

Voter Guide—Mecklenburg County, NC

GENERAL ELECTION - NOV. 8, 2011



KNOW BEFORE YOU GO !!

Before heading to the polls, please make sure your registration is up to date so your vote will count on Nov. 8. See below for Board of Elections contact information.

Using One-Stop Early Voting is also the best way to vote if your registration is not up to date.

See back cover for One-Stop Early Voting Locations & Ride to the Polls number

See Pages 2-4 for Sample Ballot

There are 3 ways to vote in NC:

#1: VOTE BY MAIL: From Oct. 7 to Nov. 1, you can request an Absentee Ballot – a ballot that is mailed to the address you specify and then mailed back after you complete it. You do not need an excuse to vote with an Absentee Ballot. To obtain an Absentee Ballot, you or a near relative must write your local Board of Elections; do **not** use a pre-filled out form. Send a simple letter with the voter's name, address of registration and date of birth, where the Absentee Ballot should be mailed to, and the signature of the voter or the person making the request for the voter. If the request is from a relative, it must also include that person's name, address and relationship to the voter. It is also a good idea to include a phone number or email address in case your Board of Elections needs to contact you for any reason. Follow the instructions sent with the Ballot very carefully.

#2: VOTE EARLY IN PERSON. From Oct. 20 to Nov.5, you can vote by going to any One-Stop Early Voting site in your county. Going to one of these sites is also the best way to vote if you have moved within your county or if you are not registered yet and want to use Same Day Registration.

3: VOTE ON ELECTION DAY. On November 8, vote at your precinct's voting place (your "polling place") between 6:30 AM and 7:30 PM. Your precinct is based on your home address and appears on the voter card mailed to you when you registered. You do **not** need the card to vote. Call your Board of Elections or check the websites on the back cover of this guide to find your polling place. **NOTE: 13 election day voting locations have been relocated. Call 704-336-2133 or visit their website at www.meckboe.org.**

Internet Links with additional voter resources for Mecklenburg County

www.CharMeckVotes.org
CLTVotes.us
www.goleaguego.org
www.Vote411.org

Sponsored by Kids Voting & League of Women Voters
WTVI/League of Women Voters debates
League of Women Voters of Charlotte-Mecklenburg
League of Women Voters Education Fund

Produced by the
Citizen Education Foundation of the **League of Women Voters of Charlotte-Mecklenburg**



Candidates shown below were asked to fill out a questionnaire for the League of Women Voters. See the following pages for answers from all candidates that responded by the deadline. Candidate answers have been copied verbatim from their questionnaires. LWVC-M has not corrected typos or any other errors. If photos were submitted by candidates, they have been used. Candidate information is printed in alphabetical order within the office. Municipalities are listed in alphabetical order. Offices are non-partisan unless otherwise noted.

Countywide: Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board At-Large—vote for three (3)

Name	Information On	Name	Information On
Larry Bumgarner	Page 6	Ken Nelson	Page 10
Elyse Dashew	Pages 6-7	Hans Peter Plotseneder	Pages 10-11
Ericka Ellis-Stewart	Pages 7-8	Aaron J. Pomis	Pages 12-13
Keith Hurley	Pages 8-9	Darrin L. Rankin	Page 13
Mary T. McCray	Pages 9-10	Lloyd Scher	Pages 13-14
DeShauna L. McLamb	Page 10	Jeff Wise	Page 15
Tim Morgan	Page 10		

City of Charlotte Mayor—vote for one (1)

Name	Party	Information On
Anthony Foxx	Democratic	Pages 16-17
Scott Stone	Republican	Pages 16-17

City of Charlotte Council At-Large—vote for four (4)

Name	Party	Information On
Patrick D. Cannon	Democratic	Page 18
Claire Fallon	Democratic	Page 19
Christopher Hailey	Republican	Pages 19-20
David Howard	Democratic	Pages 20-21
Mohamed Moustafa	Republican	Page 21
Edwin B. Peacock III	Republican	Pages 21-22
Beth Pickering	Democratic	Pages 22-23
Alexander G. Vuchnich	Libertarian	Page 23
Curtis Watkins	Republican	Page 24

City of Charlotte Council Districts—vote for one (1) in your district

District	Democrat	Republican	Information On
District 1	Patsy Kinsey	David Michael Rice	Page 25
District 2	James (Smuggie) Mitchell, Jr.		No General Election this District
District 3	LaWana Mayfield	Ed Toney	Pages 26-27
District 4	Michael D. Barnes	Larry Shannon	Pages 27-28
District 5	John Autry	Dennis Peterson	Pages 28-29
District 6		Andy Dulin	No General Election this District
District 7		Warren Cooksey	No General Election this District

