

September 29, 2025

Dear Wausau School Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the application of Charles Burger and for your consideration of him for the Wausau School Board vacancy. I have known Charles for nearly ten years and have had the privilege of working alongside him in multiple volunteer capacities for the Wausau School District and in the community. It is my pleasure to be able to give you a greater understanding of who he is and the depth of his character. I can assure you that Charles is someone that you would be proud to have as a representative of the Wausau School District and Board of Education.

Charles is someone who brings a positive influence to every group and role that he participates in. He is an enthusiastic leader who is incredibly generous with his time, resources and energy. I have watched him serve others selflessly and volunteer countless hours in efforts to support Wausau West athletics and other community needs. As a product of the Wausau School District, and as a Wausau East grad himself, Charles brings a deep commitment and passion for our community schools. He is the father of five children who are currently a part of the Wausau School District or are recent, successful graduates. This role brings a critical perspective that allows him to have a greater understanding of the experience of our district parents and students, as well as, an appreciation of the current needs within the schools in our community. Additionally, through the professional experience that Charles has had, he brings an ability to lead with excellence, collaborate with large teams and effectively analyze complex systems. All of these skills will be helpful assets to the complex decision making and collaborative work required of a board member. Most importantly, however, it is the personal integrity, hard work, selfless service and positive leadership that Charles consistently displays that will make him an outstanding Wausau School Board Member.

It is without hesitation, that I recommend Charles Burger for the Board of Education seat vacancy. He will most definitely be an outstanding contributor to the Board and to the Wausau School District community.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Karen Vandenberg
Former WSD Board of Education Member