that dedicated and thoughtful leadership can have on our schools. I am committed to ensuring that every child, regardless of their background or abilities, has access to high-quality education and the resources they need to succeed. My deep-rooted connection to the local area and my personal experiences motivate me to contribute meaningfully to our educational community.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

As a school board member, I hope to advance initiatives that support a diverse and inclusive educational environment, while promoting high-quality education.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

8

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I have been a resident of Springfield for eight years and have a deep personal connection to the community, having been born and raised in the area. My experience as a PTO board member has been particularly motivating; I successfully increased our annual budget by 1400%, demonstrating my ability to drive significant growth and manage resources effectively while creating impactful programs. This role has provided me with valuable insights into school operations, fundraising, and community engagement. My background in Marketing complements my volunteer work, equipping me with skills in strategic planning, teamwork, and problem-solving that are essential for serving on the school board.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

I am deeply invested in fostering accountability and driving positive change within our schools. My primary concerns include managing larger class sizes, improving testing scores, and addressing limited resources. I am committed to supporting the individual needs of students to help them succeed, ensuring that every child receives the personalized attention and resources they need to thrive. By addressing these challenges, I aim to create a supportive environment where both teachers and students can excel.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

When reviewing my application, I would appreciate the board considering my demonstrated commitment to our schools through my work with the PTO, my successful track record in increasing budgetary resources, and my deep personal investment in our community. My background in both practical school support and strategic planning provides a strong foundation for effective school board service.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 SchoolBoardLett...

 Add file

The successful candidate will fill the Position 2 seat until June 30, 2025. *

By checking the box, I certify that I am a registered voter living within the boundaries of Springfield Public Schools and that I am not an officer or employee of the District.



I am a registered voter living within the boundaries of SPS. I am not an officer or employee of the District.

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Name: *

Brett Markwardt

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I have two children, one who has graduated from Thurston in 2024 and one who will graduate in 2026. I also work with traumatized youth and their families throughout Lane County. As a parent and a mental health professional, I am very aware of the concerns facing our students. I recognize how stabilizing a public school can be for struggling families. I believe that public schools are a pivotal part of any community and are one of the most impactful experiences of young lives. We owe it to our children and our community to craft that experience as intentionally as possible.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

I hope to join a school board who is intentional with their goals and influence. I would hope to use my experiences as a father and a mental health clinician to guide big picture policy work that also takes into consideration the impact of such policies on individual students and families.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

13 years

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I am a parent of two. I have provided treatment level foster care in my home. I have worked Lane County's Child and Adolescent Crisis Response Program, I am a mental health specializing in emotional skills training and parent coaching, and I manage an intensive multidisciplinary team of mental health professionals with the goal of increasing mental health and parenting skills for at risk youth and their families.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

I would like the school to educate both youth and parents on matters of community, attachment, and intentional plans to help youth become successful members of society.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

I am a mental health clinician. My goals will always come from that angle.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 2022 Brett Mark...

 Add file

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Name: *

Lester Tovey

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I have six children, four of which have graduated and two still currently enrolled (all SPS) so I guess you'd say I'm "invested"

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

Ensure that the "education" part of public-education remains the priority

How long have you lived in the school district? *

26 years

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I am an Engineer turned Operations Manager - I have spent my entire career making things better through continuous improvement methodologies. I have worked in a wide array of industries all in Lane County; from Manufacturing to Healthcare to Construction. In addition to this, I have raised six children in the district attending Mt. Vernon, Yolanda, Agnes, Briggs, TMS, and THS; all of them are high achievers in the classroom, leadership rolls, and especially in sports. Anyone that has watched the news or read a paper over the last couple decades know who the Tovey kids are.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

I'm concerned that money is not adequately utilized to optimize outcomes of the majority; I'm very concerned in curriculum and a divergence away from the basics of reading/writing/arithmetic, etc. I am concerned with the deterioration of the basic nuclear family and how it directly correlates with educational outcomes.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

My tenure in the community and involvement in SPS schools and activities. There is a scripture that reads "by their fruits ye shall know them" - so do a little research on Logan, Decker, Liley, Bailey, Payton, and Braxton Tovey and ask yourself if society wouldn't be a little bit better if we could produce more kids like this?

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 Lester Resume 0...