Town of Cornelius		
Seat	Name	Information On
Mayor—vote for one (1)	Jeffery P. Tarte	Pages 39-31
Board of Commissioners—vote for five (5)	John R. Bradford III, Dave Gilroy, Jeff Hare, Lynette D. Rinker, Thurman Ross, Jr., Chuck Travis	Pages 39-31
Town of Davidson		
Mayor—vote for one (1)	Vince Winegardner, John M. Woods	Pages 31-32
Board of Commissioners—vote for five (5)	Kristen Coupal, Jim Fuller, Rodney Graham, Brian Jenest, Mickey Pettus, Laurie Venzon, Connie J. Wessner	Pages-35
Town of Huntersville		
Mayor—vote for one (1)	Beth (Danae) Caulfield, Jill Swain, Sandy Tilley	Pages 35-36
Board of Commissioners—vote for six (6)	Melinda Bales, Adam Boatsman, Charles S. Guignard, Charles Jeter, Ron Julian, Sarah R. McAulay, Dempsey Miller, Jeff Neely, Danny Phillips, Adam Planty, Brian Sisson	Pages 37-42
Town of Matthews		
Seat	Name	Information On
Mayor—vote for one (1)	James P. (Jim) Taylor	Page 43
Board of Commissioners—vote for six (6)	Paul Bailey, Suzanne Gulley, Jeff Miller, Nancy LaFond Moore, Joe Pata, Kress Query, John R Urban	Pages 43-45
Town of Mint Hill		
Mayor—vote for one (1)	Ted H. Biggers, Jr., Jean Bonner	Pages 45-46
Board of Commissioners—vote for four (4)	Lloyd D. Austin, Carl (Mickey) Ellington, Christopher W. McAvoy, Brenda McRae, Eric Random, Katrina (Tina) Weaver Ross, Derrick Snyder	Pages 46-49
Town of Pineville		
Mayor—vote for one (1)	George C. Fowler	Page 49
Board of Commissioners—vote for four (4)	Al Baskins, Libby Boyd Boatwright, Melissa Rogers Davis, Jim Eschert, Deborah B. Fowler, L. R. (Les) Gladden, David H. Macala, David Phillips	Pages 49-52

The Basics on Voting in North Carolina



... if you can answer "Yes" to all three of these questions:

- 1) Are you a U.S. citizen?
- 2) Will you be at least 18 on Election Day, Nov. 8?
- 3) Will you live at your address for at least 30 days before Election Day?

You have the right to vote....

These are the basic requirements and they mean that you can vote if you are a student living on campus; or an ex-felon who has finished your sentence, including probation; or a person awaiting trial or serving a misdemeanor sentence; or a person who cannot read; or someone who has only lived in NC for a month before Nov. 8. **But you must register before you vote.**

Registering to vote is easy!

To register, you fill out a form that asks for your name, address and birth date. You need to provide your NC driver's license



number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number or another form of identification (or be prepared to show ID when you first vote). Other acceptable forms of ID include a utility bill (phone, gas, etc.), bank statement, paycheck stub or any government document with your residential address on it. Homeless people can list a shelter as their address. You can ask for help filling out the form if you need it.

To obtain a form, call or visit your local Board of Elections or call 1-866-522-4723. You can also get a registration form at any public library, high school, or Department of Social Services, public health, or Division of Motor Vehicles office. Or you can print a form from this website: www.sboe.state.nc.us. If the library or other office does not promise to mail in the

form, mail it yourself to your local Board of Elections. By two weeks later, you should receive a voter card with information about your precinct and where to vote.

What if I am a student?

You may register in your old hometown and vote there – or you can declare your new address as your home, even if it's a dorm on campus, because that is where you go "home" day after day.

When to register:

There are two deadlines when it comes to registering to vote. If you choose to mail in your form or give it to another person to turn in, the form must be submitted to the Board of Elections by Oct. 14. Or you can use Same Day Registration and register in person at a One-Stop, Early Voting center in your county from Oct. 20—Nov 5. See details below:

Help! It's after Oct. 14th... can I still register to vote?!

Don't panic! You can register (and vote on the same day) using Same Day Registration & Voting (SDR) during the statewide One-Stop, Early Voting period from Oct. 20-Nov. 5..

But you cannot use Same Day Registration on Election Day. To use SDR, visit an Early Voting location in your county (See back page of this Voter Guide). You need to show election officials one of these IDs with your name and current address: a NC driver's license, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck stub, student ID with a school document showing your address or a license, permit, bill or any other government document.

What if I changed my name?

