

Island County

VOTERS' GUIDE

November General Election 2021

Editor's Note:

Thank you for taking this opportunity to read *Whidbey Weekly's* Voter Guide for the upcoming Nov. 2, 2021 general election.

Here are a few notes on our process:

We included only Whidbey Island races with multiple candidates; we did not include races with a single, unopposed candidate. We did not include any Stanwood/Camano Island races.

We emailed candidates based on the contact information provided in the Island County Auditor's filing records and the Public Disclosure Commission. *Whidbey Weekly* made every effort to find updated contact information for those emails that bounced back to us or were not provided. An initial email with questions was sent to each candidate, and a follow up/reminder email was sent a few days later. However, we cannot say with 100 percent certainty that every candidate received our email. Still, out of the 32 candidates in the 16 races included in this guide, 29 candidates responded.

Responses are grouped by position and it is noted within that contest which candidate did not respond. As we stated above, we do not know if the lack of response is due to not receiving our emails or whether they chose not to respond.

Candidates were asked to keep their responses to each question to 150 words. Those responses over the word limit were cut off at the end of the sentence closest to the 150-word mark and it is noted the response ran over the limit. Other than editing for length, *Whidbey Weekly* did not change spelling or grammar in any of the candidates' responses; they appear as we received them.

We hope this guide will prove to be useful to Whidbey Island voters.

Whidbey Weekly





PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, POS. 2

Kurt S. Blankenship

Current Job: Commissioner, District 2 (central Whidbey area), Whidbey Island Public Hospital District

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

Reasons for seeking re-election: to continue to preserve and improve the health care services available to our community through Whidbey Health hospital, its providers, clinics, and ambulance service. I have been honored to serve on the Board since April 2017, when I was appointed to temporarily fill the unexpired term of another commissioner. In the next election, the voters of Island County elected me to serve the remainder of the previous commissioner's term of office.



What qualifies you to run for this position?

I have been an attorney for 44 years practicing primarily in the field of health care law. I have represented and advised hospitals (including a public district hospital), hospital boards, hospital medical executive committees, hospital medical staffs, physicians, physician groups, same day surgery centers, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacies, and individual pharmacists in matters involving licensing, management, formation of new business entities, credentialing, peer review, billing disputes with insurance companies and other payors, risk management, professional liability, and compliance with state and federal laws.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

Board of Commissioners, District 2, Whidbey Island Public Hospital District since April 2017
 Previous member of Board of Admirals Cove Beach Club
 Past President of Board of Admirals Cove Beach Club
 Previous member of House of Delegates of Louisiana Bar Association
 Previous Senior Warden of St. Michael's Episcopal Church
 Managing Partner for 12 years of 45 attorney law firm

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The biggest issue facing the health care needs of our community is our ability to attract and retain health care providers, which is crucial to preserving and improving the medical services available to our community. Health care systems all over the country are short-staffed. There is enormous competition, especially for small rural hospitals, in attracting providers. Maintaining and improving an independent, local health care system answerable to the voters of Island County, and not to large off-island hospital corporations, is vital.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Improving the ability to offer competitive salaries and benefits is the best way to attract and retain health care providers, but that is no easy task in today's health-care environment. I am committed to carefully managing costs, improving efficiencies in operations, and growing revenues.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

What I Hope to Accomplish: operating a health care system is an enormously complex endeavor. Few, if any, businesses are more highly regulated by state and federal entities. Small, rural health systems are greatly challenged by competition from large health-care corporations. I will continue to utilize my considerable knowledge and experience in health care law to help preserve and improve the health care services available to our community. I will work collaboratively with the other Board members, hospital administration, and physicians and other providers. I will respectfully listen to and seek to understand the views of others in the system, particularly in employee relations. Controlling costs, improving efficiency of operations, and strategic management will help make WhidbeyHealth a more attractive place to work for providers and maintain and improve the health care services available to Whidbey Island residents and visitors.

Why should people vote for you?

I chose to live full time on Whidbey Island because of its natural beauty and quality of life, but people on Whidbey obviously need local health care. When one of us has a heart attack or a stroke, or one of our children or grandchildren breaks an arm or a leg, or starts running a high fever in the middle of the night, or a pregnant mother goes into labor, we need a local hospital or clinic to be there for us. I am committed to utilizing my considerable knowledge and experience to make sure that happens.

James D. Golder

Current Job: Treasurer, Harris Custer Water Association

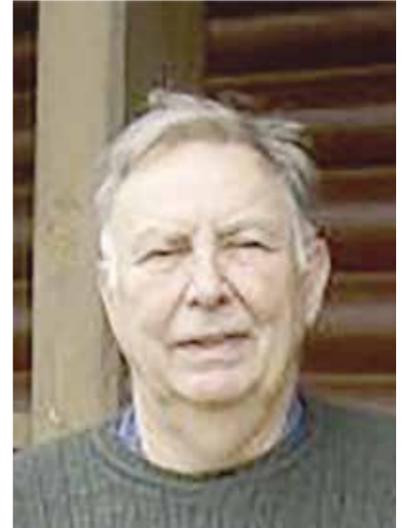
Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I believe that I can help to improve the hospitals reputation and financial situation, and to help improve the employee's moral and financial status.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

My family has been on Whidbey since 1980. My wife, Luella worked as an O.R. nurse at Whidbey Hospital for 17 years. We have six children and six grandchildren, one Doctor and one future Doctor in the family. I have a Juris Doctorate from UPS and Notre Dame.

I served 8 years as a State Legislator. Chairman of the Business Committee, Chairman of the Ways and Means committee and served as a political appointee to the president in Washington D.C.



In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I am past president and current treasurer of Harris Custer Water Association. Past president Oak Harbor Friends of the Library, past board member Oak Harbor Library, past president Idaho Consumers Affairs, past president NAIFA. Former owner Accurate Appraisals, Wallace metal reconditioning company, and an employment agency.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

There has been low morale among some of the staff, the financial position of Whidbey Health is not consistently strong, and because of these and other issues, quite a few members of our community choose to travel to surrounding hospitals rather than use the local facility.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

I have owned, managed and budgeted a number of businesses. I have also been the treasurer for Harris Custer Estates and managed the budgets for a number of years. I recently was able to reduce our utility rates by \$25.00 a month. I believe that my extensive experience in business and finance will be an asset to our community.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I feel that I am qualified to help manage and make decisions regarding our county's only hospital. My goal is to improve Whidbey Health's overall reputation, recruit a wider number of health care professionals into service at our hospital, increase the pay for our over-worked and under-paid nurses and make an examination of all current costs and income flows and the costs related to the COVID-19 problem and develop reliable changes and projections to bring the hospital back into a positive cash flow.

Why should people vote for you?

Everyone should have equal access to quality medical care. My operating philosophy is as always: to do the greatest amount of good, for the greatest number of people.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Oct. 15:** Deadline to mail out standard ballots
- Oct. 25:** Deadline to receive new registrations and voter updates online and by mail
- Nov. 2:** Deadline for in-person registrations and voter updates for the Nov. 2 General Election
- Nov. 2:** GENERAL ELECTION
- Nov. 22:** Canvassing Board Meeting
- Nov. 23:** County Canvassing Board certifies results of general election

-Information Courtesy of Island County Auditor's Office

IT'S THE LAW:

Return postage prepaid for all elections

Return postage is paid for all elections. Voters may use a ballot drop box or return ballots by postal mail at no cost.

Same day registration

Voters may register to vote in person up to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Electronic registrations

Registrations submitted electronically (Motor Voter, Online, etc.) must be submitted no later than 8 days prior to an election.

Mail In registrations

Registrations submitted through the postal mail must be received by an Elections Official no later than 8 days prior to an election.

Early registration

Future voters age 16 and 17 may register to vote. Your registration will be kept "on hold" until you will be 18 years of age at the next election. At that time, you will be registered to vote.

-Information Courtesy of Island County Auditor's Office

OAK HARBOR CITY COUNCIL, POS. 4

Dan Evans

Current Job: North Pacific Property & Risk, President

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

Over the past 4 years we have seen an increase in homelessness, a decrease in housing production and a complete absence of local city leadership during this pandemic. I know that I can be a valuable member of the City Council by providing solid leadership and standing up for the rights of all citizens to be treated fairly and equally by our local government. Due to mismanagement, we have recently lost many city staff members increasing the overall operating expense of our city. It is time that our elected representatives hold our local government accountable.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I believe the role of a City Council member is to represent the citizens of our community. The only way this can be done is by having conversations and an open mind. I am a single father, a local business owner, a homeowner and a citizen of our community. I am fully vested in the success of our community. It is extremely important that we build a community of opportunity to allow our children to have a future here in Oak Harbor. This will require new jobs, housing, childcare and entertainment. I will work very hard to make this a place our children want to call home as they become productive adults.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

My community service includes 5 years as the Main Street Association Board President and still a current board member, under my leadership we successfully challenged the City in court to prevent an illegally approved building project that would have altered the foundation of our local downtown shopping district. I currently serve on the Oak Harbor Historic Preservation Commission, appointed by the Mayor. I also served as an Oak Harbor Rotarian.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The city is currently suffering financially, as we are all experiencing in our increasing utility rates. The homeless crisis continues, and our housing shortage does not seem to be a priority. The city is most importantly suffering from poor management, causing the departure of roughly 90 staff members in the past 4 years. The mayor has driven a wedge between City Council and City Staff, this is clearly not in the best interest of our community.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

The best way to deal with any issue is to stand up and get involved. I know that working with community members, city staff and local leaders, we can identify a successful path forward. This will require tough decisions that I am willing to make. Communication is the greatest way we can get our city moving forward. Hearing and listening to our constituents prior to those tough decisions will ensure that we are properly representing the majority. There is a complete disconnect between the citizens of our community and our city leaders and I will work very hard to change that. This is our community!

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

We live in the most beautiful part of the Pacific Northwest. It is time that we allow our town to prosper and grow. I would like to see our community take full advantage of the natural assets in our city. I would like to improve our undeveloped waterfront, attract entertainment opportunities, increase affordable housing, and attract new businesses to increase our available jobs. I hope to improve each of these areas as it would benefit the largest percentage of our population.

Why should people vote for you?

I am an honest and straightforward person. I believe in the rule of law and that it should be enforced equally for all individuals. I will listen to the needs and concerns of my constituents and represent all of you to the absolute best of my ability.



