



ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL BOARD 2019/2020 CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Below is a list of candidates that are running for the St. Elizabeth 2019/2020 School Board.

Candidates with children enrolled in St. Elizabeth School:

- Jamie Beach
- Tara McGovern
- Pete Mohn
- Mary Wilcox

Candidates who are parishioners without school age children:

- Alan Lankford
- Mary Sears (aka Miss Mary)

There are three open positions, one of which will be filled by a parishioner without children enrolled in the school. Elections will be held Friday April 26th through Sunday April 28th. All adult members of the parish and St. Elizabeth School may vote. Voting will occur before school and after school on Friday, April 26th, and after all masses Saturday, April 27th and Sunday, April 28th. If you have any questions, please contact the School Board President, Joe Coyle at jcoyle@pyramidns.com.

Jamie Beach

I joined St. Elizabeth Parish in 2007 and currently have a 5th and a 1st grade student attending St. Elizabeth. I have grown up attending Catholic schools my whole life beginning with Christ the King for Elementary School. I attended Archbishop O'Hara High School and then completed my degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from Northwest Missouri State University. I then went on to earn a Masters of Education in Educational Technology from Lesley University following it with a Specialist in Education from the University of Missouri.

This is my 19th year in Education. I have taught in grades 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 6th-12th. I served as a special education teacher for five years, an Academic Interventionist, implemented a positive behavior intervention system within my schools and currently work as an Instructional Coach. In my current job I am responsible for and well educated on developing rigorous curriculum, training teachers on highly effective instructional strategies, and with differentiation in the classroom so that every type of learner can be successful. I work with teachers and their data to evaluate student performance and needs to ensure that every child is challenged, supported, and able to reach their full learning capacity.

I have given my time and talent to St. Elizabeth for the past 5 years through coaching various Volleyball teams. I would like to extend my time and talents by serving on the School Board.

Tara McGovern

My husband, Kieth, and I have been parishioners of St. Elizabeth since 2011. We have 4 kids in the school: Jack (3rd grade), Owen (1st Grade), Molly (Pre-K), and Luke (Pre-S). I grew up in the St. Elizabeth community and am a proud

graduate of the class of 1996. I have my degree in Physical Therapy from Creighton University. After five years of working as a physical therapist, I have been fortunate to stay at home and help raise our four kids.

While at STE, I have been involved in the school and parish in various ways including the following: Serving as a room parent (with all four kids); Volunteer for chat n chew; Volunteer as a fry word helper; Serving as a member of a small faith group; Serving as head soccer coach for a 5 year old co-ed team (for the past 3 years); A member of the 2019 Auction committee; Member of the Easter Eggstravaganza committee; Member and then head of the ECC Valentine's Day Party; A new member of the athletic committee for 2019-2021.

I continue to want to get involved within the STE community and be a part of the school board. As a parent with young students in the school and community, I hope to bring my voice of inclusivity, kindness and passion to St. Elizabeth's school board.

Pete Mohn

After growing up in the Leawood, KS area, my wife, Addy, and I settled in the Waldo area upon graduation from dental school. After several years in St. Peter's parish, where we both went through RCIA, we felt called to move to St. Elizabeth. We have both been active participants in the church and school for the past 5 years. I run a dental practice in Platte City, MO, where I successfully turned it around after replacing a doctor struggling with substance abuse. I am passionate about what I do, and care deeply for my patients and the treatment I deliver for them.

I am an active member of the Smokin-N-Waldo committee, and have served as co-chair of the school's largest fundraiser (trash bag sales) with my wife. I have helped with coaching of all three of my children's sports teams. For several years I was involved with fundraising at the UMKC Dental School, both through their Alumni Golf Tournament, and their charity gala, Pouring from the Heart. I enjoy golfing, running and traveling.

