

MASB Bylaws – Article IV – Membership

Section 2. Active Members. The board of education of any public school district in Michigan may become an active member of the Association. Active members of the Association shall be divided into eight regions. The regions shall be designated according to intermediate school district boundaries. The regions shall be as follows:

Region 1. Copper Country ISD, Delta-Schoolcraft ISD, Dickinson-Iron ISD, Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, Gogebic-Ontonagon ISD, Marquette-Alger RESA and Menominee County ISD.

Region 2. Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona ESD, Charlevoix- Emmet ISD, Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD, COOR ISD, Iosco RESA, Manistee ISD, Northwest Education Services and Wexford-Missaukee ISD.

Region 3. Ionia County ISD, Kent ISD, Mecosta-Osceola ISD, Montcalm Area ISD, Muskegon Area ISD, Newaygo County RESA, Ottawa Area ISD and West Shore ESD.

Region 4. Bay-Arenac ISD, Clare-Gladwin RESD, Clinton County RESA, Gratiot-Isabella RESD, Midland County ESA, Saginaw ISD and Shiawassee RESD.

Region 5. Genesee ISD, Huron ISD, Lapeer County ISD, Sanilac ISD, St. Clair County RESA and Tuscola ISD.

Region 6. Allegan Area ESA, Barry ISD, Berrien RESA, Branch ISD, Calhoun ISD, Heritage Southwest ISD, Kalamazoo RESA, St. Joseph County ISD and Van Buren ISD.

Region 7. Eaton RESA, Hillsdale County ISD, Ingham ISD, Jackson County ISD, Lenawee ISD, Livingston ESA, Monroe County ISD and Washtenaw ISD.

Region 8. Macomb ISD, Oakland Schools and Wayne RESA.

Active members shall also be divided into the following seven groups based on pupil membership.

Group I All intermediate districts;

Group II School districts with a pupil membership of 0 - 1,400;

Group III School districts with a pupil membership of 1,401 - 2,500;

Group IV School districts with a pupil membership of 2,501 - 5,000;

Group V School districts with a pupil membership of 5,001 - 11,000;

Group VI School districts with a pupil membership of 11,001 - 40,000; and

Group VII School districts with a pupil membership more than 40,000.

Board of Directors' Elections—Candidate Information and Email Voting Procedures

This year, five seats on the MASB Board of Directors are up for election.

The MASB Board of Directors is comprised of 22 members, including three at-large directors. Sixteen directors shall be elected from the eight regions, with two elected from each region; and one director per group shall be elected from Groups V, VI and VII. Directors are elected by active member school boards and, each year, several seats are up for election. The MASB President will nominate a member to serve as an at-large director, subject to Board approval.

Board Limitations:

Article VIII, Section 6 of the MASB Bylaws permits only one director to be elected or appointed from any one local or intermediate school district board.

According to MASB Bylaws Article VIII, Section 8, if any nomination for the Board of Directors is unopposed, the Board of Directors shall declare the unopposed candidate elected without conducting an election for the uncontested group or region.

This year, the following seats on the MASB Board are up for election (one seat each, three-year terms unless otherwise noted): Regions 3, 4, 7, 8 and Group VI. If you're unsure of your district's region or group, please see the list on page 2.

Region 3 will continue to be represented by John Siemion, Ottawa Area ISD, (unopposed, no ballots will be sent)

- **Group VI will be represented by Marc Siegler, Walled Lake Consolidated Schools, (unopposed, no ballots will be sent)**

Voting in Regions 4, 7, and 8 will take place via an online ballot. No local district/ISD funds can be used to campaign for anyone running for a seat. To help your board make an informed decision, the following pages contain background information and statements from each of the candidates.

Each district received ONE ballot, which was emailed to the superintendent secretary on record with MASB on Jan. 28, 2022. These ballots **CANNOT** be forwarded to anyone else. Once your board makes a decision on which candidate it wishes to vote for, please convey this information to your superintendent secretary.

Completed ballots must be submitted and confirmed by the superintendent secretary by **1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.**

Electronic voting is a two-step process:

Step 1 = Submit ballot.

Step 2 = Confirm ballot has been submitted.

Unofficial election results will be available on the voicemail recording at 517.327.5915 as soon as possible, but generally after 2 p.m. on the deadline date. They will also be sent out via email that afternoon. Official results will be approved at the March 18, 2022 Board of Directors' meeting, which newly elected directors should plan to attend.

To summarize:

- Ballot deadline is **1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.**
- MASB would like to remind all candidates for the MASB Board of Directors that no school district funds can be used for campaigning during the election. This rule prohibits a candidate from using their school district email account to send messages to other school board members. Therefore, a personal email account must be used for campaigning purposes when running for the MASB Board of Directors. If you have any questions about what may or may not constitute an expenditure of school district funds, please contact MASB's Legal Counsel Brad Banasik, J.D. at bbanasik@masb.org or 517.327.5929.
- Have questions? Contact Cheryl Huffman at 517.327.5915 or chuffman@masb.org.

Region 8 (Three-Year Term)

Melandie Hines

Wayne Westland Community Schools, Wayne County



Time served on this board: Seven years

Offices held: Vice President and Secretary

MASB Certification:

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember Award

Election Statement:

My name is Melandie Hines and I have served on the Wayne Westland Board of Education for over 7 years. I have served as the Vice President for one year and as the Board Secretary for 3 years. I have a passion for serving on the Wayne Westland Community Schools Board of Education by earning the respect and love from my community. I pride myself on being involved in student activities such as; concerts, plays and being present in sporting events, even cheering at homecoming events with the Alumni Cheerleaders. I also received the Master Board Member Award with the Michigan Association of School Boards.