Stephenie "Fe" Mischo

Current Job: An employee of SPiN (Serving People in Need) Cafe

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

Oak Harbor is a great place, and I believe that it has the potential to be even greater. I want to invest in our community and its members. We must put those most vulnerable first, from our children to the elderly, from the homeless to those with disabilities. This city should be a place where all people can live, work, and recreate without having to go elsewhere. Our kids shouldn't have to leave to the mainland for work or housing and should be able to grow and stay here to keep our community healthy.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I have worked endlessly in our community to bring the experiences of our least fortunate citizens to the forefront. While doing advocacy work, at the local, state, and national levels, I have been able to work in partnership with all levels of government. I will bring my advocacy experience to the City Council to better serve the people in our community.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I am currently serving on the Island County Community Health Advisory Board, Citizens Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (C.A.D.A.) Board as Secretary, Island County Housing Advisory Board, League of Women Voters, and Oak Harbor Public School District Parents Advisory Committee. I previously served on the Oak Harbor Library Board and the Island County Housing Project Network.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Affordable housing options.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Transitional housing and affordable housing options, providing wrap-around services for those who are transitioning into a home, as well as investing more in our community members who live with mental and behavioral health issues.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I know that together we can bring sustainable workforce housing to Oak Harbor so young people don't have to move away from our amazing community for the opportunity. Furthermore, to keep working families in Oak Harbor to live in dignity instead of being forced to move elsewhere or lose housing. We can also bring living wage green jobs to Oak Harbor which will not only improve our local economy and rebuild our infrastructure, but combat the climate crisis too. I want to bring mental/behavioral health and wrap-around services to Oak Harbor so we can properly address community health. Additionally, we must make government work for the people. I will bring under-represented voices to the table to understand the needs of our community.

Why should people vote for you?

I want our government to be inclusive, effective, and benefit us all. I will work as hard as I do now to make sure all voices, in our city, are heard. I will work with our community to deliver on housing, living wage jobs, climate action, mental and behavioral health services, childcare, and expanding resources. It is my pledge to continue proactive constituent contact after I'm elected through door-belling in our neighborhoods alongside regular community meet-ups and town halls so people know their Councilmember cares. I humbly ask for your vote this November and thank you for supporting our people's movement for a people's seat on the City Council.



ALL ELECTIONS IN WASHINGTON STATE ARE CONDUCTED BY MAIL.

If you do not receive your ballot or if your address has changed, please contact the Auditor's Office by phone (360-679-7366), by mail, by email, in person at the Island County Auditor's Office, 400 N. Main Street, (mailing address) PO Box 1410, Coupeville WA, or go online to www.votewa.gov.

Information provided by Island County Auditor's Office



OAK HARBOR CITY COUNCIL, POS. 5

Joel Servatius

Current Job: Financial Advisor

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

My parents instilled the belief in me to always "leave something better than you found it." That usually related to returning a tool you had borrowed from a neighbor, but I have embraced it as a tenet in life. I believe that if you are going to live somewhere you should be actively involved in trying to make it a better place.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

With a Business degree from University of Puget Sound, 25 years of experience as a Financial Advisor, 24 years of living here in Oak Harbor, and 10 years as a City Council member, I have the education, experience and demonstrated dedication to serving our community.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I joined the Chamber of Commerce in 1997 and have been extensively involved in promoting the vision of the Chamber and small businesses on Whidbey Island and am completing my term as Past-President. I have been council member since 2012. Before that time I served on a Task Force under Mayor Cohen to revitalize city signage.

My current City roles are Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Chair, Investment Policy Committee member, Public Safety Task Force member, Parks Board Council liaison, and Technology Committee member. Over the years I have also volunteered in the following organizations: OH Public Schools, Knights of Columbus, Youth wrestling, OH Youth sailing, and the OH Garry Oak Society.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The biggest issue that I hear from our community is around public safety. My top priority is Public safety and I fully intend to continue to support our first responders to the best of my ability. Most of these concerns revolve around illegal encampments and the illegal activity that occurs in or near them.



How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

As a member of the Public Safety Task Force, I am actively engaged in addressing issues to ensure concerns are responded to in a thoughtful, compassionate manner that ensures the safety of our community.

I want Oak Harbor to be a place where everyone is welcome, but illegal activities are not. I have frequently walked through wooded areas with our law enforcement officers to work on the issue of illegal encampments. Utilizing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), and actions to help landowners clean up after illegal encampments, I have helped to significantly reduce the number of illegal encampments in Oak Harbor and the surrounding area.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I sincerely care about our city and each of our citizens. It is my goal to ensure the City of Oak Harbor is a vibrant, healthy engaging place to live, work and play. I'm dedicated to working on the following priority areas: Public Safety, Housing, Infrastructure, Economic Development and Technology.

My vision for the city is one in which everyone is encouraged to live and thrive. Growing up on a small farm I have a very strong sense of community. I believe that community must be built. It is a very purposeful act. In today's polarizing society it has become easier to turn inward instead of outward towards supporting your neighbor.

I envision Oak Harbor as a vibrant engaging community that is pedestrian-friendly, environmentally responsible, supportive of local businesses and fellow citizens, thoughtful in our decision making, and purposeful in meeting our fiscal responsibilities as a City.

Why should people vote for you?

As a longtime resident of Oak Harbor, an avid volunteer, and a council member for 10 years, I have the education, experience and commitment that the citizens of Oak Harbor deserve. I am very informed on current city affairs. I take the responsibility of being a council member seriously and work hard to understand the issues so I can make thoughtful, informed decisions that are in the best interest of the City. I will continue to work tirelessly to ensure your local government works for you.

Citizens for Joel Servatius

VOTE

Ward 4 Board

Coupeville School Board - Position 5

Professional background: Business Executive, CEO and Corporate Board Member.

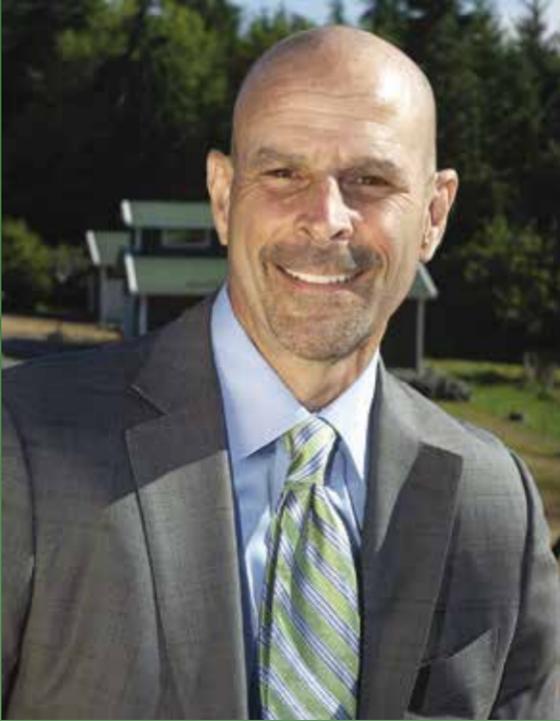
I will deliver strategic planning, sound financial management & accountability.

Our kids deserve the most from the money we have.

As a foster parent, I've cared for children from a wide range of backgrounds and circumstances.

As a child-advocate, I have worked with state agencies, legislators & educators.

Community volunteer: Board Chairman of the South Whidbey Children's Center, Little League Assistant Coach, Classroom Parent/Tutor



Paid for by Committee to Elect Ward for School Board • 901 NE 8th St., Coupeville, WA 98239

My Top Priority: Kids who fell behind during COVID must be brought back to grade standard

I want our kids to be independent, critical thinkers

Our school board needs more community involvement

I will put my personal and professional experience to work for our kids and families

I humbly ask you to vote **WARD SPARACIO** for SCHOOL BOARD

To learn more about **Ward Sparacio**: 360-682-7616 • ward4schoolboard.com • info@ward4schoolboard.com

Candidates 4 Kids

✓ Dawn Tarantino ✓ Bree Kramer-Nelson
 ✓ Farrah Manning Davis

We Say YES To

- ✓ **School is for education not indoctrination.** We value learning opportunities, practical hands-on life-skills, and helping them achieve success at all levels of their learning capability.
- ✓ **Parents having access to classrooms, teaching materials, and opportunities for engagement with their child's education.** Our teachers should not have to carrying the weight alone.
- ✓ **Holding school management accountable for the care and maintenance of school grounds.** Providing our students with a school they can be proud of. Let's bring back school pride.
- ✓ **Ensuring that every child is valued and supported.** That no one is bullied for their individuality. Together we can build a positive culture for all of our kids.
- ✓ **School Board meeting access for parents and the community to share concerns.** No more exclusion of your voice. Looking for solutions and best practices as a community that will improve and add positive results for our students.
- ✓ **Being proactive and maintaining safety for all students always.** On size does not fit all.

We Say NO To

- ✗ **Low test scores and indoctrination of special interest initiatives that have a price tag attached.** While our test scores are just above average in this state, they are below where our students should be. When is below average a goal for learning?
- ✗ **Poor management of our school properties and blaming 2020 for inaction on ongoing issues.** When our HVAC is out of compliance, and our class rooms are rated as having poor air quality, we have to ask, "where is the maintenance budget going?"
- ✗ **A School Board and Administration that will not listen,** The standard reply, "Thank you for your opinion," is NOT a partnership with parents.
- ✗ **Political tactics that divide our community.** Our schools are nonpartisan and operate under the United States Flag.

*It's Time to Vote
for Change!*



Paid for by Elect Dawn Tarantino, Elect Bree Kramer-Nelson, Elect Farrah Manning Davis



OAK HARBOR CITY COUNCIL, POS. 7

Bryan Stucky

Current Job: Wallin-Stucky Funeral Home & Evergreen Pet Cremation

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I have been very involved in our community and have come to know many of its residents from all walks of life. It is my belief that each side of an issue should be listened to, and each issue should be judged on its own merits. I believe my diplomatic approach and strong ties put me in an ideal position to represent everyone in our community. I am also fully invested in our community. I own a business and commercial real estate in the city, I own a home in the city, and I am raising my family in the city. I absolutely adore our community and want to work with others to make it the best it can be.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I currently serve the city as a Commissioner for the Oak Harbor Planning Commission. This has given me tremendous insight into how the city works. I have also had many leadership positions over the years. On a state level I have served as President of the Northwest Funeral Directors Association and Board Member for the Washington State Funeral Directors Association. On a local level I am a Past President of the North Whidbey Island Sunrise Rotary, and Vice President of the North Whidbey Help House. I am also a member of the local small business community, and I have a strong education in that arena with both a Bachelors and Masters of Business Administration. I believe my leadership and business experience combined with my willingness to listen provide me with a strong skill set to become a member of the city council.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

During my time as President for the North Whidbey Island Sunrise Rotary, our club was able to provide various positive services for our community. We created a grant for children with special needs. Together with the other island Rotary Clubs we provided a large grave marker at Maple Leaf Cemetery for all our deceased community members who were unclaimed. We provided hygiene kits for the homeless, entertainment for our community with our puppies in the park event and helped to improve the bridge over the lagoon. During my time as Vice President for the North Whidbey Help House our organization continued to provide much needed food to those members of our community who were in need. I have also been on numerous local advisory boards and have used my business to help donate to charitable causes and assist our community when they experience the loss of a loved one.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

I believe that the biggest issue facing our community is affordability. There are multiple facets to this. Examples include affordable housing, utility rates, taxes, and to a larger extent homelessness.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Regarding affordable housing there is already an affordable housing action plan that was just approved by both the planning commission and city council. We need to make sure this is a plan that we stick to and implement without delay. We also need to do a better job of communicating that plan to the public, so they know the city is committed to this issue. High utility rates also contribute to affordability. We need to continue to try to work with the Navy to create a deal to hook up to our clean water facility, and aggressively search for other ways to help bring utility rates down.

