



NIA

**THE NORTHWESTERN
ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION**

A Regional Special Education Cooperative Serving the Counties of
Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, Jo Daviess, Kane, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago

June 13, 2025

Dear Superintendent:

Enclosed please find a ballot and a brief biographical sketch of the candidates for the election of the specified members for the NIA Executive Board. These candidates have agreed to run for a two year term to represent the school districts within their sub-regional area (see enclosed map).

Please present this ballot at a regularly scheduled school board meeting for official Board action. Please return this ballot in the enclosed, stamped envelope to the NIA Human Resources Office by August 7, 2025.

If you have any questions regarding the election process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

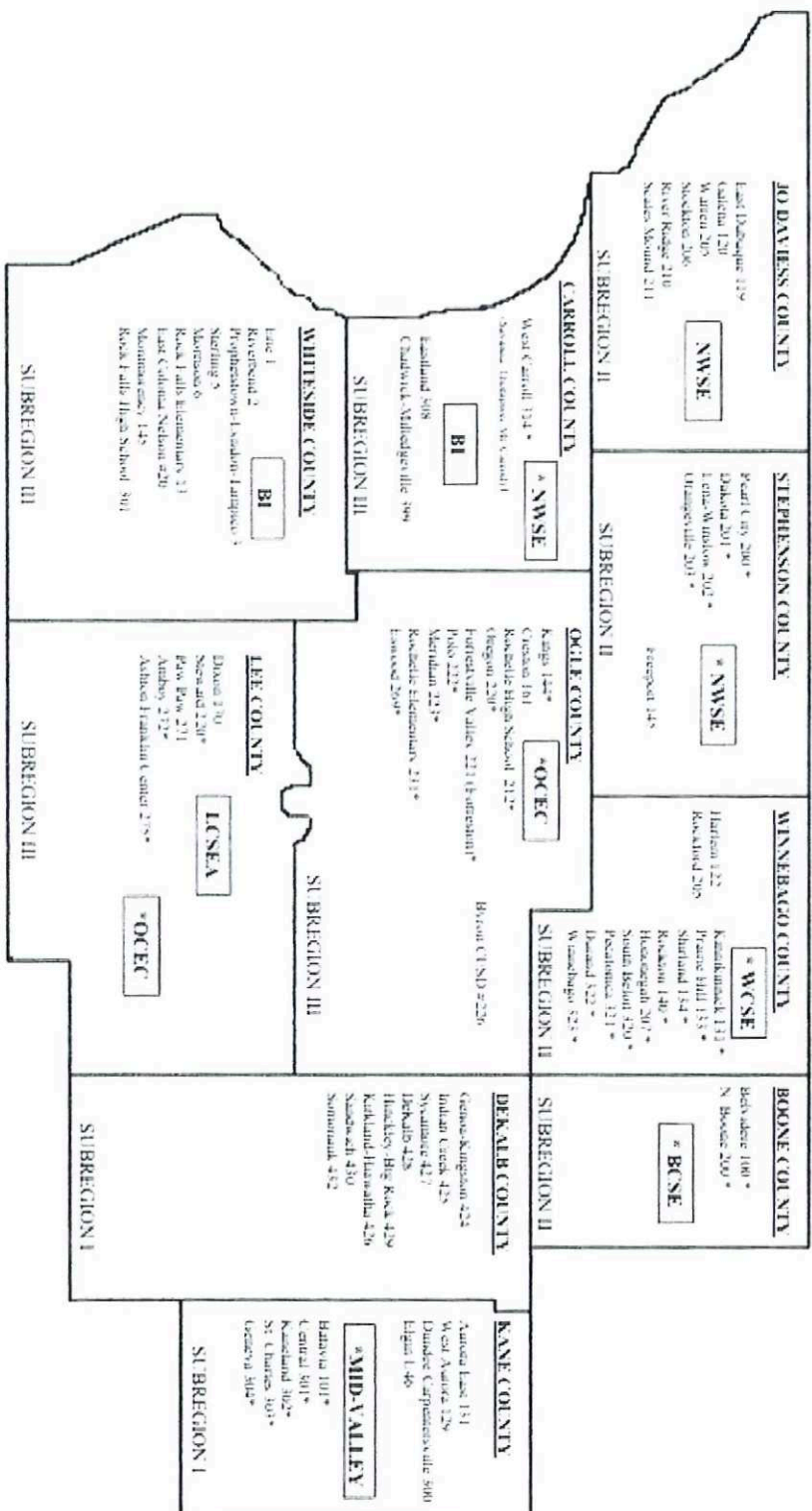
Sincerely,

Jon C. Malone
NIA Regional Director
jmalone@thenia.org

JM/je

enc.

NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION



NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH – EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATE – SUBREGION I

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Diane Tyrrell is from Sycamore, Illinois. She has lived there most of her life. As for her career, her experiences have been diverse. Specifically, in her newest career development, Diane will be joining Sandwich CUSD#430 as the Director of Special Education in the upcoming 25-26 school year.