To avoid problems when you vote, whenever your personal information changes, you should fill out a new voter registration form. If you haven't done this by Oct. 8, it's best to vote at an Early Voting site where you can update your registration.



Unpacking? Be sure to update!

You must change your voter registration when you move to a new county. And even if you've moved within the same county, you should update your registration. Use the same form as a new voter but fill out an extra section asking for your old address so the state can cancel your old registration and assign you a new polling place. If you moved within the same county and forgot to change your registration, go to an Early Voting site during the Early Voting period or go to your old polling place on Election Day and ask for a "Provisional Ballot."

Can I vote if I am an ex-felon?

Yes. You temporarily lose your citizenship rights if you are convicted of a felony. But, no matter where you were convicted, your rights are automatically restored in NC after you serve your complete sentence, including probation or parole. You don't need a special document – just register and vote like any other citizen.

Do you have a loved one serving in the military?

Voters outside the U.S. or in the military can vote using an Absentee Ballot (see details at right) and have the option of faxing or scanning their Absentee Ballot request and sending it in as an attachment to an email – contact your local Board of Elections for details.



Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Larry Bumgarner



Website URL: www.Deconsolidate.com
Email: Larry@Deconsolidate.com
Phone Number: 704.919.1230
Facebook Page or URL:
Twitter name or URL: @Deconsolidate
Current Occupation: Retired Early
Education–Highest Degree: Bachelors In Business Admin.
Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Marriage, Religion, Many Volunteer Organizations.

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Original Volunteer of Gang of one. Mentor for most Challenged Schools, Volunteered in the most Challenged Neighborhoods.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): Actual knowledge of why we have gangs in Charlotte after volunteering in the neighborhoods we have ignored and allowed them to have and run for years. I now want to start working on the real problem instead of the symptoms.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): To make sure that this time we put every option to educate our Children on the table. We have tried what we have for the last fifty years and if you are happy then vote for the same old thing. But my focus is that nothing should be held back this time around.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): Making choice the first and foremost for each Child. A study which can be seen at www.WestCharlotte.com shows that choice made all the difference in many lives so far and that is the key.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Contact the nearest school and ask them what you can help them with. Why waste your time with politics when a long term help in the actual school is lasting. Better yet find a Teacher and send them some financial support for supplies each month.

Elyse Dashew



Website URL: DashewforSchoolBoard.com
Email: DashewforSchoolBoard@gmail.com
Phone Number: (704) 659-1029
Facebook Page or URL: DashewforSchoolBoard
Twitter name or URL: ElyseDashew
Current Occupation: Community Volunteer/
Education Advocate
Education–Highest Degree: Brown University,
BA
Most important organizations you belong to

(up to three): MeckFUTURE, 5 for 55 Coalition, Alliance for Language Immersion

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit):

1. Leading the School Leadership Team at my children's school (2010-2011), coordinated advocacy efforts and managed communication within school and with members of School Board and CMS Staff
2. Co-Founding and Co-Chairing MeckFUTURE (2011), a grassroots network uniting families from over 40 schools in support of adequate funding for public education.
3. Joining the 5 for 55 Coalition (2011), working on behalf of school funding together with representatives from advocacy groups including CMAE, Council for Children's Rights, Crossroads Charlotte, Jesus Ministries, League of Women Voters, MeckACTS, MeckEd, NAACP, and Save Our Schools Initiative

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): While running a small business, I gained valuable experience in working with others in a collaborative manner to solve complex problems. To ensure effective outcomes, it was essential to communicate clearly, and to find and create a shared vision with people who had different (sometimes conflicting) needs and interests.

I chaired the School Leadership Team at my children's school during a time of upheaval. This taught me to rally a community to channel our passions into productive engagement, to work together for the common good, to take a positive and fact-based approach to problem-solving, and to strive to interact respectfully and compassionately with others in the community and with government officials.

I co-founded and co-chaired MeckFUTURE, and joined the "5 for 55" coalition. Both groups were broad-based, including school supporters with very different backgrounds and worldviews. I learned the power of joining voices and building bridges.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): Our school system is the bedrock of our community. I am passionate about bringing people together to plug into solutions that will strengthen our school system and improve opportunity for all children, because our community's well being – our region's prosperity – depends upon this.

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Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Elyse Dashew (cont'd)

As an advocate for public education, I have worked collaboratively with people of many different backgrounds and worldviews. I have brought people around the table to find common ground and take action together on solutions. I believe that I can make a greater difference by bringing this approach to the school board.