Strong fiscal oversight needs to be used to ensure that unnecessary projects and expenses are reduced and put into projects we need. We should also be more aggressive in obtaining grants to help fund the projects currently in progress,

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I hope to instill public confidence that the city council is truly listening to the community. I would like to lead by continuing to create lasting relationships within our community. My dream is for the first time I meet someone for it to not be in the council chambers when there is an issue. I believe that by communicating with community members directly that we can create a more cohesive community going forward.

Why should people vote for you?

I have served this community with all I have ever since I moved here. I have a proven track record of leadership in all the community organizations I have been a part of. I am dedicated to making myself one of the most accessible members of the city council. I encourage members of our community to tell me what is on their minds at any point. That may be at any of our community events which I always make it a point to attend, or they can reach out to me at my phone number (360) 675-3447, Facebook, or stop by my office. Whatever medium the community wants to use to share their thoughts I am available. I'm here to listen to what our community wants and find ways to make it happen, NOT to push some personal or political agenda.



Andy Plumlee

Current Job: Director of Operations for Island and La Conner Drug

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

To be a voice for those in the community whose interests have not been adequately represented.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I hold a Masters in Public Administration, I live, work and raise my family in this community. I don't feel my interests are represented by the current council.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

Pandemic response as part of the Island Drug COVID team.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Public health and special needs services.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Focus on creation of incentives that encourage service providers to move operations to the community. Work to ensure those services provide for those unserved/underserved by currently available services.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I hope to create opportunities for community members to remain in and contribute to the community they call home. I hope to elevate members of the community who have not benefitted from the "way it's always been done."

Why should people vote for you?

I am not the same old connected special interest, elite council member people are used to. I don't think like them and I don't wish to. I am a regular everyday person trying to live and thrive in this community, just like most of the people who will be voting. People should vote for me to have a different voice and perspective on the council, one that closer aligns with their concerns and interests. The status quo is not for everyone, if it works for you great, vote for them. If it hasn't vote for me.



RETURNING YOUR BALLOT:

Ballots must be postmarked no later than Election Day, Nov. 2, 2021.

Please check with your local Post Office to clarify the last pickup of the day. State Law requires a ballot must have a postmark on or before Election Day (RCW 29A.40.091(4)). If a ballot is received with a postmark on it that is after Election Day, it cannot be counted.

ADA Compliant Ballot drop boxes are available 24-hours per day from the time ballots are mailed to voters. They will close promptly at 8 p.m. on election night.

No stamp is required to return your ballot.

Voters have the option of returning completed ballots at an official drop box. Ballot drop boxes can be found at the following locations:

- Island County Election Office - 400 N Main Street, Coupeville
- Trinity Lutheran Church - 18341 SR 525, Freeland
- Ken's Korner Shopping Center - 4141 SR 525, Clinton
- Camano Island - 121 N. East Camano Drive, Camano Island
- Oak Harbor - City Hall - 865 S.E. Barrington Dr., Oak Harbor
- Langley - Post Office (front patio) - 115 2nd St., Langley

If your address has changed or if you do not receive your ballot, contact the Island County Auditor:

Phone: 360-679-7366

Email: Elections@islandcountywa.gov

In person: Island County Auditor's Office, 400 N Main St., Coupeville
Office Hours* are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday – Friday

*Due to COVID-19 health requirements, access to the Elections Office is currently restricted. Please call or knock on the door for assistance.

By mail: Island County Auditor's Office, P.O. Box 1410, Coupeville, WA 98239

Online: www.votewa.gov

-Information Courtesy of Island County Auditor's Office



LANGLEY CITY COUNCIL, POS. 1

Harolynne Bobis

Current Job: Administrative Specialist III, Seattle's Dept. of Neighborhoods

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?
Because I think my lived experience and values are needed at this time.

What qualifies you to run for this position?
I've lived in Langley since 2012 and see need for someone with my experience and passion on the City Council.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?
I am currently on the Hub board The HUB is an afterschool drop-in program offering social and recreational activities for middle and high school youth in a safe, supportive setting.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?
Affordable housing

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Work with fellow council members, involved community, interested developers, and other government agencies

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

A better understanding of the issues facing those members of Langley's community whom are rarely heard from: the elderly who've lost their homes, those with very little money, and others who feel left out.

Why should people vote for you?

Because I'm smart, willing to work, and care about Langley and its people.



Kay Kenneweg

Current Job: Health Coach, Activist

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I am running for city council because I want to help by working with other council members, the mayor and city hall staff to strive to the future with citizen involvement along with businesses and nonprofits, churches and art and cultural venues, increasing music and entertainment activities while carrying out the duties of a council member.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I attend council meetings and have assisted in campaigns for city, county, state, and federal elections. I talk to businesses and people in the town and was told to run as I know what is going on in town. I have experience working in bureaucracies, such as schools, hospitals, and state facilities and surviving.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I have volunteer at organizations such as Red Cross DAT, CERT, Langley Community Club, Island County Fair, Jefferson County Fair, Jefferson Search and Rescue, Fallen Leaf, CA Volunteer Fire Dept.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Affordability, Accessibility, Aging in Place Infrastructure as streets, water mains, sewers need maintained or replaced,. Lack of communication from city government to business and citizens.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Increase affordable housing and rentals, have sidewalk and areas meet ADA guidelines. Post copies of important communication where people can read who do not have electronic media access or WiFi. Have more face to face communication with business community and mayor, city council, police and community council.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

Trust in Langley City government and a community that is unified for its citizens and businesses. Improved infrastructure. Balanced budget. Healthy and thriving citizens and businesses. Communication improved for all.

Why should people vote for you?

I am a great candidate for Langley City Council #1 as I am knowledgeable of what is going on in the town and have skills to drive Langley to the future. I work well with others. Please make sure you are registered to vote in this election.



LANGLEY CITY COUNCIL, POS. 5

Tony L. Gill

Current Job: Husband, Father, Grandfather, Uncle, Citizen

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

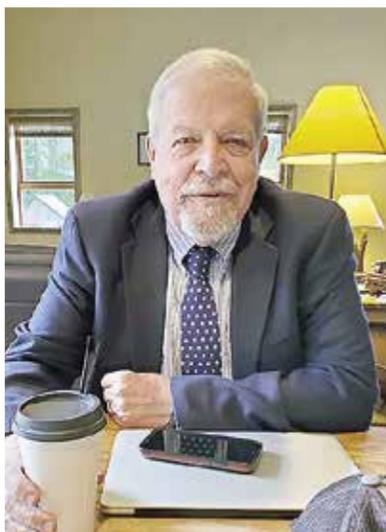
My Friends, Family and neighbors asked me to because, they feel they have no voice. As a long time citizen of Langley I have watched from the side lines at the inaction of city government. I would like to serve this lovely City by providing the knowledge I have gained from Education/training, travel and interactions with diverse cultures and ethnic group from different parts of the globe. These interactions have led me to adopt an inclusive philosophy. In addition, I have something to contribute in the work being done to face climate change, infrastructure and race.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

Thirty years watching Langley politics.
Education: BS In Business, Masters certificate in Project Management, Leadership and Race relations training.
Numerous technical and vocation studies.
Instructor of Technical and vocational subjects.
Pilot and aircrew training and experience
Work Experience; Middle management on multi-billion dollar contracts. Small business owner.
Experienced/ licensed (Expired) Finance, Investing and all lines insurance.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

SWHS Scholarship program, highly successful Bikes for books reading program, Kindergarten's school supply program. Senior services volunteer.



What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

In action: Thirty years ago I attended my first city council meeting and the issue at that time was the erosion of the Edge Cliff bluff due to septic tanks / drain fields up stream of the cliff, storm water run off and the channeling of rain water. Well, thirty years and we are still in the planning stage.
A lack of low cost and mid-level housing.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

I would open discussion with the community. I believe the City Council should not make decision of this scope by solely relying on the experts. The citizens of Langley should be heard on these issues. Knowing Langley, opinions will be loud, wide, and varied. That's what I love about Langley. With feedback from our residents, the Council can then move forward with "experts" and arrive at final plans that will be shared back to the community in full transparency.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

Help my city become better at providing services and supporting its citizens. Address the issues and concerns that have been and continue to be related to me from my fellow citizens. Listen.

Why should people vote for you?

I am willing to listen, investigate, and act on, not only the concerns of people, but also the ideas the people of Langley have. I want to be a non-partisan member and not get bogged down in any political ideology. I want to help the city to address the issues of infrastructure, climate change and racism by listening. The decisions we get from City Hall affect all residents of Langley. A vocal few should not decide what is best for all, unless a majority also agree. That is why you should vote for me. Again, I will do all I can to be fair, un-biased, reasonable, and accessible.

VS.

Scott Chaplin

Editor's Note: Scott Chaplin filed to run for Langley City Council, Pos. 5 before he was appointed as mayor of Langley, a position he currently holds.

SOUTH WHIDBEY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR, POS. 2

Andrea Downs

Current Job: Assistant Director of Special Programs and Services

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I am currently seeking re-election in hopes of continuing the work and momentum my first term has created. Coming from an education background, I am keenly aware of the challenges both students and districts face in providing a quality education to all students. I have found that by serving as the policy representative on the board, I am in a position where I can meaningfully impact and dismantle these barriers.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

Professionally I am the Assistant Director of Special Programs and Services at an Educational Service District. This work entails me supporting the leadership operations of the schools designed to support students with social/emotional and behavioral needs and three juvenile detention centers in the region. My work encompasses supporting 35 school districts as they work to support Special Education students at all levels. Before I moved into this role, I served as a Special Services Director where I oversaw Special Education, English Learning programs, Highly Capable programs, Title Services, McKinney Vento Supports (students experiencing homelessness), Paraeducators, Nursing staff, Migrant Services, and Professional Development. Prior to that work, I was a Behavior Specialist, Special Education Facilitator, and a Special Education teacher working with students with behavioral challenges.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

South Whidbey School Board 2017-Present

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

We have worked hard as a district to bring issues around equity to the center of all of our work. I have led this work through developing the equity policy and revising the curriculum policy to screen for bias. I am worried that this work will be undone. If re-elected, I would continue to keep the spotlight on these issues and would like to initiate restorative conversations with community members who have been harmed by the presence of bias in the school district.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Continuing the work around bias awareness and moving SWSD towards being an anti-racist school district. I would accomplish this by setting meaningful, equity centered goals for the superintendent and creating systems of accountability around those goals. This is done through thoughtful policy analysis and meaningful discussion with district leadership.

Centering the board's focus on student needs and student voice.

Continue strong fiscal oversight of the district to ensure and provide high quality educational services. This understanding allows one to set responsible limits on bargaining and negotiations which provides financial stability. This stability is critical to the successful recruitment and retention of high quality staff in a small district, where revenue is often fluid. This also requires a positive relationship with the district's various union leadership groups.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I have been working with the board on setting meaningful, equity centered goals for the superintendent and creating systems of accountability around those goals. We are now moving into initiating restorative conversations with the community to repair harm that has occurred in the past and may still be continuing to occur. I worked with the board to set the Superintendent's goal on prioritizing curriculums and teaching strategies that support all learners. The intention is to focus on the gaps of students who are not meeting standards and finding effective strategies to support them. I would continue to engage with and deeply understand district finances. This stability is critical to the successful recruitment and retention of high quality staff in a small district, where revenue is often fluid. This understanding will also support the district as we look towards bond planning for repairs to district buildings.

