

Board of Education Member Profile

Jolene Garty

Name: Jolene Garty
Board member since: 2026
Family: Husband Chris, children Grace and Jack
Occupation: Nonprofit Consultant

Tell us a little bit about yourself and your background.
My husband and I have called Fargo home for over twenty years and have two children attending Fargo Public Schools. As an active sports and music family, you'll often find me cheering from the sidelines, applauding from the audience, and supporting my kids in the activities they love. Professionally, I have spent more than twenty years working in education, nonprofit leadership, and public policy. I hold a bachelor's degree in political science and a Master of Public Administration from Minnesota State University Moorhead. Throughout my career, I have worked with school districts, state agencies, and community organizations and I currently own my own small business providing consulting services to nonprofits and public sector agencies.

What was the reason you ran for a Board position?
I ran for the Fargo School Board because I want to ensure our schools remain strong and focused on what matters most- our students. I've been an active PTA member and serving on the Board is another way I can contribute to the future success of the district.

What do you see as big challenges for the District going forward? Challenges for K-12 education in North Dakota?
Supporting strong academic outcomes and recruiting and retaining highly qualified educators while there's uncertainty for public funding at the state and federal levels.

Something you are proud of as a representative of the Fargo Public Schools:
As a parent of two Fargo Public Schools students, I am especially proud of the opportunities our district provides students both inside and outside the classroom and the relationships our FPS educators, administrators and staff develop with our students.