 Add file

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Name: *

Robert Coe

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I had 5 sons who went through the Springfield Education System. My wife taught in the district for several years. Because of this, I believe the Springfield School District has had positive impacts on my family and I want that for others.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

I think that I would bring an open and honest point of view that will have a positive influence on the district and community.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

67 years

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I, myself, have been through the Springfield School District as a student and been involved as a parent in a variety of ways. I have coached baseball and football at many levels for Kidsports throughout the years. As the father of 5 boys, my house was a meeting place for neighborhood kids and school friends, where we played basketball in the driveway and flag football out front. Now I am retired and my sons are grown. I spent 27 years, leading a shipping crew of 7, at Kingsford Manufacturing. I managed finished goods inventory shipment scheduling, and dock operations. I ran a charity golf tournament for Kingsford for 9 years that benefited Food For Lane County. Also, I have been a strong supporter of the Springfield Education Foundation in the past. Because of these skills and experiences, I feel I have been an active participant in our Springfield community for years, and I believe I would bring positive energy to this position.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

I want to ensure that the Springfield students of today, and those of tomorrow, can have the same positive experiences that our sons and their friends had in the Springfield School District.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

I am an upstanding citizen, with an impeccable record, within employment and social settings.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 Bob School Boar...

 Add file

The successful candidate will fill the Position 2 seat until June 30, 2025. *

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Name: *

Violet Olszyk

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

Having been a parent in SPS as well as being married to a teacher, I would love to have a positive influence on the school board.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

I hope to do my part to hold the district accountable for improving the education of Springfield students.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

Five years

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I have been on the Library Advisory Board.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

I have a son in SPS and more coming up. I very much would hope the schools can be the best in Oregon for their sake and for their peers' sake.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

When I campaigned for school board two years ago, I spoke to a lot of voters regarding their concerns about SPS. I hope to bring their concerns and insights to the table.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 Modern Resume ...

 Add file

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Name: *

Kayla Macfarlane

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

Sounds fun

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

Make a difference

How long have you lived in the school district? *

3 years

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I have a very versatile job back ground and I have compassion for others.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

Not enough after school programs

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

I don't have experience, but i would be a voice for the people.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 mac Resume - ka...

 Add file

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Name: *

Heather Quaas-Annsa

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I am passionate about ensuring that every student in Springfield has access to a high-quality education that prepares them for a successful future. I believe that the best way to achieve this is by creating an inclusive environment where all voices are heard, especially those that have historically been underrepresented.

Throughout my career, I have seen firsthand how diverse perspectives can lead to innovative solutions and stronger communities. I am committed to advocating for policies that reflect the needs and aspirations of all our students, families, and educators. By joining the Springfield Board of Education, I hope to ensure that decisions made at the board level are informed by a wide range of experiences and viewpoints.

My goal is to work collaboratively with other board members, educators, and the community to create an education system that is equitable, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of every student. I believe that by embracing diversity, we can foster a learning environment where all students can thrive.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

1) Promote equity and inclusion- I aim to ensure that our schools are places where diversity is celebrated and every student and staff member feels valued. This involves advocating for policies that address disparities in resources, opportunities, and outcomes, and ensuring that the voices of marginalized communities are not just heard but are integral to decision-making processes.

2) Enhance student achievement: I hope to support initiatives that improve student outcomes across the board, from academic performance to social and emotional well-being. This includes recommending we invest in programs that cater to the diverse needs of our student population and ensuring that our teachers have the resources and support they need to help all students succeed.

3) Strengthen community engagement: I want to bridge the gap between the school board and the community by fostering open communication and collaboration. I believe that our schools can only thrive when there is active participation from parents, teachers, students, local businesses and nonprofits, the City of Springfield elected officials, and other community members. By listening to and addressing their concerns, we can build a stronger, more cohesive educational system.

4) Support educators: Teachers and staff are the backbone of our education system. I hope to advocate for their professional development, fair compensation, and a positive working environment, recognizing that when educators are supported, students benefit.

Ultimately, my goal is to help create a school system that not only meets the needs of today's students but also prepares them for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow. By prioritizing equity, inclusion, and community engagement, I believe we can achieve this vision together.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

Our family moved to Springfield in October 2021.

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I currently serve as a member of the SPS Education Equity Advisory Committee and the SPS Budget Committee. I am also a member of Lane County's Poverty and Homelessness Board and Equity Program Advisory Board.