Why should people vote for you?

My career and educational experiences have always focused on serving students at the edges of our system. These students are where my heart is and these students are why I ran for school board in the first place. I have spent the last four years doing my best to support all of our students and ensuring that school is a safe place to land no matter who you are. I have done my best to listen to, and protect, our students. It is my hope that we, as a community, can continue to protect our students and give every student a safe place to receive an exceptional education.



Dawn Tarantino

Current Job: Nail Technician

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

First, I felt compelled to get involved after working as a Para Educator at SWSD for 3 years which provided me firsthand experience of what needs to be improved. Second, I witnessed the academic issues in the district as my son was allowed to graduate with a 5th grade math level. Third, I watched my other son fall apart during the pandemic because of not being able to play sports and see his friends. This helped me see that we must pay closer attention to our youth and their mental health. I believe that kids mental health is closely correlated with their involvement in social and physical activities. On that note, one of my greatest concerns is the lack of investment in our athletic programs. For example, we no longer have an athletic trainer which is a liability if a student gets hurt. [Word limit exceeded]

What qualifies you to run for this position?

Being raised with a Down Syndrome cousin living in my home was the best life experience anyone could have. That understanding of others and how they are treated differently because of what others see as a disability; gave me the best understanding because I didn't see him as different. Jeff was Jeff to me and he was amazing. People judge too quickly and this is unfortunate. I was raised with a different light and I like to pass that light whenever possible.

I've raised my children the same way. If they see a special needs child they see them as cool or someone they want to say Hi to. This life experience also gave me a greater understanding when I worked at the 3 different campus' as a Para educator for 3 years.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I was a Para educator for 3 years. I was on the board of South Whidbey Little league for 4 years, I am a Mom with three boys. Two of my son's are currently enrolled and one graduated from SWSD. I am a successful local business owner. Everything about my life is invested in this community, my children and all the children in the district. I believe the health and happiness of the community is directly related to our schools and children who attend there.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Everyone is divided. People are divided in our nation and even in this small community. I believe one of the reasons for the division among local parents is that there is not enough diversity on the school board and community members do not feel heard. Our school district has become very partisan, and I think that is wrong. All parents and taxpayers of every religion, skin color, or political affiliation should be heard and the board should return to a non-partisan position. I would love to see our community united again and I am determined to help be part of the momentum.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

I hope to bring balance and a calm logical voice which represents the entire community. I hope to work with my fellow board members to create compromise, balance, and effectively listen to the community. I believe that people don't care how much you know until the know how much you care. To prove how much we care, we must be able to listen un-objectively and take appropriate action.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

First, I plan to make a concerted effort to invest in South Whidbey Athletics on all fronts. I plan to take a close look at the budget and find areas we can invest in athletics. I hope to implement policy that ensures the whole student is mentally, physically, and educationally healthy and thriving.

Why should people vote for you?

I have proven that I deeply care by my involvement in the school district and community. I have proven that I am determined, organized, passionate, and capable by running my own business successfully for the past 6 years. I have proven I have the heart by being an involved and dedicated mother whether it is for my child's sports teams or in their classroom. I'm the parent you can count on. I hope that I can also be the board member you can count on to get the job done as well.





SOUTH WHIDBEY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR, POS. 4

Farrah Manning Davis

Current Job: Business Owner, Master Aesthetician

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I seek election for the School Board Position 4 because it's time to bring positive change to the school board and it's representation for the entire community.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I am qualified to run because I am a concerned community member, a former student of South Whidbey Schools, a local business owner, a tax payer, and a parent of school aged children.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I was born and raised on South Whidbey so I have been a part of many organizations through the years. I serve my community through many of the charitable works and as a business owner and parent, I continue to be a part of community building efforts like WICA, Hearts & Hammers, the Children's Center, my home church and many others.



What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

I believe the biggest issue facing our children is getting a solid education in an environment that focuses on and fosters healthy interaction with teachers, students, and fundamental learning. Our state report card is far below an average D, yet because it is somewhat average across the state and actually higher than some schools we are supposed to be ok with it. I believe the state report card should be used to challenge, improve and goal set for our students.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

To deal with the issue of learning and improving our student education scores, I believe we need to engage our teachers, to see deficiencies and challenges through their lens, and as well, engage our students in the process. I believe that by building a platform of communication and an environment that allows teachers to do what they do best, we can successfully come up with some 'best practice' initiatives that will help children of all learning spectrums to challenge those state scores.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I hope to bring about positive change. I believe the community needs to have access to the school board and that each school board member represents the voice of the people who vote them into the seat. I believe that we currently have a fractured community and there is some sense to own the seat, rather than serve in the seat. Students, teachers, guardians, and parents should be brought into the conversation for a common goal to be established that is non-partisan. So much is flawed with special interest and social justice in matters of moral conflict. The school belongs to the community and I intend to represent the larger whole of South Whidbey by serving my community in the position 4 seat.

Why should people vote for you?

People that care about focusing our schools on education, school enrollment, why we have such losses, and tax payers that want to know where their money is going, should vote for me. Parents who want to hold the school administration accountable for the condition of the school and the children's educational opportunities should vote for me. People who want a representative that will listen, learn, assess and help execute a way to reach education objectives should vote for me. If they want positive change, then they can vote for Farrah Manning Davis.

Electfarrahmanningdavis.com

Marnie Jackson

Current Job: Whidbey Institute Co-Executive Director

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I was appointed to a seat on the South Whidbey School District Board of Directors in 2020 and I am running for election so that I may continue to serve our district's students and families. I believe the district is making great strides in creating a safer, more equitable, and more nurturing learning environment for all students, and I believe continued progress to remove systemic barriers to student success and provide relevant curriculum that helps every student succeed as described in our district's vision: as a lifelong learner who is multi-culturally engaged, literate, and an active community member able to meet the challenges of our global society.



As a current School Board member, I love working with our community to ensure our schools are inclusive, welcoming, and safe places for our children to learn, grow, and thrive.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I work as Co-Executive Director of the Whidbey Institute, a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit organization on Whidbey. My past experience includes teaching Journalism and English Literature through the Mount Baker Academy, a parent partnership program of the Mount Baker School District. I have worked as a Youth Care Worker with Service Alternatives and as an Academic Tutor for Summit Educational Group and have volunteered as a past PTA Secretary in Mount Baker School District.

In my time on the school board, I have served as the District's Legislative Representative, liaising virtually with legislators during the 2021 Washington State legislative session; have developed good working relationships with administrators, board members, community members, and student leaders; and have supported the district in its goals of safely returning to in-person education.

I am a graduate of SWHS, a parent of a South Whidbey School District graduate, and parent of two SWHS students.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I founded Teen Art Club at Create Space in 2019; served as SWSD Legislative Representative for 2021, served as a former PTA Board Secretary; former Board Member, Amnesty International, Suffolk University; former Vice President of the Suffolk University National English Honor Society; and former Whatcom Food Network Committee Member.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Polarization in our society, inflamed by disinformation and politicization of public health matters, has brought us to a scenario where many school board races are bitterly embattled and where public health protections in schools are being challenged. My commitment to students' wellbeing, including their right to learn in an environment where they feel valued regardless of race, culture, background, or ability, means that I stay in the tough conversations and advocate tirelessly for better student outcomes. Our students deserve a relevant education and a school environment that's welcoming, safe, and inclusive.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

I'm proud of our adoption of Ethnic Studies and Environmental Science curriculum, being rolled out for students at South Whidbey High School for the first time this year, as well as our management of the delicate balance between students' social-emotional and academic learning needs and students' safety during a global pandemic. During my service, the board, alongside our dedicated administrators and staff, has been nimble, adaptive, and thoughtful in how we deliver a more relevant education to our students and families in ways that center health and wellbeing. I expect to continue to contribute to culture-building work that lowers barriers to academic success and supports learning growth for all students in our district.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I'm a mother of three, and I first got involved because I wanted not only my children, but all students, to have a better public education. I believe that our children are our future, and that providing an excellent education to every student is an important way to nurture a healthy community. These are complex times and our students deserve an education that supports their wellbeing and resilience as well as their academic success. I plan to support every student in the South Whidbey School District to have an education that meets their unique needs while contributing to a culture of collaboration, trust, and belonging in our district.

Why should people vote for you?

As a current School Board member, I love working with our community to ensure our schools are inclusive, welcoming, and safe places for our children to learn, grow, and thrive. I am asking for your vote so that I can continue the vital work of serving our students and families. My record of service is clear, and I've stood for safe, inclusive, and excellent education since I was appointed in 2020.

I am endorsed by the Washington Education Association-Political Action Committee, South Whidbey Education Association, Island County Democrats, 10th Legislative District Democrats, Young Democrats of Island County (Champion Endorsed, Helen Price Johnson, John Graham (Director, Giraffe Heroes International*), Mully Mullally (Founder, Whidbey Children's Center*), Christy Korrow (Langley City Council Member*), Craig Cyr (Langley City Council Member*), Mary Fischer (Co-Founder, WIN*), Erik Mann, Oak Harbor School Director*, and more!

*For identification of individual endorsers only.

Fe Mischo for Oak Harbor City Council Position 4



A vote for Fe is a vote for:

Sustainable Workforce Housing, Living Wage Jobs, Wrap-Around Mental Health Services, Climate Action, Affordable Childcare, and Transparency

Paid for by Committee to Elect Fe Mischo for City Council Position 4

SOUTH WHIDBEY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR, POS. 5

Ann M. Johnson

Current Job: Executive Director, Whidbey Children's Theatre

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

These challenging times make it more important than ever to provide the right balance of academic rigor and emotional support for our local students. I believe in South Whidbey School District's mission to provide education through a global lens while simultaneously celebrating the wonderful, rich history and culture that makes our small communities so very unique. As a board member (appointed) for the past 14 months, I have been proud to lead with my colleagues as the board whole-heartedly and professionally support our local scholars, teachers, support and service staff and administrators in their very hard work. We have kept the community informed and inside the conversation on the many variables that today's schools confront as part of their current structure like Covid mitigations, climate change, and equity work. I would be honored to continue this work in my role as position #5 member.



What qualifies you to run for this position?

