

2025 Discipline Review Committee Candidate Profile



Dennis Pendergist
Homeland Security Consultant
Darkwater Analysis Group



Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

University of Oklahoma, BA in Political Science; Masters of Science In Management

Troy University, Masters of Science in Management

Maritime Security Board member trained to analyze a variety of data points to develop suggested tactics, techniques, and procedures to enhance intermodal pathway security including threats related to personnel (pattern of life, behavior, psychology).

Also served on personnel promotion boards while serving in the US Navy and DOJ.

Board Experience:

Previously served and lead the JICHS Disciplinary Review Board in 2014-2015. Variety of governmental boards.

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

I would want to serve on the student disciplinary review board again because I truly value the opportunity to make a positive impact in young people's lives. In my previous experience, I found it rewarding to help guide students through challenging moments, encouraging accountability while also supporting growth and second chances. I believe that fair and thoughtful discipline can shape a student's future for the better, teaching lessons that extend far beyond the classroom. Being part of that process—listening, understanding, and helping kids get back on the right track—is meaningful work I am eager to continue.

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

I am semi-retired and have extensive experience serving on boards that required careful judgment and fairness. I served on a maritime security board, where I evaluated personnel behavior and potential threats to national security, and on promotion boards, ensuring individuals met the highest standards of integrity and responsibility. I also previously served on this high school's disciplinary review board in 2014–2015, where I found it meaningful to help guide students through challenges and encourage accountability. These experiences have prepared me to bring balanced judgment, compassion, and a strong sense of responsibility to the disciplinary review board.

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

The main difference is that a disciplinary review board member provides perspective and input to ensure fairness and consistency in student discipline, while the principal holds the ultimate authority and accountability. As a board member, my role is to carefully review cases, consider the circumstances, and make recommendations that balance accountability with student growth. The principal, on the other hand, makes the final decisions and is responsible for the overall school environment, safety, and culture.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

James Island Charter High School is performing strongly, with a graduation rate above 90%, and a very high reading proficiency rate, and math scores well above the state average. The school offers AP and IB programs, strong arts and career-tech opportunities, and maintains a safe, supportive culture with a good student–teacher ratio. Parent and student reviews highlight dedicated teachers, school spirit, and a positive learning environment. JICHS also excels in several sports.

The top challenge is addressing student behavioral health and substance use, especially vaping. This impacts discipline, learning, and wellness. Strengthening counseling resources, promoting restorative practices, engaging parents, limiting digital distractions, and continuing to support effective teachers will be key to sustaining JICHS's success.

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

I believe student achievement depends on several key factors: strong parent involvement and oversight, limited access to phones during the school day to reduce distractions, and effective, qualified teachers who engage and inspire students. A respectful school culture with clear expectations also plays an important role. As a disciplinary review board member, my role is to ensure fairness and consistency in decisions, balancing accountability with student growth. By supporting policies that encourage parental engagement, minimize classroom distractions, and uphold high standards of conduct, I can help create an environment where students are able to focus, learn, and succeed.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

I see my greatest strengths as my leadership experience, sound judgment, and ability to evaluate behavior fairly and thoughtfully. Both of my children graduated from JICHS and went on to Clemson University, so I understand firsthand the importance of a strong, supportive school, parenting, and family environment. My previous service on the disciplinary review board gave me direct experience in balancing accountability with student growth, and my professional background in personnel behavior analysis has sharpened my ability to assess situations objectively. I believe I can bring fairness, perspective, and a genuine commitment to student success as a positive addition to this committee.

**2025 Discipline Review Committee
Candidate Profile**



Ronald Ladson

Commissioner Ladson

Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Resident of South Carolina



College and Training:

Long Island University (Brooklyn), B/A

Board Experience:

N/A

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

So I can Ensure That Equitable opportunity is given to All Students !

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

Previously Served on Several Community Boards in The Past! p

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

The Principal will Address The Current Situation and The Board will Collectively Decide The Resolution.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

The School is positioning The Students to be Academically Successful in their Goals/Graduation.

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

I will encourage and Assist Them Focus on Their Goals / Expectations/Endeavors.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

I'm a Leader and I'm pretty confident in Steering people in The Right Direction.

2025 Discipline Review Committee Candidate Profile



George Tempel

Professor of Physiology and Neuroscience emeritus



Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

University of California Berkeley, Cal Stat LA, Indiana University, University of Missouri Columbia, B.A., Ph.D.
Indiana University, University of Missouri, Ph.D.

