

To Lyon County School Board,

October 15, 2025

I am writing this letter of intent to inform you of my desire to be appointed to the school board. I am putting forward my credentials at this time to advocate for special needs children, and by so doing, to advocate for all children in the Lyon County School District, and their families. My expertise is in human development. I have a bachelor's degree in Family and Human Development, and I am currently pursuing a graduate degree in Human Development and Counseling. I also have NvLend Certification in leadership in neurodevelopmental and related disabilities as a Parent Advocate.

Regardless of this education my primary expertise comes from my experience as a parent of disabled children. Three of my children (now adults) have serious medical and/or neurodivergent disabilities. I had the great privilege of having the support of Lyon County School District as I educated my children in my homeschool. The excellent special needs professionals with Lyon County School District supported me in every step in my children's growth and education. Two of my children had Individual Educational Plans and one of my children had a 504. My children received speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy and many other services. They each attended high school part time and benefited from the support of the incredible professionals at Dayton High School. I remain grateful for the support our family has received from Lyon County School District.

In return, I wish to serve the children and families of the district by offering my experience and expertise on the school board. At this particular time many special needs parents are concerned about the dissolution of the Department of Education and the loss of funding and advocacy for special needs children on a federal level. Many special needs families struggle daily to meet the challenging needs their children face. I am deeply committed to local advocacy for these families by serving on the school board. I believe that supporting children with special needs is an asset to every child in the district. Supporting our education professionals to meet these needs strengthens our communities and families. Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my application. I look forward to meeting with the Lyon County School Board of Trustees.

Warmly,  
Lisa Shumway