I am an experienced professional in my craft, with twenty-five years of working with children and youth, families and organizations in leadership, classroom teaching in traditional and alternative settings, group facilitation, and human services with an emphasis in developing and providing opportunities for homeless families or those at risk of homelessness in education, health care and housing needs. Currently, I work as the Executive Director at Whidbey Children's Theatre. In the last eight years as part of the WCT Administration, my team and I have honored our heritage as a locally beloved 40 year old institution, while continually nurturing and building systems and programs that ensure a solid future for our non-profit organization as a whole.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

Volunteer Positions, South Whidbey School District: Current appointed member, position #5, South Whidbey School Board Parent volunteer SWEPTA Volunteer Coordinator Langley Middle School Volunteer Tutor/Mentor Compensated positions, SWSD: Guest teacher Learning and Community Engagement (LACEP) instructor in leadership, outdoor, and substance prevention education South Whidbey High School, Bayview School Tutor/Mentor Program Lead Readiness to Learn Foundation: Development Coordinator; Homeless Liaison, Co-Lead Langley Middle School Homework Club Donor to: South Whidbey Schools Foundation, Homeless Coalition, Friends of Friends QPOW, Volunteer Co-Lead, Organizer Soroptimist International of South Whidbey, Volunteer Director/Presenter, Island Girl's Camp South Whidbey Parks and Aquatics Foundation Board, Vice Chair Langley Arts Commission, Board member Whidbey Children's Theatre, Executive Director (current)

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Our challenges together as a citizenry are deep and wide; our collective response as a school board to those challenges - especially that of inequity in our educational and social systems, must be to build and maintain policies and goals that serve our students as if their lives depended upon it, because they do. Black, brown, indigenous, neurodivergent, differently-abled, and LBGTQIA+ children and youth have for centuries been "othered," under-represented, ignored, and harmed by systems that don't or can't serve them well. When children's basic needs are not met, they cannot learn. Our school, just like our community at large, must continue to work toward centering social and educational justice, emotional wellness, and basic needs supports as cornerstones for healthy, robust academic success for all scholars.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

In my past year as school board appointee, I have actively engaged alongside my colleagues, the student body, staff and other stakeholders to work toward progress in this area. Board goals for the Superintendent and Board are specific to putting student voices first - which includes lifting and hearing those who have been traditionally ignored or harmed by school and other social systems. Likewise, administration teams and their staffs are learning and teaching how to build equitable, inclusive environments where educational rigor and emotional and physical safety are sought with equal intention. In a truly diverse environment, BIPOC, LBGTIA+ and other formerly marginalized scholars and staff can feel seen, heard, and represented fairly, consistently, and safely in our buildings and community.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

As my own children complete their careers as South Whidbey scholars (class of 2021, 2023,) my hope is to keep contributing in a meaningful way our beloved school district. My many experiences as a parent, a professional and a skilled volunteer have led me to this next important step in my personal evolution as a community leader, and I am so honored to be part of such a dynamic and passionate web of experienced educators. I would like to continue the work that engages us now, continue honing my craft in school board leadership, and see our scholars safely and well through their educational journey in these next four years. I am dedicated to the work this board is doing, and am proud to add my skill set and passion to that work.

Why should people vote for you?

Like you, I believe that South Whidbey Schools are the key to a vibrant future here on our beautiful Island. I am an excellent communicator and self-starter who finds energy and joy in public service. I lead with empathy and humor as well as research based, best practice models for success. My experience with students, their families, and the systems that support them is wide, and features both the nurturing and professional elements of good leadership. As an active school family, my husband and I have been privileged to see our daughters splash, roar, and soar as Orcas, Cougars, and Falcons! As a community leader who takes great pride in school district accomplishments, I want every scholar to see themselves like we see them - intelligent, capable, and kind. I am honored to have you walk alongside me in this work. Thank you for your consideration, and your vote.

Bree Kramer-Nelson

Current Job: Paralegal at Puckett & Redford PLLC

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I want to see changes made for the better to our school buildings, facilities, and grounds. Our educational rating with the WA state report card is less than desirable and I know it is not because of a lack of talented teachers. And I believe the kids deserve more than what they are receiving currently.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

Professionally, I've worked in law for over 20 years, as a paralegal. This means I am trained in conducting legal and factual research, drafting important documents, and understanding and implementing policy. I have a proven track record of staying involved and volunteering at SWSD. I am in constant communication with parents in the community and know exactly what their concerns are. I have first-hand experience with the facilities and the teachers but most of all I am an invested Mom with children who attend SWSD. I attended SWSD as well as my long lineage of family members before me. I am qualified because I care, I listen, and I am determined to help make our schools the best they can be.



In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I have been a member of the SWHS Athletic Booster Club since 2016. I am currently in my third year as club president. In the last three years the club has fundraised over \$30,000.00 in scholarships for graduating seniors. Before that I was involved in youth football as the league treasurer. I have attended hundreds of sporting events cheering these students on.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The growing divide between community members is extremely sad to me. I would like to contribute to building a bridge over this divide. The declining enrollment is of concern because the less students we have enrolled equals less funding which equals less programs and teachers. We have wonderful equip teachers, so we need to find out why the education is lacking. Lastly, the state of our buildings and infrastructure is embarrassing and possibly dangerous for our students.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

I want to look at what we can do as a district to bring kids back to our schools. It may be wise to reach out to the parents who have chosen alternative schooling and find out why. I want to find ways to make our district more appealing to parents. I think we need to make it is important we bring back more hands-on skill based elective classes. As a board we must make a strong effort to listen to all community members, parents and students and plan to move forward in a positive direction together. I would also like to call for a full financial audit of the district, find out why our school has physically deteriorated, take a close look at the budget and upgrade our schools as soon as possible. I would also like to interview the teachers, find out what they need to help them help our kids. [WORD LIMIT EXCEEDED]

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I hope to help bring our community together again. I have never been a political person and I take the fact that this is a non-partisan position very seriously. I hope to help bring more life, school spirit, unity, and neutrality. Most of all, I want to do everything I can to facilitate a successful, and memorable educational and social environment for our students.

Why should people vote for you?

My goal is to come up with solutions that work. I am not here for any agenda. I am running because this community means more to me than I can express in words. I have a long family history here and my roots are deeply embedded here. I believe the heartbeat of this community is our schools and the future of this community is our children. Simply put, I am running because I see a need and I am the person who steps up when others are staying seated. I don't believe in complaining about things if you aren't willing to get up and try and fix them. When I put my mind to something, I make it happen. I will be a balanced voice for the community who will help execute tangible plans for positive change.



COUPEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR, POS. 2

Nancy Conard

*Current Job: Bookkeeper/Office Manager (Current),
Prairie Center Red Apple Market; Retired Mayor, Town of Coupeville;
Retired School Business Manager, Coupeville School District*



Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I attended Coupeville Schools K-12, and subsequently worked there for 30 years.

As a student and an employee, and now as a parent, I appreciate the value of a small school system, where every student is special.

I was shaped by this community, the school I attended and the opportunities it presented. I want to ensure my granddaughter, who we are raising, has the same great opportunities I did at Coupeville Schools.

I want to help the school to cope with the pandemic and its fallout, while ensuring a great curriculum, opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities and the closeness that living in a small community and attending a small school can provide.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I attended Coupeville Schools and then had a 30 year career there. In addition, I served as Mayor of the Town of Coupeville for 20 years.

The skills I developed and experience I acquired will serve me well as a board member:

- Budget and Financial Management
- Collective Bargaining
- Purchasing and Contracting
- Construction Projects
- Working with diverse groups to build consensus

I've served as a policy maker and as an administrator. I understand and have experience in the duties of a school board member:

- Set the school district mission, vision & goals
- Oversee & adopt the budget
- Represent & communicate with the community
- Adopt policies & monitor implementation
- Approve curriculum
- Hire & evaluate superintendent

I've been attending school board meetings, meeting with staff and board members and other parents, researching school board policy and researching information available from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and Washington State School Directors Association.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

My heart is in this community, I am consciously grateful every day that I live in Coupeville and am surrounded by wonderful people and a lifetime of memories and experiences. I have 50+ adult years of significant participation in many, many community organizations, including:

- Coupeville Lions Club (Treasurer, President)
- Soroptimist International of Coupeville (Charter President)
- Whidbey Community Foundation (Founding Director, Pro-Bono Executive Director)

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Specifically, in the school community, the biggest issue currently is the Covid-19 pandemic, both in terms of physical health of the students and staff at Coupeville Schools, but also the emotional and social well being of the students and staff.

At the same time, maintaining and improving quality curriculum, extracurricular activities, and supporting staff in providing these things to our students is even more important given the impact of the pandemic.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

We can provide a healthy physical environment for students and staff by following science, as it evolves, regarding Covid-19. Students in class, on campus, should be the priority and procedures need to support that effort, such as vaccinations, masking, social distancing, cleaning and sterilizing, and air handling.

The school has increased nursing staff and has a social worker available, that can also assist with these issues.

On the work plan for 2021-22 is an update of the strategic plan for the school district. This will provide a great opportunity to interact with students, parents, staff and community and determine direction and focus on curriculum, extra curricular activities, facilities, staff development.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

The residents/taxpayers of Coupeville will feel that they have a good steward for their investment in our public school.

Students will value their time at Coupeville School, be successful in obtaining education and socialization, and later in life will reflect back, as I do, on the experience in this school being significant and positive in their development.

School staff will feel well supported, provided with the tools they need to do their important work, and feel the support and appreciation of their community.

Why should people vote for you?

I have a demonstrated record of credibility, and successful leadership.

My work and community experience will allow me to make good decisions for our students, their families and the community.

I am well connected to the community and comfortable taking input from constituents to shape my decision making.

I say, and others say about me, that I have a heart for Coupeville, which certainly includes the Coupeville Schools.

Heart, plus experience, will allow me to represent my community well as a school board member for Coupeville School District.

VS.

Paul Rempa
No response received

AN AFFORDABLE FUTURE

Shane Hoffmire

FOR CITY COUNCIL, POSITION 5

"I believe any success is ours together and that success is best shared."

www.shanehoffmire.com

Paid for by Shane Hoffmire for City Council, Position 5
748 NW Hyak Dr, Oak Harbor, WA 98277 • 360-320-8517
shanehoffmire@gmail.com

COUPEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR, POS. 5

Ward Sparacio

Current Job: Director – Commercial Innovation, GE Healthcare

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I am committed to child advocacy. As a foster parent, I struggled with the culture within our child welfare system. Simply, the needs of children were subordinate to other "department" priorities. This fueled me to become a pro-child activist, working with legislators in Olympia and with child welfare organizations, public and private. Realizing, in some cases, that I was the only advocate working on behalf of the children who were lost within the bureaucracy of the system.

I am running for School Board as an extension of my passion to see that every child is given the opportunity to succeed to the best of their ability. With a focus on the success of our children, we can help ensure that our community will continue to grow and thrive.

If elected, I will be honored to serve the interests of our entire community, working for our children, parents and taxpayers.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I offer our community a unique blend of experience, from my work as a child advocate to my professional work as an executive, CEO and corporate board member.

As a foster parent, I have worked closely with schools, educators, counselors, as well as various departments and agencies within the State of Washington. Often, serving as the last defense for the children in my care.

As a professional, with large corporations and as an entrepreneur, I have broad expertise in business strategy, planning, budgeting, financial management and venture fundraising/financing.

My experience with multi-national corporations and in entrepreneurial endeavors, covers 3 decades and crosses several industries, including: Healthcare Technology, Information Technology, Management Consulting, Film/Entertainment and Global Import/Export.

I have managed large teams, negotiated corporate contracts and interfaced with labor unions.

I will use my experience to ensure that our children and families get the most from the budget we have.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

DSHS, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services – Licensed Foster Parent

Board Member and Board Chairman of the South Whidbey Children's Center, a non-profit organization that supports working families in the south Whidbey Island Community.