When I lived in the Bethel School District, I served as the President of the Bethel Education Foundation Board, Vice Chair of the Bethel School District Budget Committee, member of the Superintendent Search Committee, and Fundraising Manager of Friends of Bethel Schools Political Action Committee for November 3, 2020 Bethel School District 52 Bond Measure #20-314 (which was approved by voters!).

I have decades of experience serving on various nonprofit boards and committees in Lane County, including the United Way and Parenting Now. I am a Certified Fund Raising Executive (one of only 73 in the state). I am a co-Director for a local nonprofit alternative homeless shelter in Eugene. I have experience creating budgets, writing policy, and advocating at the local, state, and federal level.

What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

I have a deep interest in ensuring that our public schools are equitable, inclusive, and capable of meeting the diverse needs of all students.

One of my primary concerns is the persistent achievement gap that affects students from different socioeconomic backgrounds, races, and ethnicities. I am passionate about addressing these disparities by advocating for equitable access to resources, advanced coursework, extracurricular activities, and support services. Every student, regardless of their background, should have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

I believe that students should see themselves reflected in the curriculum and materials used in their education. My interest lies in promoting a curriculum that not only meets academic standards but also includes diverse perspectives, histories, and cultures. This helps foster a sense of belonging and prepares students to thrive in a multicultural world.

The mental health and well-being of students are of utmost importance to me. I am concerned about the lingering effects the pandemic had on students as well as the increasing pressures students face and the impact this has on their mental health. I am committed to advocating for comprehensive mental health services in schools, including access to counselors, social workers, and programs that promote social-emotional learning.

I am particularly interested in strengthening the relationship between schools, families, and the wider community. Schools thrive when they are supported by an engaged community. I believe in creating more opportunities for parents and community members to be involved in school decisions and activities, ensuring that schools are responsive to the needs of those they serve.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

I have three students in three different Springfield schools (a junior at A3, a junior at Springfield High, and an 8th grader at Agnes Stewart).

Feel free to check out my LinkedIn as well: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/hmquaas-annsa/>

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *



Quaas-Annsa res...



Add file

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Name: *

Terry Pickering

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I am deeply committed to the success and well-being of our community's children, and I believe that serving on the Springfield Board of Education is one of the most effective ways to contribute to their future. Education is the foundation upon which we build not only individual success but also the strength and resilience of our entire community.

As a member of the Board, I would advocate for policies and practices that ensure all students have access to high-quality education, regardless of their background or circumstances. I am passionate about promoting equity, supporting our educators, and fostering an environment where every student is encouraged and equipped to reach their full potential.

Additionally, I want to bring a collaborative approach to the Board, working closely with parents, teachers, and administrators to address challenges and implement innovative solutions. I believe that my experiences, both professionally and personally, have prepared me to offer valuable perspectives and to make meaningful contributions to the decisions that shape our schools.

Ultimately, my goal is to help ensure that every student in Springfield receives an education that prepares them for a successful future, while also supporting the overall health and vitality of our community.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

While our District has made commendable strides in improving the graduation rate, it is still troubling that we remain behind the state average and rank in the bottom third of Oregon high schools. This is not just a statistic—it's a call to action.

I am particularly concerned about the discrepancies in graduation rates between the two high schools in our District. Every student, regardless of which school they attend, deserves an equal opportunity to succeed. I want to work toward closing this gap, ensuring that all students have the resources and support they need to graduate and pursue their goals.

As a Board member, I would focus on initiatives that both increase the graduation rate and reduce the dropout rate. This would involve collaborating closely with teachers, administrators, parents, and the students themselves to identify barriers to success and implement strategies that address them effectively. My goal is to work together so that every Springfield student has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

I have spent most of my life within the District, except for a few years when I served in the military and lived in the Portland area. For the past 15 years, I have resided in the McKenzie Valley, between Walterville and Leaburg.

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I believe my attached resume highlights my commitment to K-12 school districts, my active involvement with various boards and committees, and the experience I can bring to the Springfield Board of Education.

I look forward to discussing this in more detail with the Board during an interview.

What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *


How can we most effectively leverage our limited resources to achieve the goals established by the Board?


I am a strong advocate for Career and Technical Education (CTE) opportunities for students, and how engagement in CTE programs leads to improved test scores and graduation rates.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

This is my second application to be appointed to the Board. I would fully expect to seek election next year if appointed.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 Springfield SD B...

 Resume - Terry P...