I have an expertise in campaign management and with a team of 10 people from the Wayne Westland Community School District and the help from several community organizations, we were able to pass a \$158 million bond successfully in 6 communities, Wayne, Westland, Inkster, Romulus, Canton and Dearborn Heights in 2018. The money from the 2018 Bond allowed us to be able to create a safe and secure environment for the students along with our construction upgrades. We were also able to upgrade our curriculum and give our staff a long overdue raise. I currently sit on the Executive Board for the 13th Congressional District, Policy Committee and the Career College Readiness Committee for the Wayne Westland Community Schools. I am in the organization Top Ladies of Distinction, serve as an Advisor for the Top Teens of America and mentored for the Champions of Wayne Mentoring Program.

My goal in education is to make sure that all schools have equity in funding so that every student has the same opportunities to be successful and work towards their goals in regards to their career. I love the model of "The Portrait of a Graduate;" to make sure that children are career ready, college ready and life ready. We have restructured our K-12 curriculum working to add STEAM and a virtual High School to adapt with the changes in education due to Covid and to make sure that our children are successful. Due to the Covid environment dealing with the social emotional issues with mental health is also important aspect to work towards. I have a lot of relationships with several districts in the Wayne County area and strive to work together to come up with a solution to make education equal and equitable for all students.

Region 8 (Three-Year Term)

INCUMBENT

Darlene Pomponio

Southgate Community Schools, Wayne County



Time served on this board: 13 years

Offices held: President, Vice President and Secretary

MASB Certification:

- Certified Boardmember Award
- Award of Merit
- Award of Distinction
- Master Boardmember Award
- Master Diamond Award
- Master Platinum Award
- President's Award

Election Statement:

About 13 years ago, I started a journey of public service as a school board member in Southgate and had a passion to be part of change in education. It has been a pleasure to work on several committees including anti-bullying, strategic planning, safety, policy, and curriculum to name a few. I have held officer positions for the past 10 years including president, vice president, and secretary.

I have worked with WCASB as an executive board member for 11 years with an officer position for the last 10 years working on bylaw, procedures, and policy committees. Through MASB, I have participated in the Resolution and Bylaws and Government Relations committee over the past 11 years. I have served on the MASB board of directors for the last three years through Covid-19.

The conferences, workshops, and classes helped provide me with new insight on current issues and legislation in public education. I have earned awards and certifications leading to the highest level of Presidents Award. I have been part of the NSBA committees and have traveled to Washington several times to speak with legislators and fellow board members, which promoted collaboration and support for student achievement.

In addition to school board experiences, I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, an MBA with a discipline in Strategic Management, a PhD in Applied Management and Decision Sciences, continuing education in Education Leadership and Teacher Certification, and School Administrator Certification for the state of Michigan. I continue to write articles for the local newspaper on public and higher education including speaking on the prevention of bullying and safety in our communities and schools.

My career has been in business, management consulting, and education. As a college professor, I educate graduate students and develop graduate and undergraduate courses. I have a non-profit organization that conducts research in education and learning disabilities.

If given another opportunity to serve as an MASB Region 8 Director I will bring all of my experiences to fulfill the mission of the MASB to provide quality educational leadership services for school boards across Michigan while continuing to advocate for public education and student achievement especially through the Covid-19 gap. I will continue to work on the tough topics we face today in our schools including school violence, remote learning, and the pandemic.

Region 8 (Three-Year Term)

Angie Smith

Farmington Public Schools, Oakland County



Time served on this board: Six years

Offices held: Secretary

MASB Certification:

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember Award

Election Statement:

Angie Smith has a longstanding commitment to community service as well as a deep commitment to the students and families of Farmington Hills Public School. She was employed at Detroit Public Schools in special education where she saw first hand where the need for equity for all students needed attention. She is passionate about diversity, equity and inclusion and works tirelessly with her board of education to address concerns in her district. She has served as a Building PTA President, PTA Council president, PTA State Region D Representative and Co-Chair of the Farmington/Farmington Hills MCMR MLK Walk. She is excited about the opportunity to working on the MASB Board of Directors representing Region 8 to discuss innovative ways to support all learners throughout the state.

Region 8 (Three-Year Term)

Michael Swiecki

Wyandotte Public Schools, Wayne County



Time served on this board: 28 years

Offices held: Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

MASB Certification:

- Certified Boardmember Award
- Award of Merit
- Award of Distinction
- Master Boardmember Award
- Master Diamond Award
- Master Platinum Award

Election Statement:

I would like to see public education continue to move forward utilizing new ideas, technology, and innovation. I have had 2 children graduate from Wyandotte Schools and 4 grandchildren attend as well. In the last 28 years of board service, I have seen much stay the same and much change. While funding and standardized testing seem to be a struggle that never ends, safety, student achievement and success must be the priority. Our work is never done, we can and should always strive for better. I expect to be seated on the WCASB Executive Board at their next meeting. I have always been an advocate of MASB and I am currently working on the President's Award Level. I appreciate the work and support MASB has provided over the years. I believe it is important for all boards to work together to find the best opportunities for all students. Twenty-eight years brings a bit of experience and the appetite to see students achieve and succeed never dies. I find it quite invigorating! I feel now is the right time for me to give back and help support this organization. I am asking you to vote for me to represent Region 8 on the MASB Board of Directors. Thanking you in advance for your support.