I am the proud father of three beautiful children here at STE. Charlie is in 4th grade, Tommy is in 2nd grade and Maggie is in kindergarten. It is my children that inspire so much in me, and why I am so ardent about this school board position. My family is committed to this school and parish. We have been here for 5 years, and plan to be for the next 8.5. I have been on both ends of the spectrum with my children; I have a child who soars academically, and one who struggles. I have children that on occasion follow all the rules, but on other occasions those same children have pushed all the boundaries. I have been called in to sit with Pat K for both accolades and reprimands for all of my children. I know what it feels like to be a parent at this school. I want to be able to see all of my children, and every child in this community, have the ability to succeed, and I feel strongly that the only way to do that is to be actively involved in the school and the running of it. The school board will provide a prime place to help do just that. My family has been extremely blessed in so many ways from the St. Elizabeth community, and I hope to pay that forward by serving in this important position. Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Wilcox

Hello, my name is Mary Wilcox. You may know me from my kids (Ian 18, Nathan 16, or Michaela 12) or my husband James or most likely my dog Bandit who you see me walking to school in the morning.

My husband and I joined St. Elizabeth parish in 2000 and have been involved since the beginning. Some of you "old timers" may remember me from the YAPS group at St. Es. As a family, we have been greeters, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, servers and choir members etc... I have lost count of the number of field trips my husband and I have been on (my favorite thing to volunteer for). I am currently a sponsor for a candidate in the RCIA program here at St. Es. (A little plug, but if you have ever thought about being a sponsor you should do it! It has been a wonderful experience). I have also been on the school board in the past, about 5 or 6 years ago. It was very challenging but very rewarding at the same time.

When I am not at St Es I am working, as a physical therapist at Mid America Rehabilitation Hospital in the outpatient department. I have been there for almost 12 years and have been a PT for 20 years! It is amazing, hard work (mentally and physically) that I love.

As we go through changes at our school and parish I would love to be involved at the school board level again. Thank you for taking the time to read about me.

Alan Lankford

I am married to Janie Lankford with 3 daughters, Stephanie, Megan and Paige, all graduates of St. Elizabeth and St. Teresa's Academy. We have been Parish members for over 30 years and I own Lankford Fendler + associates Consulting Engineers. My St. Elizabeth involvement includes: School Board 3 different times including serving as President; coached basketball for 25+ years; Basketball Coordinator; Athletic Committee 3 different times including Athletic Director. My Community involvement includes: Diocesan School Board for 4 years including serving as President as well as various committees; Executive Committee Chair of School Oversight Committee for Diocesan School Board; Central City School Fund Tuition Assistance Oversight Committee; St. Teresa's Academy Booster Club for 4 years; University of St. Mary of Leavenworth Board of Trustees.

Goals / Objectives if elected: Continue to strive to better ourselves in the level of education we are providing to our students; Continue to strive that our students are properly prepared for high school; Utilize past and current board experiences on local and diocesan levels to help work with the new principal to assist in establishing new goals and direction for our school; Continue the efforts on long range planning in education, curriculum and facilities.

Mary Sears

My husband and I have been St. Elizabeth parishioners for 35 years. We have four grown children and all four children were educated at St. Elizabeth from PreSchool - 8 th Grade. Our children continued their educations at Notre Dame de Sion and Rockhurst High Schools. I attended Christ the King and Bishop Hogan High School. My family's education history demonstrates my belief in Catholic education. St. Elizabeth Parish in combination with St. Elizabeth School together develop students that trust in God, are kind, responsible and are good stewards for our Catholic faith and the social justice for our world.

My experience at St. Elizabeth includes, CPTA board member, Room Parent, Athletic Committee Board Member, Volleyball Coach, Brownie Leader, Catechumenate Sponsor, PreK Teacher (Miss Mary – 2005 to 2015), and currently I am a Eucharistic Minister. I retired from teaching in 2015 and I am currently employed as an account coordinator for Mueller-Yurgae Associates.

It would be an honor to serve on the School Board to help ensure the blessing of a Catholic education and the continuation of the legacy of St. Elizabeth Parish and School Community.