 Add file

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Name: *

Sarah Bosch

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I am the mother of a current SPS student, and I was a teacher in Springfield for over a decade. For these reasons, I feel that my perspectives are especially unique and valuable. Although I no longer am an employee of the school district, I have a lot of heart in the organization.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

Initially, I hope to learn more about the function of the board and in what ways the board has the ability to support SPS students, staff, and the Springfield community. I have no specific agenda other than being open and enthusiastic to serve my community in whatever capacity I can.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

Approximately 20 years.

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I have a Masters Degree in Teaching, and I was an SPS teacher for over a decade. I became a teacher to learn to better support my own child, as I did not have the benefit of good parental role models when I was a child. I began teaching when my child was in kindergarten. She is now entering her junior year in high school... my parenting of a minor child is nearing its end!

My student is a wonderful kid, student of the month at her school, smart, kind, and creative. I partially credit the skills and experience I learned as an SPS teacher in the positive outcome I'm seeing in my child. I was also selected as my school's Teacher of the Year by their PTO after having only taught there for a small handful of years. I have a lot of love for my school community and solid connections within it.

I currently provide positive behavior supports for an agency that works with individuals with intellectual/developmental delays. My career interests remain similar to those I had as a teacher: Being a passionate resource for dignified care/support for a vulnerable population within our community.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

Having been a teacher and having a child who is currently a student, my interests are in doing my best to ensure that school staff are supported in creating learning communities where kindness and safety are prioritized and the "whole child" is celebrated.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

I am a "greenhorn," never having held a position as a board member in any organization. Understand that I will have a great deal of "learning the ropes" should you choose to invite me aboard, AND that teachers (even former teachers) are lifelong learners!

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 SB Resume 2024...

 Add file

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Name: *

H. Hilliard Gastfriend

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I have been actively involved in education—and its cousin training—all of my life as a student, graduate student and teaching assistant, administrator, and distance education specialist. For most of that time, I have been primarily interested in pursuing and improving higher education.

Recently I have come to believe that it is more important for our country (and state and city) to refocus efforts on improving K-12 education. News accounts are replete with stories on increased truancy, decreased graduation rates, and students completing their years in public education but without mastering the basic elements of reading, writing, computing, and critical reasoning. Now that I am semi-retired and have more time to devote to helping to improve primary and secondary education, I am willing to volunteer and offer my expertise in trying to bolster those areas.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

As a short-term appointment, I am not clear on what I can accomplish in the remaining nine-month portion of the term. I know that complex and difficult decisions are always required of the Board, and I would strive to quickly get up to speed on the critical issues and help implement policies that might either immediately correct an acute problem or provide long-term guidance for more long-term, intractable issues.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

9 years

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

I have been interested in actively pursuing knowledge my entire life. When a person is totally immersed in such a goal, it becomes impossible to separate the connection between being a student and being a teacher. Even as a child, I undertook informal tutoring roles while in school as I helped my fellow students understand concepts that they found difficult in their homework assignments.

In the early stages of my career path, I studied science and wanted to be a researcher. Later I became interested in science education and became a practicing science writer and editor. This led me to pursue a career in informal education as someone involved in museum education. Later, I became fascinated in by taking formal education to a wider audience through distance education (and later still, in distance training). I have been working in this arena for more than 20 years. As part of this phase of my career, I acquired experience as an administrator while working for the governing body of higher education in Georgia (my home state) as part of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

As I pursued an advanced degree in Education, I studied many aspects of pedagogy and what are considered best practices for how to empower students to maximize their abilities to better comprehend the subject matter and become what is the ultimate goal for educators: establishing a love of learning and creating lifelong students. I believe I can add to any discussion on how to introduce and implement such best practices in our school system.


What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

I believe that for many municipalities, public school systems have failed during the past generation. For most Springfield citizens, public schools are the only option available to them. A large amount of Springfield's taxes is devoted to public education, and administrators have an obligation to provide sound educational opportunities that maximize a student's potential.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

I have nothing more to add in this abbreviated application but would welcome the opportunity to expand on any of my answers or issues that the Board might have in a face-to-face interview.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *

 gastfriend_cv_S...