Coupeville Elementary School & South Whidbey Elementary School – Classroom tutor, field trip chaperone

Little League Baseball – Assistant Coach

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

During the COVID pandemic, with remote learning, many children have fallen behind. If we can't give these children the support they require, their entire academic future may be at risk. As a member of our school board, I will make it my priority to identify those children who need the extra help, so they can be lifted back to grade standard.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

We have an opportunity to leverage greater community involvement with our schools and our school district, whether it be through raising incremental funds or leveraging their expertise, I have spoken with many community members who are prepared to assist our school district, supporting our teachers and staff in those areas where they have not been given the resources they need to do their jobs.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I became a foster parent to do my part to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to reach their full potential. As a foster parent, I was able to work with a few children at a time. Making a difference, individually.

More broadly, as a member of our school board, I want to offer my experience and my longstanding commitment to all the children in our community, making a difference for the families who have entrusted the education of their children with our schools. With an over-arching goal of making sure our children learn the critical thinking skills they need to succeed in life.

Why should people vote for you?

As a school board candidate, my campaign team and I have knocked on thousands of doors, talking with parents, families and members of our community. Through this endeavor, not only have I learned what is important to you, I have demonstrated how hard I am willing to work on behalf of our children and families.

I make this commitment to you, while humbly asking for your vote.



Morgan White

*Current Job: Small Business Owner
(Website Development & Graphic Design)*

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I'm running for school board because I love Coupeville Schools and I care deeply for this community. I have been an active volunteer in the lives of Coupeville youth for the past decade, but last year was extremely difficult. I heard heart-breaking stories of students struggling with isolation and depression as they tried to navigate their education through online mediums. I believe that our educators and staff provide a critical network of support to our children; they have the opportunity to inspire, invest, empower and encourage our children to reach their full potential. Serving on school board is a way for me to support and encourage the vital work that our staff and educators do.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I am a graduate of Coupeville High School - I have deep connections and ties to this community, and I understand the dynamics of living and operating in a small town. I am a US Air Force veteran - I have gained valuable life experience through service and have received several accolades for hard work and professionalism. I am a Coupeville volunteer - The relationships that I have built with students, families, staff, administrators and teachers in our district gives me greater compassion and perspective in decision-making. I am a small business owner - I value the use of technology and the potential for connecting students into work experience and partnerships with local businesses. I am a parent - My husband and I are committed to helping this community raise great kids.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I have served Coupeville students for many years as a volunteer. I was the co-director of CES drama club for two years, I was a coach for CMS Math Olympiad, and I have actively volunteered with the PTA coordinating dances and school events. I was selected as a parent representative on school district hiring and advisory committees. Last year I helped the district deliver food and resources to students in need during school closures as well as execute the first ever resource fair connecting students with community organizations. I have worked with students in the classroom and on field trips and I've donated my design work to several Coupeville High School sports teams. I also volunteer with Young Life providing prosocial activities and mentorship for teenagers. I believe that each student deserves love and respect and that actively volunteering is a way of caring for and investing in their development.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The biggest issue I see facing our schools today is recovery from the effects of the pandemic. Many students struggled with the educational mediums and loss of learning, some struggled with mental health and isolation, while others struggled with sickness, grief, fear, and loss. This event reached past the lives of students and into the lives of staff and community members as well. As we return to full time in-person school, we must reengage one another, model compassion and patience, and work to strengthen the resilience of our educational community.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Complex problems require complex solutions. Recovery will take time and energy and significant amounts of patience. We must listen to our staff, families and students in order to understand their needs. We must model kindness and teamwork while prioritizing education. As our amazing staff works to identify academic needs and re-engage students, we can show support by ensuring they have sufficient personnel and resources. We can support students by creating safe spaces for social reengagement (including the arts, clubs and extra-curricular activities). We need to understand and continue to maintain health protocols so that we can keep students in the schools. We must examine and fund services and programs that address physical and mental health needs. Coupeville is a wonderful community, with a wonderful school system. My hope is that we can be diligent to support and care for one another as we rebuild after such a difficult past year.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I want to continue to build a climate of positivity and growth in our school district. I believe that Coupeville is an amazing place to grow up, and I envision a school district where we are equipping students for life. Through active listening, asking questions, and serving, I hope to bring new ideas and perspectives to the decision making process on the school board. I want to prioritize transparency, open lines of communication, and teamwork as we build collective goals for our school system.

Why should people vote for you?

I love Coupeville and believe in the families that we serve. I am already engaged, connected, and invested in the lives of Coupeville youth. Voting for me is a vote for somebody with a track record of dedicated service and a history of community involvement.



OAK HARBOR SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR, POS. 4

Jessica Thompson

Current Job: None given

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I am running for school board because I am very concerned with the direction our schools are heading. I feel public education is drifting away from fundamental skills and knowledge to politicized indoctrination, as well as disregarding parents voices. The welfare and education of our next generation concerns me greatly! Every child has unlimited potential, but ONLY when they are given the right tools and support.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I believe I have the fortitude to stand up to higher echelons of government who would rather have school boards in this State rubber stamp what is coming down from Olympia, than exercise their discretionary powers when setting policy in their respective districts. I also love children, and have always been active within the school districts where I've lived. I gained qualification as a substitute school bus driver in two different school districts as well as took on the position of assistant varsity softball coach for a struggling program, because I saw the need. And now, I feel that same need for our local school board.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I volunteered for many years at Project Angel Food (an organization which brings food to people with AIDS) down in Los Angeles, CA. I served in youth ministry at NW Gospel Church in Vancouver, WA, Living Word in Oak Harbor, WA, and am currently serving at Living Rock in Anacortes, WA. I also volunteered for a couple years at Boys & Girls Club in Vancouver, WA. I was also a substitute school bus driver in Camas, WA and Oak Harbor, WA, as well as an assistant varsity softball coach for Columbia River High School in Vancouver, WA for 5 years.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

I believe the biggest threats to our schools, here in Oak Harbor and elsewhere, are the over politicized and over sexualized environments that our elected officials in Olympia are creating. I don't believe our current board is exercising their Constitutional authority to combat these divisive, destructive and damaging policies.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

As an independently elected school board, we have the Constitutional authority to set policy how we see fit in our district. By actually listening and engaging with our constituents, we can get a better idea of what is important to them. I want to have more public discourse, because I truly care about the concerns and frustrations our parents are having. I believe through more public engagement a school board can better put forth policy that represents its community. I know you can't please everyone, and there will always be disagreement, but I do know, parents in this community do not feel heard and that bothers me. I want the community to know, that I will listen to them and I will fight for them. I am not interested in just rubber stamping anything that comes down from Olympia, but rather feel public engagement is the best source for solution.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

As a public servant, I will do just that, serve the public and not Olympia. Parents and the citizenry do not serve the public. I believe there has been a misconception over who serves whom, and too many public servants have become power hungry with the idea of being in authority, that they lose this idea of public servanthood. I will aim to have more parental involvement and direction of our educational system, because I do believe this is the proper arrangement of authority. I don't feel any school board has legitimate authority over our children if there is not consent or involvement from the parents.

Why should people vote for you?

I believe we need to get back to providing solid grounding in reading, writing, arithmetic and preparing our children for the real world. I will promote critical thinking and looking at all sides of an issue. I will promote and advocate for an emphasis on foundational educational principles, physical education, less politics and overcoming the negative effects COVID has had on our children. And most importantly, I will be an advocate for you the parent.



John L. Diamond

Current Job: Chief Operating Officer at Whidbey Tech Solutions, Inc.

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

We have done some really great work for our students. There are significant projects underway that need our very best focus and dedication. I will bring that continued steady leadership to guide us through this unprecedented time.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I have been serving the community on this board for the last 4 years. My fellow board members have selected me as the Board President for two consecutive years. I have a solid working relationship with this group, the administration, and other local leaders. I have completed the Leadership Whidbey training along with many other local leaders. I have over twelve years of experience with government budgets and understand how funding sources must be allocated.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I currently serve a few boards and councils throughout the community. I am an active member of the Oak Harbor Kiwanis club serving on the board. The County Commissioners appointed me to the County's Law and Justice Committee. I serve with the Oak Harbor Youth Coalition. I am the Executive Chair of the Leadership Whidbey oversight group.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The biggest issue currently for school boards and communities are recovering from the Pandemic and navigating the ever changing issues around it. We need to have students in class and working toward successfully recovering from the time away. Our teachers and staff have worked tirelessly to ensure this success and they need to be supported with steady leadership.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Oak Harbor was very proactive throughout the pandemic. We started a new virtual school, Oak Harbor Virtual Academy, as well as took advantage of other virtual environments. We continued to feed students throughout this time even when not in school. Oak Harbor Schools were the first in the region of our size to bring kids back. We held vaccination clinics to get all staff who were so inclined vaccinated. This Board and I will continue to take decisive action to ensure the safe return and continued success of our schools.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

Providing an environment and community where our students are given every opportunity to be successful in school and beyond is the ultimate goal. We have an obligation and an opportunity to create productive successful citizens from these young people.

Why should people vote for you?

We are currently working on Pandemic issues. We are working on an unprecedented construction Bond. We are working on hiring a new superintendent to lead our district into the future. These are all major undertakings that are mid-process. We need continued, focused, steady leadership that won't be side tracked or derailed by political rhetoric and one or two hot button topics. I will continue with this board in providing that leadership.





OAK HARBOR SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR, POS. 5

Jason Uemoto

Current Job: Retired Navy (I don't want to mention where I work)

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

It's become quite obvious that the current incumbents are not working for their constituents. As those constituents, Jessica and I feel that it's time to bring accountability to this current School Board's past actions.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

My prior Service and the oath I took to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. It's all our responsibilities to expose all who would subvert it.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

(as mentioned earlier) US Navy (20 Years, Retired)

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

First and foremost is that I feel the direction of this district (along with the country) has taken a drastic turn down the wrong path, with the real possibility that Racism and 'Equity' training (Critical Race Theory aka Marxists Ideas) has started to infiltrated this school district. (There is some evidence)

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Buy countering this material in the school district with more Constitutional oriented teachings. I still want to show all sides, because we need to show how communism and fascism are failed ideas that have caused large amounts of death and destruction in the world.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

A more balanced approach to students in this district, more focus on the basics and less on the 'social experimenting'. A more transparent School Board process, including an end to unconstitutional and restrictive 'zoom' meetings, and publicly available video retention of board members and petitioners/speakers (not currently happening). A more fiscally responsible, publicly inclusive, school facilities construction plan, where has all the monies gone for the last decade from the levies and bonds? The ending of mandates, parents can opt-in on their own choices they deem necessary for their children, parents have the plenary power over their children, not the government.

Why should people vote for you?

Parents in the other roughly 1,400 school districts in our great county have recognized and responded to the irrefutable evidence that the school boards do not have their best interests in mind. When confronted with the mirada of problems, sometimes introduced by the boards themselves, their unconstitutional actions as our elected representatives are even more disgraceful. Possibly simple answers become layered in subversively reinterpreted language. Fact-Based, Evidence-Based, Science-Based policies are what I stand for, not segregation of students into groups to divided and indoctrinate. Free and open debate of ideas is paramount, censorship for the sake of 'safety' has no place in America. The weaponization of the DOJ and FBI against concerned parents should show that these traitors to their oaths of office are loosing big. I aim to bring sanity and responsibility to voters back the the School Board.