I have served on numerous graduate school committees and in my career at MUSC ranging from promotions committee to admissions. When my children were in K-12 schools on James Island, I served as President. I was elected to CCSD Constituent Board District 3, dealing primarily with student discipline and served as the Chair and Vice Chair. The beginning of this school year would have been my tenth year. Additionally, I have served on a school improvement council.

Board Experience:

District 3 Constituent Board for the last ten years.

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

I have been an educator for my adult life educating health care professionals, mentoring students, and supporting professional development of science teachers. I have always valued service to others and the community. My work on this discipline board would continue that my community service by working with students to keep the schools safe while limiting loss of students' instructional time.

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

My work through the years on the District 3 Constituent Board, serving often as the chair, gave me the opportunity to work collaboratively with colleagues, school leaders, and fellow school board members. I look forward to working with members of the James Island Charter High School Discipline Board to help the school build a positive and safe school climate.

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

The principal's role is to work with teachers and the curriculum along with day to day operations and strategic plans to ensure student achievement. The principal also plays a significant role in building a positive school environment and culture.

The responsibility of the discipline committee members is to work with the school to ensure school safety and helping to find ways to continue the academic education, social and emotional well-being of the student.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

Our High School is excellent with attracting students not just from James Island. It is doing well with student achievement and graduation rates. The International Baccalaureate program provides unique academic experiences for the college bound student and the Career and Technology Center helps meet the needs of students who are interested in other careers.

Vaping is a problem that begins in Middle School and I'm sure continues in our High School; it's an issue that might need more attention and intervention. I'm also impressed that the school is a leader in restorative practices that works to reduce bullying and student conflict. The High School is also partners with the island's elementary and middle schools to promote a high quality educational opportunities through the "open island partnership".

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

There is no simple answer. Achievement is a complex issue involving both student, teacher and the environment. The principal is working hard with teachers to involve students with hands on activities, high quality curriculum opportunities, technology, as well as college and career courses that inspire them to value their learning. As I board member, I would be eager to work with the administration to advocate with the district for JCHS's needs.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

I work well with a committee, and as a scientist, I will look at data presented in discipline cases and work to keep the school safe while also helping student's continue their education. Having served on the Constituent Board , I also have familiarity and good relationships with all of the schools on the island. With having lived on James Island for many years, I am able to network with many in the community; most recently I worked to bring Screenagers to the island for parents and students and supported the island-wide Science Fair.

2025 Discipline Review Committee

Candidate Profile



Calvin Logan II

Teacher/Business Owner

The Logan Power Show



Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Parent/Legal Guardian of JICHS Student(s)
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

Voorhees University, Business Administration

Webster University, Master Business Administration

Board Experience:

Ebony City Soccer Club and For Your Glory International Ministries

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

Just to be a help for the school

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

I am a dedicated educator with over five years of teaching experience, following a rewarding career in the military. Alongside my work in the classroom, I have spent more than 12 years coaching recreational basketball and have also coached at both the high school and middle school levels for five years. My heart for service extends beyond education and athletics, I have been actively involved in ministry for over 15 years, serving in multiple churches throughout the Low Country area. I am currently a minister at my home church, where I continue to serve and support the community.

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

Board Member: Provides governance and oversight, sets the vision and policies, approves budgets, ensures accountability, and hires/evaluates the principal. Focuses on the big picture and long-term direction. **Principal:** Leads the daily operations of the school, manages staff and students, implements curriculum, ensures safety, and carries out the board's vision. Focuses on the day-to-day leadership and management.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

JICHS does a great job of bringing the community together through sports. I believe the focus should also include building stronger community outreach and highlighting the ways the school is making a difference in both education and athletics

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

The most important factors affecting student achievement are quality teaching, family and community engagement, access to resources, safe and supportive learning environments, and maintaining high expectations. As a school board member, my role is to provide vision, policy, and accountability, not daily management, so that these areas are strengthened. I will work to ensure teachers have the training and resources they need, promote equity in access to opportunities, build stronger community partnerships, and listen to the voices of parents, staff, and students. My goal is to create the conditions where every student has the support and opportunity to succeed academically, socially, and personally.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

My greatest strengths are my leadership experience, commitment to service, and ability to build relationships. Having served in the military, in the classroom as a teacher, and in my community through coaching and ministry, I have developed discipline, teamwork, and the ability to listen and lead with integrity. I also bring a passion for student achievement and community engagement, with a focus on ensuring that every child has the resources and support needed to succeed both academically and personally.

The positive additions I can bring to this board are a fresh perspective, strong problem-solving skills, and a willingness to work collaboratively with fellow board members, staff, parents, and the community. I believe my background allows me to bridge the gap between students, educators, and families, and to help strengthen trust and communication. Ultimately, my goal is to contribute to policies and initiatives that support excellence in education and prepare our students for future success.