 Add file

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Name: *

Anthony Reed

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I ran twice for Springfield School Board out of a desire give back in the spirit of community service. I have children in the district and a grandchild who will one day attend Springfield Schools. Springfield has been a great place to raise my children and I want to do everything I can to make sure Springfield continues to be a place where people want to raise their children and help ensure the school system is positive reason for doing so. I believe I can be an asset to the Board as a team member, team builder and by lending my unique background and experience to the voice of the Board.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

As a board member I hope to help the current board work toward prioritizing achievable goals and working to make the greatest impact to success for students and staff in our district. Identifying areas of greatest need for improvement and attacking those needs collaboratively with the board, staff and community to achieve improved outcomes for our students. I believe Springfield can and should be a model school district within our state and beyond.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

I have lived in Thurston for 12 years and my five children have all attended elementary through high school in Thurston.

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

During my two campaigns for Springfield School Board, I did extensive research on the Springfield School District learning about the performance of our schools, student demographics, the student and staff experience and community perceptions. I did this through district documents, meetings with the teacher's union, attending listening sessions with community members, knocking doors and attending school board meetings. All these experiences have given me a broad view of the district's strengths, weaknesses and areas that need attention. My experience on the Executive Board of my Local Union has given me experience working as a team with a board comprised of broad backgrounds, experiences and priorities. Learning to listen, share in the process and respect opinions has been paramount to the success of our Board. Making high level decisions as a Delegate to the Regional Council of my union has given me insight and experience doing my due diligence when it comes to doing the research and leg work necessary to make decisions that effect our more than 90k members. I was also recently appointed to the Oregon Labor Candidate School Alumni Advisory Board through which we work collaboratively with the Board of Directors to review and improve curriculum, improve retention, build alumni involvement as well as expand and improve the program overall. Finally, as a Journeyman Carpenter I bring real life CTE experience with me to the board. I went through an apprenticeship and know firsthand the power a career in the trades has to provide a living wage, family healthcare and a pension that allows for retirement with dignity. I will utilize all this experience to guide my input and decision making on the Springfield Board of Education.

What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

As a graduate of an apprenticeship, I understand the value of an education outside of the college career path and value CTE as much as higher education. I believe that the trades and technical education are a vital part of ensuring the success of our students and our business community. Springfield Schools, in partnership with the local business community, can work together to ensure students get the training they need to graduate ready to join the workforce right here in our community. I hope that an open line of communication between schools and businesses will help guide curriculum and programs that will create the local economy builders of the future. We need to grow partnerships that create direct entry programs for our students with local companies, trades schools and government employment opportunities. I believe creating a pipeline for our students into the local job market will increase attendance, graduation rates and student success after graduation.

The other area I have great concern in is bullying and harassment. I can't even tell you how many times on the campaign trail I heard parents and students telling me stories about students that are afraid to go to school, can't find a way to make it stop or how the horrible things they have heard or seen have negatively impacted them. This problem was much more prevalent among our Hispanic population. That population makes up a third of our students in Springfield and the parents of those students shared over and over with me how they struggled to get the help they needed. During my second campaign I attended an event at the Bob Keefer Center with over 20 members of the Hispanic community and this sentiment was echoed by nearly every attendee. Those parents felt that they did not get the same treatment that their white parent counterparts received. This is an equity issue that must be addressed immediately. Every student deserves to feel safe, welcome and supported at all our schools across the district and every parent should be given the same level of respect and support.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

I would like the board to take into consideration the hundreds of hours I have already put in working just for a chance to get on the board so I can put in hundreds more in service to our community. Consider the direct conversations I've had with students, staff, business leaders, board members and the community about their hopes for and concerns with the district. This is typically an elected position and just last election cycle I narrowly lost to Nicole with thousands of community members showing their belief in me through their vote. I was supported by the Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters, IBEW Local 280, OEA, SEA, LiUNA Local 737, Operating Engineers Local 701, Lane Professional Fire Fighters, Sierra Club, Eugene Weekly, Oregon AFL-CIO, UFCW Local 555, United States Representative Val Hoyle, Former Springfield Superintendent Nancy Golden, Former Lane County Commissioner Joe Berney and former Springfield City Councilor Leonard Stoehr among others. Those individuals and organizations believed in me and my ability to help guide the Springfield School District and I'm asking you to do the same now. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *



Anthony Reed Re...



Cover Letter for ...



Add file

The successful candidate will fill the Position 2 seat until June 30, 2025.

*

By checking the box, I certify that I am a registered voter living within the boundaries of Springfield Public Schools and that I am not an officer or employee of the District.



I am a registered voter living within the boundaries of SPS. I am not an officer or employee of the District.

This form was created inside of Springfield Public School District 19.