Erik Mann

Current Job: Chief Operating Officer, Habitat for Humanity of Island County

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

I am seeking re-election to finish the important work I have started and my priorities are in three key areas:

- 1) Due to the unprecedented forced closures of schools and remote learning challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic, there is much work to be done to make up for lost learning opportunities, and it is the board's role to provide the resources and tools necessary.
- 2)OHPS will be selecting a new superintendent that will lead the district for the foreseeable future, and a stable, high functioning board will help to attract high-quality candidates.
- 3)The board is working on replacing several aging facilities including potentially four schools and the transportation center and will be entering a bond campaign to replace the expiring bonds for the high school and stadium construction.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I am a parent of two children enrolled in Oak Harbor Public Schools and I am a graduate of Oak Harbor High School. I have served four years on the board, all four years I have been appointed the legislative representative to the board. I remain active in advocacy efforts through the Washington State School Directors Association, and continue to advocate for our students at the state and national level. I have actively participated in board development work, continuing education opportunities and conferences, earning a certificate from WSSDA for Advanced Leadership in 2018.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I have been active in community service to Oak harbor for more than 15 years. I am a proud member of the Kiwanis Club of Oak Harbor, serving as a past board member and past president, earning the Kiwanian of the year award in 2008. I have served on the Oak Harbor Youth Sailing Board of Directors for more than 10 years, and founded the Wildcat Sailing Team (high school aged competitive racing team) which I coached for 7 years. I have served on the Board of Directors for the Northwest Interscholastic Sailing Association for 5 years, ushering in more than 200% growth during my tenure.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The largest issue facing our community is the continued presence of Covid-19. With record case rates and reluctance to vaccinate or follow mask mandates, Covid-19 continues to be a divisive issue, a major challenge and a risk to our school children, staff and community.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Continued reliance on the best available information and guidance from the Department of Health, Center for Disease Control, and other experts in their own fields of study. Oak Harbor Public Schools has proven that our rigorous adherence to that guidance can significantly reduce the risk of transmitting the virus at school even during elevated levels of community transmission. Working with our employee groups and families to continue to adapt to the ever-changing situation will be key to limiting risk to all.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I intend to set up Oak Harbor Public Schools for continued success for generations by hiring a dynamic new superintendent who will guide our district, and by passing a bond measure to modernize our schools. We have a monumental opportunity to replace four aging schools and the transportation center with an unprecedented amount of outside matching funds that nearly double the impact of our local tax dollars. If passed, these schools will serve our community for generations. The majority of our elementary schools were built more than 50 years ago, it is time to modernize our facilities and ensure that future students have the facilities and tools to be successful for at least the next 50 years.

Why should people vote for you?

A vote for Erik Mann is a vote for competent and dedicated leadership who thoughtfully supports the goals of excellence for staff and students at a key moment in time where stability and foresight are imperative. I am ready face the continued challenges of our district head on and am focused on creating the best environment for student success. My first four years in office have built a solid foundation and allowed me to acquire the skills and knowledge to lead OHPS through the continuing recovery from Covid-19 and charting the course for future improvement. I actively engage in educational opportunities, networking, and advocacy efforts through WSSDA with board members from other school districts and I have volunteered on the Citizens for Better Schools Committee to support levy and bond measures.





PORT OF COUPEVILLE COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3

Mike Seraphinoff

Current Job: Academic consultant in languages and literature for the International Baccalaureate Organization

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

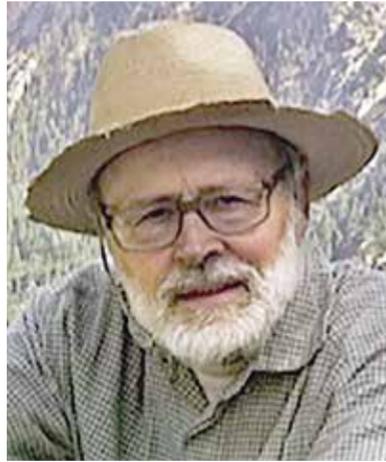
No one even applied during the regular filing period for the Port Commission position, so I thought it my civic duty. Fortunately, another very able candidate has also stepped forward.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

Long-time experience and involvement in my community, some 45 years as a resident and property owner of south central Whidbey.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

Board membership experience on several community non profits, including South Whidbey Tilth and the Opportunity Council. I was also a Chair of the Greenbank Community Council and former president of the Greenbank Progressive Club.



What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

It is my understanding that the Coupeville Port was initially formed back in the 1960's when it was believed that a hand over of the Navy's Coupeville Outlying Field property to the port was likely and that the community needed a port commission to manage this property as a county air field. The Coupeville OLF is mostly thought of today as a permanent operation of the Navy, but nothing is permanent. Witness the break up of the Soviet Empire and the tearing down of the Berlin Wall. We thought that those were quite permanent too.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Consider the ways the port might begin a conversation with the Navy over their eventual turning of the Coupeville OLF over to the port for management as a county airfield.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

After a period of initial learning of port operations and functions, have the port consider a few of the things that concern me. These include finding decent access parking on the farm for those wishing to use the public beach access adjoining the Greenbank Farm. I would also like the port to look at ways the port property at the farm might help provide at least minimal tent camping opportunities since the South Whidbey state park no longer offers this.

Why should people vote for you?

If you like the ideas I have discussed above and value my past experience and involvement in our community, you might consider voting for me.

Patrick Kennedy

Current Job: Commercial and nonprofit advisor

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

Since moving to Greenbank (from Seattle) nearly five years ago, I have fallen in love with our island community. Between the many friendships developed, our rural values, land, waters, habitat, there is so much that makes our Island community, incredibly, unique. As I walk my own sixteen acres of land, watch the goldfinches at our birdfeeders, or see Eagles soar over our tree line, I'm continuously amazed with this island we all call home.

My passion is to help organizations that promote conservation practices as well as disciplined economic development benefiting low- and moderate-income families. Being elected as our Port Commissioner will help direct our port to fulfilling what I see as its core reason to be.



What qualifies you to run for this position?

I have more than thirty years of corporate finance and organizational development experience, working with many larger corporations, smaller entrepreneurial companies, and nonprofit organizations. Since moving to Whidbey Island, I have devoted significant time and resources to our community. This has included board and committee roles at our local economic development council, land trust, Shakespeare festival, Goosefoot as well as the Whidbey Community Funds. My contributions have also encompassed in recent years other regional organizations serving underrepresented communities and land trusts.

In addition to both my professional and volunteer roles, earlier this year I fulfilled my later career commitment to earn a PhD (adding to my MBA academic credentials) in a leading organizational leadership doctoral program. Combined with my leadership (SVP/Exec level) roles I have had with leading international banks, smaller regional financial institutions, and area nonprofits, I have significant experience to share with my community.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

[No answer given]

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

I see the biggest challenge facing central and south Whidbey Island being to balance growth with existing rural values. Challenging working families with housing costs that are just too expensive to afford. Too many times, I've seen existing communities become overwhelmed with such unbridled growth. The pressures driving economic development too strong for those who seek to preserve a semblance of the community culture for the families that live here today.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

The Coupeville Port manages several core properties in our region. It also should have a responsibility to promote higher value jobs. Relevant to this district position, and to my Greenbank home, is the Greenbank Farm. Through my most recent volunteer work with a related island project, the Bayview Vision Steering Group, I see the port as having the potential to up its game providing more leadership with the future development of our immediate region. For example, a disciplined, planned job development program that benefits the people who live here today. Housing options that help people who give their lives to service professions. If elected, I'm confident that I would bring to the table the skills, contacts, and determination to ensure our community values thrive through this planned community development.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

My doctoral dissertation homed in on anecdotal observations over a thirty-year professional career. People that experience servant leadership tend to go the extra mile, having a passion and commitment level that achieves exceptional results. This is the vision and leadership I expect this elected official to fulfill. Combined with relationships I've developed over my professional career, I envision my district being an even healthier community because of my service. We deserve nothing less.

Why should people vote for you?

I care about my community. I have the deep professional and demonstrated island volunteer experience to make a difference, to move this port to its next level.

Please visit my LinkedIn site for more background: www.linkedin.com/in/patrickkennedyseattle/

Thank you.

VOTE





Business has 6 seats looking out for its interests, you should have one looking out for yours. Vote Andy Plumlee for City Council Seat #7



ELECT
**ANDY
PLUMLEE**
TO CITY COUNCIL

★ A VOICE FOR THE REST OF US ★

Paid for by Committee to Elect Andy Plumlee for City Council Seat #7



The Time Is Now For New Leadership In Our Schools!

Vision



We are committed to putting parents rights and voices first. No school board has authority over our children without the consent and involvement from parents.



VOTE

**Oak Harbor
School Board**
Jessica Thompson
Position 4
Jason Uemoto
Position 5



Election November 2nd

Paid for By Elect Jessica Thompson and Jason Uemoto For Oak Harbor School Board



SOUTH WHIDBEY FIRE/EMS COMMISSIONER, POS. 3

Jim Towers

Current Job: I am the Chief Concept Engineer for Elliott Bay Design Group, a marine consultancy based in Seattle. I am a registered Professional Engineer specializing in ship design. My job is to lead a technical team of engineers and designers developing new marine concepts. Currently we are focusing on alternative fuels to reduce or eliminate harmful emissions.

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

After 35 years with South Whidbey Fire/EMS as a volunteer Firefighter/EMT, I am keen to stay engaged. The next few years will be very challenging as SWF/E tries to rebuild its volunteer force. Recent years have seen the force drop from over sixty volunteers to around 30. Both commissioners with fire department experience are leaving the board. It is important that one of the commissioners have a good insight into the workings of the Fire Department as well as the community they serve.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I have 35 years working as a volunteer Firefighter/EMT for SWF/E, serving as a Station Captain for over 25 years. As a part owner and member of the Board of Directors for Elliott Bay Design Group I have a good understanding of the role of a board. In previous positions with local shipyards, I have been a member of the management team, giving me insight in successful businesses. My career has required that I have a solid knowledge of budgeting and project management. I have managed teams of up to 30 employees helping me to understand the human side of the organizations.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

My family moved to South Whidbey and bought our current house in 1986. During that time, I served as a volunteer firefighter/EMT for 35 years. My daughters both rode horses and I was involved with both 4H (Whidbey Wranglers) and Pony Club during their school years.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

The biggest issue for SWF/E is the loss of the volunteer firefighter/EMT force. The alternatives are either a drastic reduction in service, or, if we transition to more paid firefighters, a steep increase in the department's levy. While the transition to a fully paid department is quite possible in the future if current population growth continues, the time is not yet. The department had a 47% increase in its levy in 2021, in large part for full time employee wages. If the volunteer force cannot be rebuilt in the immediate future either more levy increases or less service are the only options.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

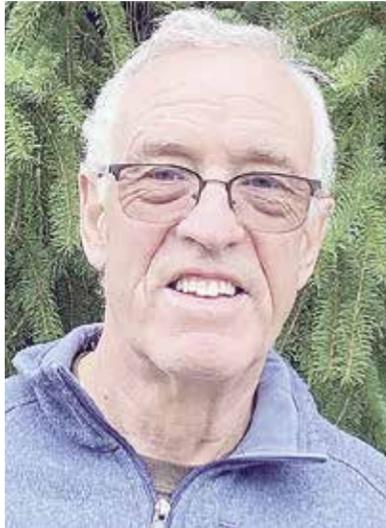
Chief Palmer retires at the end of March 2022. As a newly commissioned board member in January, I will be immediately involved in the selection process for his replacement. I will work to select a Chief who has achieved good results in a combined paid/volunteer department. The Board needs to provide clear direction to the new Chief if the goal of rebuilding the volunteer force is to be met. The new commissioner needs to hit the ground running

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

1. A combined/paid Fire Department that provides an excellent working environment for both paid and volunteers alike.
2. A career path for the paid firefighters to rise to the Chief ranks.
3. Good retention at all levels.
4. Good service levels to the public at affordable costs. We cannot afford to see taxation levels increase dramatically. Currently the levy is 95 cents. The commissioners must work to keep this below 110 and preferably lower.

