

School Board Vacancy Application

Michelle Gleason
918 Parcher Street
Wausau, WI 54403
michelle@cfoncw.org
715-571-6477

Biographical Data: I have been a resident of Wausau for 46 years. I am currently employed at the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin and the Centre for Well-being and am a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. My community involvement includes volunteering with the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI), serving as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), and coaching the 7th grade Wausau East travel basketball team. I am also the parent of two boys, currently in 7th and 8th grade at Horace Mann Middle School.

Qualifications: I bring 23 years of professional experience in the nonprofit sector, including a decade focused on supporting children and families. For the past 11 years, I have volunteered with NAMI, providing guidance and support to families impacted by mental health challenges. I hold a bachelor's degree in communications and a master's degree in social work. Since 2010, I have served in supervisory roles, completing extensive leadership training. Additionally, I have two years of experience as an Executive Director, where I gained valuable knowledge in board operations, budgeting, and advocacy.

Statement of Interest: I am applying for this school board vacancy because I believe deeply in the value of public education and the role it plays in shaping strong, healthy communities. My professional and personal experiences have given me a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing our schools. I am committed to ensuring that every student has equitable access to quality education, safe learning environments, and opportunities to thrive both academically and personally.

As a board member, I would bring thoughtful leadership, a collaborative spirit, and a strong commitment to transparency and accountability. I hope to contribute to decisions that support teachers, respect families, and prepare students for success in a changing world. Serving on the school board is an opportunity to give back to a community that has given so much to me and my family, and I am eager to support policies and practices that reflect our shared values and priorities.