Google Forms

2024 Application for Appointment to Springfield Public Schools Board of Education, Position 2

Please complete this application and **submit with a resume or letter of interest** by 12 p.m. on Friday, August 23, 2024. Applications can also be submitted by emailing Martie.Steigleder@springfield.k12.or.us or at the District Administration Office at 640 A Street, Springfield.

Name: *

Robert (Bob) Brew

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I am a graduate of Springfield High School, and attended Springfield Junior High and both Moffit and Page Elementaries. I was able to build on that solid foundation to go on to achieve a Bachelor's Degree, as well as a Masters, and experience an exciting professional career. I am very proud and grateful for that opportunity, and feel I'm now at a point in my life where I can give back in a meaningful way.

I believe my extensive career in the public sector and community involvement qualifies me for consideration to the Springfield School Board. My work experience includes public sector finance and budgeting at the local and statewide level, specific specialization in higher education and student aid, and a demonstrated commitment to equity.

Given my career experience, my learning curve would be rapid. I'm very aware of the financial constraints felt by school districts in Oregon, but I'm also creative and collaborative in developing new ideas, such as the Oregon Promise, the Career College Collaborative, and the OrSAA (Oregon Student Aid Application). I look forward to putting my skills and creativity to work for Springfield School District 19 after all its done for me.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

I am a strong believer that a robust public school system, such as District 19, can fill several critical roles in Oregon's education system including training students to immediately enter the workforce, readying them for post-high school education, and preparing them to be good citizens and productive adults. I realize how difficult it can be to fulfill these varied roles given the budget constraints that exist in Oregon. Having served on both sides of the budgeting table and the bargaining table, I can provide a compassionate, balanced point of view backed up by years of professional level financial work in the public sector.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

Most recently, since October 2018. In total, well over 45 years.

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

My relevant experience includes public service management, elected office, public service finance, and diversity and equity leadership. Perhaps most relevant among this experience, I was the Executive Director of OSAC, the Oregon Student Access Commission (later the Office of Student Access and Completion) both prior to, and through its transition into Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Later I was named Deputy Director for Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission, where I served for more than three years. I'm proud of the work I and my staff did in creating and implementing the Oregon Promise program (i.e. "free community college"), the Career College Collaborative, and expanding eligibility for the Oregon Opportunity Grant to undocumented Oregonians.

What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

Anti-bullying efforts, equity and diversity, student mental health in general, keeping partisan politics out of school policy-making, and providing alternative opportunities for students to find success in school.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

None.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *



Brew Resume 20...



Add file

The successful candidate will fill the Position 2 seat until June 30, 2025.



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I am a registered voter living within the boundaries of SPS. I am not an officer or employee of the District.

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Name: *

Johanis Tadeo

Mailing Address *

Email *

Phone Number *

Why do you want to be on the Springfield Board of Education? *

I am seeking to serve on the Springfield Board of Education because I am deeply committed to ensuring that every student in our community has access to a high-quality and equitable education that prepares them for a successful future. Having lived in Springfield since 1995 and attended our local schools from K-12, I have a personal connection to our education system and have seen firsthand the significant impact that a strong educational foundation can have on our children and their families.

As a guardian, community leader, and advocate, I bring a unique perspective to the board, grounded in a deep understanding of the diverse needs of our students, particularly those from underrepresented and marginalized communities. My experience working closely with families and students—as both an advocate and a guide—has provided me with valuable insights into the key concerns affecting students, families, and educators. These experiences have also equipped me with a solid foundation in leadership and collaboration—skills that are essential for driving meaningful change within our schools.

I am passionate about fostering an inclusive environment where every student, regardless of their background, feels valued, heard, and supported. This includes ensuring that families have a straightforward and accessible process for communicating with the Board, particularly when they wish to sign up to speak during public comment sessions. I believe that open and transparent communication between families and the Board is crucial for addressing the needs and concerns of our community.

By serving on the Board of Education, I am committed to advocating for policies and programs that address achievement gaps, support our teachers, and enhance educational opportunities for all students. My long-standing dedication to Springfield and my commitment to public service and education drive my desire to contribute to the ongoing improvement of our schools. I am confident that, through collaboration and focused effort, we can create an educational system that serves the needs of all students and prepares them to succeed in an ever-changing world.