I am committed to listening first, to leading thoughtfully and respectfully, and to building strong partnerships to find the best solutions for our children and CMS.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit):

To ensure that ALL children within CMS receive a good education, I would strive to accomplish the following:

- Continuing Weighted Student Staffing, which has been proven to narrow the achievement gap by allocating extra staff to schools based on the number of Economically Disadvantaged students
- Identifying successful educational partnerships within the community—tap into and support these already existing resources, help to eliminate bureaucratic roadblocks so that more students can benefit from these programs.
- Hosting "Student Summits" in which I'll connect with students in person and via social media. We'll jointly explore the challenges and opportunities in our education system, and I'll seek to learn from the perspective of our students.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit):

I welcome your collaboration, input and help! Just go to elysedashew.com/volunteer/ and fill out the volunteer form. My campaign manager, Chris Bishop, and my volunteer coordinator, Logan Smith, can also be reached through the "Contact" section of my website: elysedashew.com/contact/ or via the phone number or email address listed above. We'd love for you to join the campaign!

Ericka Ellis-Stewart



Website URL: www.ericka4cmsboard.com

Email: ericka4cmsboard@yahoo.com

Phone Number: 980-229-0338

Facebook Page or URL: Ericka Ellis-Stewart, Advocate for Education PAGE LINK: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ericka-Ellis-Stewart-Advocate-for-Education/107651582650771>

Twitter name or URL: Ericka4CMSBoard PAGE LINK: www.twitter.com/Ericka4CMSBoard

Current Occupation: External Relations, UNC Charlotte

Education—Highest Degree: Bachelor of Arts - Queens University of Charlotte

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): School Leadership Team, Piedmont IB Middle School & Harding University High School, Mecklenburg County Crime & Justice Task Force and CMS Long-Range Facilities Master Plan Task Force

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit):

- 1) Galvanizing magnet school parents to mitigate the challenges (i.e., program attrition) associated with the roll-out of the Shuttle Stop program. With another parent leader, I co-led the effort that brought over 400 parents together to discuss the challenges and formulate solutions.
- 2) Participating in the Achieve Together Advocacy training program. Achieve Together, a project of The Lee Institute, is a community partnership that connects local residents with people, training, data and support to become advocates for positive change in the CMS. The goal is to collectively push for constructive changes that will improve student achievement and graduation rates.
- 3) Being appointed to and serving on the Meck. Co. Crime & Justice Task Force, a 14-member, non-partisan Rapid Review Team tasked with identifying and recommending opportunities for immediate and substantive changes to the operations of city, county and state criminal justice agencies in the County to enhance effectiveness.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): I am a thoughtful leader who is concerned with moving this community forward. Over the last decade, I have served on a number of local boards and I have had the privilege of serving my community as the leader of two non-profit agencies with large boards. This work has taught me how to work within the board/staff leader governance structure. I would bring that understanding and expertise to the table and use it to create working agreements with my colleagues as well as the interim and incoming Superintendent. I have also developed positive working relationships with a number of the current and previous CMS board members.

Professionally, my skill sets include: Budget Mgmt. (Operating/Capital), Contracts/Negotiations/Compliance, Data Collection/Analysis, Public Speaking/Presentations, Strategic Planning/Project Mgmt., Diversity/Inclusion Trainer, Facilities Mgmt., Community Engagement, Grant Writing, Recruiting/Hiring Staff, Six Sigma Green Belt, and Clifton Strength Finder Coach.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): I am running for office because our school district is facing a number of challenges that require commitment and great leadership in the boardroom. As a non-profit executive, education advocate and CMS parent, I have spent the last 17 years working to improve the lives of children and families in Charlotte. I have served within our schools working to improve student achievement and rallying parents to get engaged in educational issues. Professionally, I bring real world experience in the areas of drop-out prevention, on-time graduation and gang intervention – three pressing issues within CMS. I come to you with knowledge, expertise and passion. As an At-Large member of the School board, I will offer innovative and viable solutions that are in the best interest of all children.

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Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Ericka Ellis-Stewart (cont'd)

I am clear about the need to close the achievement gap and my top priority is to ensure that all students have access to a quality education that prepares them to become productive citizens. My desire to run for school board is an extension of my continued desire to serve this community. I am committed to improving the quality of our public school system and realize that serving as a policy maker is one of the most direct ways to make a difference.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): Increase the level of expectation for CMS students. Ensure that each child in the district receives a quality education by:

- placing a well trained, highly effective teacher in every classroom for Day 1 to Day 180
- assigning a team of prepared and engaged administrators to each school over a continuous period of time to ensure continuity
- providing an instructional program that gives each student a strong literacy foundation, solid STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) experiences and critical thinking skills starting in elementary school
- directing resources toward activities that increase academic gains and professional development opportunities for teachers
- engaging parents, businesses and the faith community in public/private partnerships

I also want to lay the groundwork to create a county-wide youth leadership program for high school and middle school students in CMS. Each school would have delegate representation. Delegates will work together with the Board and school administrators to address issues that are important to students. The program will foster civic involvement, leadership, and entrepreneurial experience that will help prepare students to become productive citizens.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Election Day and Early Voting are just around the corner and I need your help! I have a few specific needs and would love to have your assistance.