Why should people vote for you?

I believe that I am well qualified for the job and will serve as a good conduit between the taxpayers and the Fire Department.



Savannah Erickson

Current Job: Small business owner

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

This is my first time running for office, but it's something I started dreaming about when I was younger. As I learned about the open positions this summer and talked to family and friends about running, the South Whidbey Fire/EMS (SWFE) commissioner opportunity rose to the top as the best fit for my experience. In order to make a difference, one must engage, and serving on the board of commissioners is an opportunity to ensure that the services provided meet our community's needs.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I bring more than a decade of experience working for the Federal Emergency Management Agency from 2007 to early 2021. I served as part of the Command Staff as a communicator working with state and local partners to respond to major disasters. My work took me across the country responding to wildfires, earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. I had the opportunity to see different styles of governance, different resources and how they positively and negatively affect communities and varying attitudes in responding to these life-changing events. Some approaches work better than others. My national perspective showed me how strong (or weak) local government can be, and often left me impressed by how a coordinated effort can solve big problems.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

My job with FEMA was about serving the nation and helping people when they needed it most. I first worked in Washington for the 2009 flooding, and then in 2014 for the Oso slide. More recently, my husband and I volunteered to do trail work for the Washington Trail Association. I donate to causes rounding up my grocery bill at The Goose, I tip service people well, I make monthly contributions to KEXP and other organizations that support causes I and my friends care about. The pandemic has left me more physically distant, but I hope that there will be opportunities to continue to serve the community in addition to being a SWFE commissioner.

I'm an active participant in our Buy Nothing Community, where we give and receive items for free. I had some unused rides on a vehicle pass that I know helped out several members of the community.

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

Affordable housing. The staggering price of housing on the island is not unique; we are feeling the effects of not building enough housing to meet demand nationally, paired with a pandemic-induced, work-from-home diaspora from cities. Our local businesses are reducing hours and services because they don't have adequate housing for workers. Having a safe, healthy place to live is critical for people to thrive within our community.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

SWFE has increased its budget to pay for full-time firefighters and EMTs, build a new facility in Bayview, and new equipment. These improvements will lead to a reduction in our insurance rating (that's good). Property owners who carry insurance should see their rates go down. If we can save money in our budget, I would like to pass those savings on to taxpayers, but we have to provide the equipment and resources to our department so they can effectively deliver services.

We face a challenge of how to address a reduction in volunteer firefighters, which also affects our insurance rating. This is a national and global trend - economic demands mean that volunteering as firefighters and EMTs no longer makes financial sense. That is beyond my control, but we do have the opportunity to improve how we manage and communicate with our volunteers to retain them and lower our insurance rating.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

As fire/EMS commissioner, I plan to ensure that our department has the resources it needs to serve the public and its members at the highest standards. I will ensure that we are fiscally responsible. Based on conversations that I have had with members in our community, the profile of our fire/EMS commissioners is low, and I'd like to change that. As commissioner, I have the responsibility to be a good example to others, and represent the department. While some aspects of the work aren't always the most scintillating, I still think we could have a little more fun than we do now. I would like to engage more with the community so that I might meet more people who can name at least one SWFE commissioner.

Why should people vote for you?

I am asking for your vote because I believe that government is about us thriving together. I believe that we should always strive to learn, do our best, and improve. I will be an open and honest commissioner. I have an exceptional background of financial responsibility from helping my mom pay off her house, starting a business that quickly went from red to black this year, following the rules with my FEMA credit card and being a good steward of taxpayer dollars as a government employee. I have extensive experience in disaster preparedness, response, and coalition building. One of the main roles I had working for FEMA was listening to the public and relaying their concerns to leadership with recommendations on how to effectively communicate services and programs available to disaster survivors. This is a unique skill that will be invaluable as a SWFE commissioner.



YOUR VOTE
Counts



NORTH WHIDBEY POOL, PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSIONER, POSITION 4

Brittany (Brit) Kraner

Current Job: IT Business Applications Analyst at WhidbeyHealth

Why do you seek election (or reelection)?

Community involvement is a passion of mine and one of my favorite activities on the island has been going to the pool. I have seen the district weather many obstacles and I believe that fresh perspectives can propel them even further down a positive path.

What qualifies you to run for this position?

I have extensive education in both political science and business administration/ data analytics. Aside from that, I have the drive to see that NWPPRD succeeds moving forward.

In what ways, or through which organizations, have you served your community?

I have worked for Whidbey Health for the past several years with the majority of my employment being in admissions staff. In this role, I did my best to see that those I encountered on their worst days did not experience more stress along the way.

I am also an Assistant Coach for Oak Harbor Youth League Cheerleaders (Midget team).

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing your community?

There are two populations: military and civilian. It is rare that these two communities blend.

How do you intend to help deal with the aforementioned issue?

Through community outreach and programming, this gap could easily be filled. I would like to develop some events that target this very issue and start getting our community more blended.

What do you hope to accomplish through your public service?

I would like to partner with NASWI to renegotiate the pool contract with MWR so military families can utilize the facility at low, or no, cost to them.

I hope to establish events that are budget friendly for community families while increasing revenue for NWPPRD by 2% in the first year, 3% the second year, and 5% by the end of year three.

Why should people vote for you?

I care about this community and the challenges it faces. I have seen the issues from both the civilian side and from the military side. As I have lived in both, I recognize how different the two worlds are, but see the similarities we can all use to build one bigger, and better, community as a whole.



VS.

Steve McCaslin

No response received



As a Whidbey Island resident, I am passionate about local access to quality healthcare and understand the impact it has on the quality of life for each of us.

Like healthcare systems everywhere, WhidbeyHealth faces the challenges of attracting and retaining providers and staff and keeping up with necessary infrastructure improvements.

WHEN EXPERIENCE COUNTS

- 44 years practicing law predominately in healthcare law, representing hospitals (including public district hospitals), hospital boards, physicians, medical groups, ambulatory surgery centers, nurses, individual pharmacists, and pharmacies.
- 4.5 years as WhidbeyHealth Commissioner representing citizens of District 2.
- My extensive experience in healthcare and my legal expertise have helped inform the complex and sometimes difficult decisions the WhidbeyHealth Board makes to ensure a positive impact our community.

MY COMMITMENT:

I want to continue contributing my experience and expertise in health care and healthcare law to preserve and improve the availability of local, exceptional healthcare for Island Country residents.

I am committed to preserving the independence of Whidbey Health for Island County residents, who are the taxpayer owners of the hospital, its clinics, and its EMS service.

I ask for your vote so that I may continue to utilize my knowledge, experience and talents to contribute to WhidbeyHealth's commitment to the delivery of high-quality healthcare- *close to home*.

Thank you!

Kurt Blankenship

Kurt Blankenship
Commissioner District #2

[Facebook.com/Kurt-Blankenship](https://www.facebook.com/Kurt-Blankenship)

SUPPORT LOCAL HEALTHCARE

[Facebook.com/HealthyWhidbey](https://www.facebook.com/HealthyWhidbey)



ABOUT PROPOSITION #1

This ballot measure requests voter approval of an increase in the property tax levy to support WhidbeyHealth operating costs.

For homeowners of a \$400,000 residence, this represents an increase of \$3.25 per week; a fraction of library and school taxes.

THE NEED: Taxpayer support is urgently needed.

- Insurances pay less than \$0.50 for every \$1 of service – and routinely deny patients needed coverage.
- COVID-19 has cost the hospital more than \$18 million. When compared to the \$115 million annual operating budget, this is a huge impact.

CARING FOR US 24/7*

8200	EMS calls
17,795	ED Patients
293	Babies born
1,483	Surgeries
4,833	Overnight stays
105,164	Outpatient visits
17,000+	Vaccines delivered

*Calendar year 2020

TIME FOR ACTION: WhidbeyHealth has not asked for an increase in the operating levy in **57 years**. It's our turn to step up and keep our Family Birthplace, Trauma Center, Women's Clinic, Cancer Center and other important services **close to home**.

WHERE WILL THE MONEY GO?

- Retaining existing staff by offering all a living wage, especially for support and clerical staff.
- Recruiting additional providers to meet the needs of our growing community.
- Improving long-outdated technology to help providers easily and effectively treat patients.
- Improving communications systems to provide better patient access to their doctors.

Vote Yes!
on Prop #1

MAIL OR DROP YOUR BALLOT BEFORE *Nov 2nd*

CITIZENS FOR A HEALTHY WHIDBEY
WE ARE ALL CONNECTED

Vote Responsibly

STEP #1
Become an informed citizen.

STEP #2
Cast an informed ballot!



It's not too late to register to vote!

You can register to vote in the Nov. 2 general election in person at the Elections Office in Coupeville or at the Island County Camano Annex during regular business hours. You can also register in person at the Coupeville office until 8 p.m. on the day of the election. Voter registrations by any other method must be received by an elections official no later than 8 days before an election in order to vote in that election.

You can register to vote online at www.VoteWA.gov if you have a valid Washington driver's license or ID card. (This must be completed no later than 8 days before the election.) You may also complete a Washington State Voter Registration Form (available online: https://www.sos.wa.gov/_assets/elections/vrf_print_2020_english.pdf) and send it in via mail, email or fax. It must be received no later than 8 days before the election.

To check whether you are registered to vote in Washington, you can confirm your registration online at www.VoteWA.gov. Find complete information online at the Island County Auditor's Election web page by going to islandcountywa.gov.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ELECTIONS OFFICE

On Whidbey Island:

Elections Office

400 N Main St., Coupeville,

Email: Elections@islandcountywa.gov

Phone 360-679-7366

Fax Number: 360-678-2326

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1410 Coupeville, WA 98239

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday

On Camano Island:

Camano Annex, 121 N East Camano Dr., Camano Island

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5000, Coupeville, WA 98239-5000

Phone: 360-387-3443

Office Hours: 8 a.m.–Noon/ 1-3 p.m., Monday-Friday

***For more information,
contact the Island County
Auditor's Office at
islandcountywa.gov***