2025 Discipline Review Committee Candidate Profile



Earl Foxworth Jr.

Career Ready Program Facilitator
Charleston County School District - Adult Education



Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Parent/Legal Guardian of JICHS Student(s)
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

Francis Marion University, BS - Psychology and Sociology
Pfeiffer University, MS - Organizational Change and Leadership
Americorps Service (1 year) through Lowcountry United Way

Board Experience:

N/A

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

Having worked with CCSD's Adult Education for over 6 years and with residents of the Detention Center here in Charleston, I have developed a desire to assist young people in making better life choices. We all are imperfect; however, how we react to the consequences of our actions is crucial. I want to assist young folks in making better, informed decisions.

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

I have a very diverse background. I found these experiences to be beneficial while working to understand different situational vantage points. In all my roles, I have always been tasked with improving processes and people, while in a team environment. Having served in the military as a combat medic, I learned early that you must depend on others to accomplish a goal at times. Those lessons were beneficial in my time working at Wells Fargo Bank, the City of Charlotte, and currently at CCSD. It is imperative to listen and comprehend different points of view.

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

Basically, the Principal manages the day-to-day operations of the school. The board members run the hearings on policy and procedures that are in place. The board has to think outside of the box in certain situations.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

I think JICHS offerings to the students to one of the best programs around. From the IB program to the dual enrollment options, most students will find a fit to prepare for post-secondary life. My oldest son graduated in 2018 from JICHS and was well prepared for college and life after high school.

I do not want to see JICHS become a victim of its own success and become too large. This is important because I do not want the school to lose its identity and that community school feeling is lost for the students.

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

There are many factors that affect student achievement. The student's home life, school environment and teachers are three of the most important pieces of this equation. As committee members, we have to insure the best learning environment is created for each student's situation. This includes having a safe, supportive teachers that take ownership of their crucial roles. This committee is responsible to make the staff feel valued and safe, when situations occur that might bring a threat to the environment for everyone.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

A few of my strengths, as it relates to this role, are process driven, detailed oriented and empathetic. I think these characteristics are essential to be firm, yet fair in the hearings.

I will bring my open mind, attentive ear and reasoning abilities to each incident and treat each student and family with respect.

2025 Discipline Review Committee Candidate Profile



Gaylord Greene

VP Athletic Development
The Citadel Foundation



Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Parent/Legal Guardian of JICHS Student(s)
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

West Point, BS

James Madison University, MBA

Over 20 years experience serving on Non-Profit Boards. Over 20 Years of Military Service and over 20 years in Higher Education

Board Experience:

Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County NY, 2012-2016. Director, Army West Point Athletic Association, 2015-2018. Director, Mason Prep, 2019-2025

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

I wish to add value and participate in creating a safe and secure learning environment that our children deserve at JICHS.

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

I have dedicated over 30 years of service to our nation and have always been a participant in the local communities we have had the fortune to live. I have lead and served at the highest levels of the military and higher education.

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

I believe my duties as a committee member is to advise, assist and support the vision and decisions of the Principal.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

JICHS does a tremendous job of preparing young men and women for life after high school whether that be college, workforce, or public service.

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

The most important factor affecting student achievement confidence in self. As a committee member, I would like to ensure that every student is treated with dignity and respect to reach their full potential in academia, citizenship and belief in self.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

I am a global leader that can draw on my experience developing solutions for a myriad of complex problems.

2025 Discipline Review Committee Candidate Profile



Barrett Payne

Minister

James Island Presbyterian Church



Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Parent/Legal Guardian of JICHS Student(s)
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

North Carolina State University , BS Business Management

Columbia Theological Seminary, Masters of Divinity

Currently the Moderator for the James Island Presbyterian Church Board

Board Experience:

Coastal Carolina Presbytery Finance Board (2017-2023, Vice Chair and Chair)

Coastal Carolina Presbytery Personnel Board (2023-24, Chair)

Charleston Atlantic Presbytery Vision Board (current)

Charleston Atlantic Presbytery Ministry Preparation Board (current)

Harnett Central Middle Principal Board (2022-24)

Harnett County SAFE (Domestic Violence) Board (2021-24)

Community Action Advisory Board (2017-2024)

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

There are two reasons that I am asking to serve on the Disciplinary Review Committee. First, I have three children who are in 11th, 8th, and 6th grade. I have always enjoyed being involved in their schools, and this is another great opportunity to be involved. Second, I believe it is important that we, as parents, see all students as important pieces of the JICHS puzzle. Each child brings something unique to the table. This includes those excelling and those struggling. I am open to listening to all students so that JICHS can be a safe place for everyone to learn and grow.