Other aspects of Diane's career include a long tenure with the Northwestern Illinois Association (NIA). In this role she has been a supervisor for vision services where she has been responsible for the oversight of vision services for students who are blind and visually impaired for 18 school districts/cooperatives within the NIA region. Prior to her career in public education, Diane was an Assistant Director for Human Resource Administration at NIU where she was responsible for a multitude of human resource functions. These experiences provided her with the unique opportunity to develop relationships with staff, students and families.

In addition to her education and experience, Diane served for 12 years on her local school board, two of which she was the board secretary. While on the board, Diane served on several committees to include search committees, curriculum committees and strategic planning committees to name a few. Diane believes that her board experience was paramount in that she understands how important it is to be fiscally responsible, accountable and transparent to all stakeholders and to meet the needs of every student in a school district with the resources that are afforded.

The reason Diane entered the special education arena was due to her greatest love, her daughter, who, due to severe prematurity, became blind at birth. Diane felt it necessary to not only learn everything she could to support her daughter through all of the stages of her education but also to share her knowledge and experience on a greater level with others who have children with special needs.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

Steve Fiorentino – D300 Board of Education, Current Term Expires: April 2027

- Elected to the Board: April 2011 (currently serving 4th term)
- Board liaison to the Northwestern Illinois Assoc. (NIA)
- Served as Chair of the Facility Oversight Committee (CFOC): 2017-2023
- Member of the Finance Committee: 2017-2023
- Board Vice President: 2017-2019
- Board Secretary: 2014-2017
- Proposed and Chaired the Community Engagement Committee: 2014-2017
- Founder and Chair of Legislative and Government Affairs Committee: 2011-2015

An Algonquin resident since 1996, Steve and his wife, Robin, have one daughter (Stephanie) who graduated from HD Jacobs High School. Steve is very active in his community and church, Light of Christ in Algonquin. He is a past youth religious education teacher, care minister, leader of community outreach, created and coached in their sports ministry and led the church expansion team and a Eucharistic Minister. He has coached children of all ages in basketball and softball and has been active with the Algonquin Area Youth Organization (AAYO), Dundee Park District, and the Lake in the Hills Youth Athletic Association (LITH YAA). He was proudly named Algonquin coach of the year in 2005. Steve is one of the founding members of the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Kiwanis

organization and served on the board. He helped start the HD Jacobs Key Club (Student chapter of Kiwanis) and served as the chapter advisor. Steve and his family are passionate about serving in disaster relief. They have assisted post hurricane and tornado disasters in multiple places, including Illinois, New Jersey, and Haiti.

Steve received a Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from the University of South Carolina and has completed numerous executive management courses. Steve now works in the family's financial planning practice. He focuses on client acquisition and engagement, and guides clients in transition, especially with healthcare related decisions. Steve is also founder and owner of Fiorentino Consulting, LLC, which helps companies with business plan development, strategic planning, key client acquisition, and hiring and retention of top employees. Prior to launching his consulting practice, Steve held several sales and marketing leadership positions in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries over the course of his 20-plus year career. He built a sales and medical team of 100 people for a start-up bio-tech company and managed an operating budget of 300 million dollars. He has effectively recruited, hired, trained, and retained more than 200 high performing employees in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors.

In addition to school board service, the following are boards Steve has served (or is currently serving):

- Northwestern Illinois Association (NIA)
- U of South Carolina Alumni Association, Chicago Area Chapter
- Algonquin/LITH Kiwanis Chapter (Charter Board Member)
- Jordan Lake Rehab and Protection District (JLRPD)-Lake District Secretary
- U of South Carolina Pharmacy Alumni Association Board

During his free time, Steve enjoys and is blessed to spend time with family and friends, planning family excursions and adventure travel, camping, fishing, boating, golf (especially with his daughter), cooking, and watching baseball (Go Cubbies) and football.

NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

SUBREGION I BALLOT

EXECUTIVE BOARD

BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

According to the Articles of Agreement for the Northwestern Illinois Association, the District Administrator and the School Board Member shall be elected within each subregion by the Boards of Education of the member districts in odd numbered years.

Each Board of Education shall cast one (1) vote for District Administrator and one vote for School Board Member.

VOTE FOR ONE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>● <u>Diane Tyrrell - Sandwich #430</u>
District Administrator</p> | <p>● _____
WRITE IN - District Administrator</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|

VOTE FOR ONE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <p>● <u>Steve Fiorentino - District #300</u>
School Board Member</p> | <p>● _____
WRITE IN - School Board Member</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|

NOTE: Ballots will be counted in the NIA Executive Board Recording Secretary.

PLEASE USE THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED TO RETURN THIS BALLOT BY
AUGUST 7, 2025