

Tri-Cities Candidate Statements (Spring 2017)

Parents

1. William Parker (wgparker3@protonmail.com)

I have been an active participant in community governance throughout my life through volunteerism and vocational support. I am the founder of the Diversity Society for the Technology Association of GA as well as a former mentor for civics studies at the GA capitol. My mother was a public school teacher for 25 years, and I myself am the product of a public school education.

As the father of 8 children, I have vast experience in multiple forms of education from homeschooling to private schools, and of course public school models. I have always taken an active role in the education of my own children and expect schools to partner with local residents.

Being relatively new to the East Point community, I would like to serve on the SGC to offer my help in making our local high school, TCHS, a model institution nationwide. There is no reason we can not create an outstanding and well rounded experience for all of our students right here, right now.

2. Benita Brewer (brewerlanise@gmail.com)

Background:

Parent/Gaurdian
Federal Law Enforcement
MBA

In addition to being a resident of East Point, and parent/guardian of a student currently enrolled in TCHS, I am concerned about the current state of our youth. Recognizing that socioeconomic status often impacts the care and nurturing our youth receive in their homes, historically, other institutions (schools, recreation and community centers) within our communities have contributed to some of these same individuals identifying and discovering the possibilities of becoming and achieving more.

TCHS serves a diverse demographic student. This demographic is often overlooked and marginalized as a result of geographical location. In addition to being diverse, this demographic is as intelligent, talented, and capable as their counterparts/peers in other districts and deserve the opportunities and resources made available in neighboring districts.

My interest in serving on the committee rests in my hope for and confidence in our youth and the professionals serving and caring for them. My goal is that of assisting in bridging the gap for the betterment of the students, faculty and staff, and community.

Teachers

1. Eric Porter (eric.andrew.porter@gmail.com)

I am very interested in serving on the SGC as a teacher representative. I have served in this

position at previous schools and I feel that I have a lot of ideas that can benefit our school. I have not only served on SGC at a previous school but I have also had the opportunity to represent my school/ teachers as a union representative, while in DC. I feel that my experience as a leader in the classroom, on the school level and on the district level gives me a unique perspective and knowledge that will be beneficial to the School Governance Council.

2. Terrance Lawless, Sr. (lawlesst@fultonschools.org)

I, Dr. Terrance D. Lawless, Sr., am a product of an urban school setting PreK-12, single parent home and distinguished athlete afforded the opportunity to obtain a college degree through an athletic scholarship. It was during my undergraduate coursework that I grew a craving for knowledge, the desire to serve and to touch the lives of youth served to let them know that through education anything is possible! Over the past 16 years I have had the honor to serve students in varying education settings, grade levels, districts and have come to terms with my passion to educate, elevate and engage all stakeholders to the mission required for every student to succeed. I wish to serve on the School Governance Council to further my abilities to engage all stakeholders, afford real world connections and innovative practices within the school environment, increase the retention of highly qualified professionals, increase student retention rates and to serve through direct action within the communities surrounding our school. All of the aforementioned targets with the overarching goal to work hands on with fellow colleagues to create strategic plans reflective of the schools growth and projections, secure seed funds, and to assist in the construction of reasonable and appropriate accommodations required to ensure the academic success of all students with considerable attention allocated to social and emotional growth factors. Furthermore, and most importantly to serve!

3. Lorraine Speakman (speakman@fultonschools.org)

I am a Black Hispanic that has been teaching at Tri-Cities H.S. for 20 years and I have seen quite a few changes in students and administration. I would like to work with the Governance Council to help promote a more of a positive environment for the students and teachers at my school.

4. Jennifer Favors (favorsj@fultonschools.org)

This school year marks my 10th year as a classroom teacher. Of those ten years, I have served on the Leadership Team here at Tri Cities HS as the Department Chair for Social Studies. I have an Instructional Coaching Endorsement as well as a Reading Endorsement.

I would love to serve on the School Governance Council because I am fully vested in the overall success of our school. I believe that TCHS is in a transition period and a lot of great initiatives are in place to get us to the next level of academic achievement. Because I work in the classroom setting, I'm well aware of the specific needs of our students. It would be an honor to work with the decision making team committed to moving our school forward.

5. Bridget Isaac (isaacb@fultonschools.org)

As an educator, I have served children and families for more than seventeen years. Dedicating my skills and knowledge to advancing the learning experiences of my students, I have had a

chance to serve elementary, middle, and high school students. Previously, I have also fulfilled such duties as parent liaison, community partnership liaison, Special Education Department Chair, and leadership team member.

Most recently, I provided direction and support to a Small Learning Community for careers in Hospitality. In this endeavor, we were able to secure such solid partnerships as Georgia State University's School of Hospitality, The Four Seasons Hotel, Fairfield Inn and Suites, Georgian Terrace Hotel, Indigo Hotel, Atlanta Fish Market, Fairfield Inn and Suites, Justins Restaurant, National Black Association of Black Hotel Owners NABHOOD, and others. I am most proud of the unique opportunities our students were afforded which included internships, professional demonstration lessons, university professors coming into our classrooms, and multiple field visits.

Ultimately, I am on fire for our children and the magnificent possibilities that are on the horizon for them. I am team player and committed to getting the job done. Whatever is necessary to raise the bar in their classroom and field experiences, exposure to careers and colleges, and assisting them with setting their personal goals... I am firmly committed.

Thank You, Dr. Isaac

6. Shontell Holland (shontellholland90@gmail.com)

I have been an educator for 20 years and have a deep passion for working with children. I am a leader, and a voice for all people. I'm not afraid to speak what's on my mind for the better man of children and adults. I wish to serve on the School Governance Council to be a voice that can be heard.