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

I am a Presbyterian minister. Because of my occupation I have listened to and walked next to people in all situations. These experiences have provided my best training. In addition, when I was in seminary, I spent one semester working as a chaplain. Chaplain training gave me the privilege to work with those experiencing great joys and great sorrows. I also worked with other chaplains. We processed what we experienced and discerned with one another, which helped prepare us for the next day. In addition to my work experience, I have served on domestic violence and community action boards. Both boards heard hard cases and had to make hard decisions. As difficult as these situations were, a team with a good leader and collaboration can together have a positive impact.

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

The main role of committee is to support the Principal. The Principal is the leader of the school and the professional. The committee is volunteers. This is not to suggest that the committee cannot have opinions, questions, or even challenge the administration. In most cases, good leaders welcome such involvement from the committee. If I get elected to be on this committee, I look forward to working with the Principal and all of the school employees.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

I think JICHHS does a tremendous job providing various opportunities for all their students. As someone who moved here recently, my wife and I are amazed at all of the opportunities in the classroom and outside of the classroom. Bravo, JICHHS! Please keep providing these opportunities!

In my opinion, the most important issue that JICHHS and all high schools face is the loneliness epidemic that continues to sweep across our country. This is why the numerous opportunities that JICHHS provides is so important. It is also imperative that our students continue to receive encouragement. We, as involved adults, need to continue to advocate for the students that sit on the outside, are lost, or being left behind.

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

I see two areas affecting student achievement. The first is, as mentioned above, the loneliness epidemic (along with other mental health issues). Second, there are some students feeling left behind. Whether it is because of mental health, little parent involvement, lack of friends, or other reasons. As school leaders we need to keep these students in mind.

As a committee member, my job is to listen to each case, collaborate with the committee, and make recommendations. It is our job to keep in mind the student in front of us as well as the whole student body. Most importantly, how will our decision impact the mental health, loneliness, and student participation for all students.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

My greatest strengths are listening and making decisions. The positive additions that I bring into the committee are years of experience walking with those that are experiencing trouble, understanding committee structure, and a hopeful outlook on life and the future.

2025 Discipline Review Committee Candidate Profile



Sherrell Ladson

Advanced Medical Support Assistant



Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Parent/Legal Guardian of JICHS Student(s)
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

Francis Marion University , B.S. in Political Science w/a Concentration in Criminal Justice
Colorado Technical University, M.S. in Management of Science

Board Experience:

N/A

Why do you want to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee?

I would like to serve on the JICHS Disciplinary Review Committee because I believe every child deserves a fair chance. At times it is hard for children to express themselves, and I want to let them know that I understand. I am willing to help solve the problems and issues and come down to the right resolution. No child is the same, so their disciplinary action should not be the same as well. Being able to lead the children in the right direction is what I am here for.

Describe your work and volunteer background and how it prepares you to be a member of this committee.

I currently work for the Department of Veterans Affairs. My job teaches me about patience and understanding, which falls in line with being on this committee. You have to have patience with children and you also have to understand their way of thinking. They are still trying to find themselves, so of course mistakes are going to be made along the way. It is our job to show them that there are other resolutions to a situation. I have volunteered with children all of my life since I was a teenager and even had training in the Darkness to Light Program with my church.

Define the difference between your responsibilities as a committee member and the responsibilities of the principal.

My responsibility as a committee member is to support the committee's goals, participate in the meetings, help with decision making and fulfilling different duties assigned to me. The responsibilities of the Principal is to ensure effective governance and decision making within the committee. They oversee the committee's operations.

Please provide one example of something you feel JICHS is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

Currently JICHS have increased their communication with the parents which is a major plus. I believe an important issue for the school to focus on in the future is mental health. A child's mental health is what separates them from others. More resources where they are able to express themselves. I believe this would truly help with disciplinary situations.

What do you see as the most important factors affecting student achievement? What is your role and what will you do as a committee member to bring about improvement in these areas?

Gossip and bullying are major affecting factors when it comes to student achievement, whether it is online or face to face. Can we stop it completely no, but we really need to be a stickler when it comes to cyberbullying. Children are losing their lives everyday because they do not know how to handle the situation. It is important that we are available for them. I will work hard with others to come up with resolutions to help the children that are being affected by the bullying, as well as making sure that the party that is doing the bullying understands that this will not be tolerated.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this committee?

I am a great listener and a positive person. I am able to bring smiles and resolutions to this committee to achieve the goal of making sure all of our students are treated fairly.