

Application for Ravenna Public Schools School Board

Applicant's Name: Cindi Coulter

1. Are you a resident of the Ravenna Public School District? **Yes.**
2. Are you a registered voter in the Ravenna Public School District? **Yes.**
3. What is the first day you will be available to join the board of education?
As soon as I am needed.
4. What is your primary reason for wishing to become a member of the Ravenna Public Schools Board of Education?
I believe Ravenna is a special community and a wonderful place to raise family. This is why my family moved back to Ravenna after living in Lincoln and Omaha for over 15 years. I am passionate in the belief that the education of our students is the shared responsibility of the community. I want to be involved to the best of my ability, and I want to make a positive impact for a community that has given me so much.
5. Tell us why you believe public education is important?
Your life becomes the world around you, right? In private school, students are generally surrounded by peers with the same socio-economic background, similar race, religion, and perhaps even same sex. It's hard to grow when your experiences are so limited. Also, public school levels the playing field, and gives everyone an equal opportunity to reach their potential. There are many students who are born into poverty and neglect only to become some of our most decorated heroes and role models. In public schools, they can learn alongside students of privileged backgrounds. Also, disabled, special needs, and kids 'on the spectrum' who would not be included in a private school benefit from public schools. In fact, all kids benefit because they are taught tolerance, acceptance and empathy.
6. Are you aware of any potential "conflicts of interest" being a member of the school board might present? (family members working for the school district, personal business interests with the school district that represent a potential conflict, etc.)
I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.
7. Can you make yourself available every 2nd Monday of the month at 8:00 PM for the regular monthly board meetings? **Yes.**
8. Can you make yourself available for board subcommittee work that generally occurs during the weekday in the evening between regular board meetings, if you are appointed to a board subcommittee? **Yes.**
9. Which educator had the most positive influence on you?
I'm going to cheat with this answer, because I can't pick just one – I had a lot of great teachers that helped shape who I am. Janelle Grabowski encouraged personal responsibility, Jim Langin taught 'Common Sense 101', and of course Paul Beranek gave me the confidence to pursue graphic design, which was practically unheard of in 1993. ☺
10. How do you proceed when you are faced with making a difficult decision? **I like to weigh all options, listen to others' opinions, and research if and how it has been handled in the past.**