What do you hope to accomplish as a school board member? *

As a school board member, I have several key objectives that I hope to accomplish. First and foremost, I am committed to promoting equity and inclusivity within our schools. My goal is to ensure that every student, regardless of their background, has access to the resources and opportunities they need to succeed. This includes advocating for policies that close achievement gaps, support marginalized communities, and foster an inclusive environment where all students feel valued and supported.

Additionally, I want to enhance family and community engagement. Strengthening the partnership between the school board, families, and the broader community is crucial. I plan to make it easier for families to communicate with the board, participate in meetings, and understand how to advocate for their children. By fostering open, transparent, and accessible communication, we can build stronger trust and collaboration within our community.

Supporting our teachers and staff is also a top priority for me. Educators are vital to the success of our students, and I will advocate for providing them with the resources, training, and support they need to deliver high-quality education. This includes prioritizing their well-being, ensuring access to professional development, and finding ways to secure funding for these critical areas.

I believe in making decisions that are always centered on the needs of students. As a board member, I will prioritize student well-being, academic achievement, and personal growth. I intend to implement policies that not only focus on academic excellence but also support the social and emotional development of our students, preparing them for the challenges they will face in the future.

Ensuring fiscal responsibility is another key area of focus. I will work to manage the district's resources effectively and transparently. My goal is to ensure that our budget reflects the district's priorities, with a strong emphasis on maximizing the impact of every dollar spent on improving student outcomes and supporting our schools.

Finally, I aim to advance long-term educational goals for our district. This includes contributing to the development and implementation of a vision that prepares students for future challenges. My focus will be on innovation in education, college and career readiness, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement.

I hope to make a meaningful impact as a school board member by advocating for equity, supporting our educators, enhancing community engagement, and ensuring that every decision made by the board is focused on the success and well-being of our students.

In summary, I hope to accomplish a positive and lasting impact on our schools by advocating for policies and practices that support all students, empower our educators, and engage our community. My ultimate goal is to help build a school system that not only meets the needs of today's students but also prepares them to thrive in the future.

How long have you lived in the school district? *

27 years, My nephew and cousins still attend district

Please briefly describe your background including experience, training, or any other pertinent information you believe qualifies you to serve on the school board. *

My background in education, policy, and community engagement is extensive and multifaceted, beginning with my involvement as a Latine student within the Springfield district, where I experienced both the positives and negatives of our educational system. I helped run student spaces where peers could discuss concerns, incidents, and areas where they needed support, including during a summer program at Puertas Abiertas, held at Lane Community College. These early experiences in student advocacy led me to help create a youth program called Unión de Activistas. Through this program, we not only taught students how to navigate the educational system but also provided them with opportunities to develop job skills, receive tutoring, and participate in teach-ins with parents. These sessions were designed to address concerns and explore ways parents could support their children's success.

In my professional life, I worked as an educational assistant in the Bethel School District, where I focused on assisting families, identifying solutions to their concerns, and creating alternative avenues for parent involvement in schools. My role included addressing and resolving issues that families faced, ensuring they felt heard, supported and empowered.

Working for the Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC) for the past eight years, a human rights organization with over 50 years of service in the area, has afforded me the opportunity to consistently engage with families and the community. Through this role, I have provided numerous listening sessions, workshops, and training to address the needs and concerns of our community members, particularly within the Latinx community.

As someone raised in the Latinx community and identifying as a member of that community, I understand the unique challenges and opportunities faced by Latinx students and families in our district. With about 27% of the student body being Latinx, I believe that having Latinx representation on the Springfield Board of Education is crucial. This representation, as provided by leaders like Emilio Hernandez, has a meaningful impact on students, families, and the broader community.

My commitment to ensuring that every student in Springfield has access to a high-quality and equitable education is deeply personal. Having lived in Springfield since 1995 and attended local schools, I've seen firsthand the difference a strong educational foundation can make. My experiences as a guardian, community leader, and advocate provide me with a unique perspective on the diverse needs of our students, especially those from underrepresented and marginalized communities.

As a community organizer, I have hosted listening sessions to hear directly from families about their concerns and what has been effective for them and their students. I have also led training sessions to help parents navigate the district's website and effectively utilize the complaint process. Additionally, I facilitated study groups where parents learned about the student handbook, their children's rights, and the protections in place for their students. My work extends to workshops that address the frustrations or trauma families may have experienced, ensuring they feel truly heard and supported as we work toward solutions.

Beyond my direct work with families and students, I have engaged in policy change efforts at both the local and state levels. I have worked with the City of Springfield and organizations like Willamalane to discuss ways to become more equitable and to connect with communities that have been historically underrepresented in these discussions. My involvement with the Oregon Student Association (OSA) at the state level has also focused on advocating for student rights and equitable education policies.

Throughout my career, I have seen the positive impact of these efforts, such as increased parent involvement in schools and the successful implementation of student-centered policies. These successes reinforce my commitment to creating an inclusive and equitable educational environment.

As a product of this district, I understand the importance of both acknowledging past challenges and

leveraging our strengths. I believe in the power of collaboration, and I am committed to finding community partners to work with so that we can serve our community in the most effective way possible.

These experiences have given me a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities within our educational system. They have equipped me with the skills and insights necessary to serve effectively on the school board, where I am committed to continuing my advocacy for students, supporting educators, and engaging with families to create a more inclusive and effective educational environment. Looking forward, I am dedicated to ensuring that our district remains responsive to the needs of all students and prepares them for a bright future.

What are your special interests or concerns about public schools? *

My primary focus regarding public schools is ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their background. I am particularly concerned with promoting equity within our schools. It's crucial that all students, including those from marginalized and historically excluded communities, have access to the resources and support they need to succeed academically and personally. By addressing and closing achievement gaps, we can create a more inclusive environment where every student has the chance to excel.

Another area of interest for me is the relationship between schools and the communities they serve. I am passionate about strengthening family and community engagement, especially for families who may feel disconnected from the school system. Ensuring that parents and guardians can easily communicate with the school, understand how to get involved, and feel empowered to advocate for their children is something I'm deeply committed to. Additionally, it's essential that families know how to navigate the system and effectively raise concerns. This not only helps us learn as a district but also allows us to address and resolve issues proactively.

Supporting our educators is also a top priority for me. Teachers and school staff play a critical role in shaping the educational experience of our students. I am focused on ensuring they have the necessary resources, ongoing professional development, and support to continue providing high-quality education. This includes advocating for the hiring of additional support staff to assist teachers, enabling them to meet the diverse needs of all students, particularly those from marginalized and historically excluded communities. I am also passionate about providing more opportunities for educational assistants to transition into teaching roles through programs like the pathways program, ensuring we retain and develop the talent within our schools. It's essential that educators feel valued and equipped to foster an inclusive and supportive learning environment.

The well-being of students is of great importance to me. I am particularly interested in creating safe and supportive school environments that focus not only on academic achievement but also on the emotional and social development of students. Addressing issues like mental health and student safety is key to fostering a positive learning atmosphere.

Finally, I am invested in the long-term success and adaptability of our public schools. It's important that we prepare students not just for the present, but for the future. This includes integrating innovative approaches to education, expanding Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to provide students with practical skills and career pathways, and fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

Please list anything you would like to have the school board consider when reviewing your application. *

First, I bring extensive experience in education and advocacy. My background, both as a student and as a professional, has provided me with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities within our district. My work with the Oregon Student Association, as well as my role as an educational assistant, has equipped me with valuable insights into the needs of students, families, and educators.

Second, I am deeply committed to equity and inclusivity. I am dedicated to ensuring that all students, regardless of their background, have access to the resources and opportunities they need to succeed. My work in creating spaces for marginalized communities, advocating for equitable policies, and engaging with underrepresented groups underscores this commitment.

Third, I have a strong focus on community engagement and collaboration. I have a proven track record of working collaboratively with community organizations, such as Willamalane and the City of Springfield, to discuss and implement ways to make our schools more equitable and inclusive. My experience in organizing listening sessions and running parent groups highlights my focus on involving the community in educational decision-making.

Additionally, I bring expertise in policy and system navigation. I have worked extensively with families to help them navigate the educational system, including training them on how to use the district's complaint process and understand their rights. This experience is crucial in ensuring that all voices are heard and that families feel empowered to advocate for their children.

Moreover, I bring a forward-looking vision for the future. I am focused on the long-term success of our students and the sustainability of our educational system. My goal is to contribute to policies and practices that not only address current challenges but also prepare our students for future opportunities.

Finally, I have a personal connection to the Springfield district. As a product of this district and raising my nephew, I have experienced both the positives and challenges of our local schools. I am deeply committed to helping improve the educational experience for all students in our community.

I believe these experiences, skills, and perspectives make me a strong candidate for the school board, and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing success and improvement of our district.

Upload a resume or letter of interest. *



Johanis Tadeo re...



Add file

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