Volunteers:

If you can help in any way, please let me know by registering as a volunteer on volunteer registration page on my website (www.ericka4cmsboard.com) or via email at ericka4cmsboard@yahoo.com.

Financial Support:

Make a secure online contribution to my campaign using either Piryx or PayPal.

Piryx: <http://t.co/KsNmVXdT>

PayPal: www.ericka4cmsboard.com (Contribute Page)

Or send a personal check payable to:

Committee to Elect Ericka Ellis-Stewart to P.O. Box 481124, Charlotte, NC 28269

Yard Sign Hosts:

Let me know, if you live in a well traveled thoroughfare or neighborhood and would be willing to place a sign in your yard.

Votes:

Encourage the members of your precinct, friends, family, co-workers and church/temple/mosque members to participate in early voting which begins on Thursday 10/20 and ends on Saturday 11/5.

Keith Hurley



Website URL: keithhurley.com

Email: kwhurley7@gmail.com

Phone Number: 704-534-8344

Facebook Page or URL:

Twitter name or URL:

Current Occupation: Banking Executive

Education—Highest Degree: Bachelors

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Dowd YMCA , Rescue Mission Charlotte, NC Bankers Association

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): 1- In 2009 when CMS would not maintain the schools over the summer I organized a group of folks to do that work. I personally worked with my family and 25 other folks to make our school look new at our expense. 2- When my CMS needed funds for Classroom Central I not only contributed , but had others match offers along with many large corporations to make this a success. 3- When the Charlotte Rescue Mission needed a venue for their failing annual event I organized the event at the Wachovia Atrium at no cost. This move increased their fund raising more than 4 times what they used to budget for.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): I work for a large organization in the banking business. We do not make any decisions without a strategic plan. CMS has no strategic plan that is clear. I am also a true believer in communication and the value of listening. Clearly this is a weakness that I can help CMS with on the board. As a community leader I am able to bring groups together to benefit both sides within the CMS community system. We need partnerships to make some of the programs successful. I am very versed in budgeting and large budget management. Over all my experiences are unmatched by any other candidate that is running.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): As a parent, Community Leader and 25 year resident I feel the

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Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Keith Hurley (Cont'd)

need is present. The CMS Board has developed a reputation in the community as untrusting, poor communicators, not clear with strategic choices, poor long term planners & caring only about the "uptown" decisions. This must change and it must change now. We need to provide the children of this county the best possible quality education we can. Our decisions need to be based on the question is it good for the kids? If not then find a way to make it. It won't change overnight, but we can begin the road to rebuilding our educational system.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): I certainly think if I am elected the first order of business is to hire a superintendent. That would impact the entire educational system in my eyes. We are currently on a 2014 plan that never accounted for a recession. Well one happened and continues to happen. We must be flexible enough to be able to change on as dictated and this clearly is not happening. I strongly feel we need a superintendent that will be here for 8-10 years and lead the system back with the board's assistance/direction. I feel with the correct decisions by the board we can increase grade levels by 10-12% within 3 years.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): I am always accessible via the above contact information. I feel community involvement and group discussions are key to building bridges. Contact me kwurley7@gmail.com, 704-534-8344, keithhurley.com to reach me.

Mary T. McCray



Website URL: marymccrayforschoolboard.webs.com

Email: ElectMaryMcCrayBOE@yahoo.com

Phone Number: (704)281-6074

Facebook Page or URL:

www.facebook.com/pages/Elect-Mary-McCray-for-CMS-School-Board/133676433377675

Twitter name or URL: N/A

Current Occupation: Retired Educator

Education—Highest Degree: Bachelors of Science in Elementary Education

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): National Education Association; NAACP; National Association of Negro Business Woman and Professionals.

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Testifying before the North Carolina House of Education committee

on effects of House Bill 546.

Lobbying House/ Senate Congressional Education Member on Education Jobs Bill

Nominated and receiving Maya Angelou Excellence in Education Award.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): I have been a classroom teacher for 34 years- 24 of those years here in CMS. During this time, I served on many school related committees and was always a member of my PTA at work and the schools that my daughter attended. My leadership qualities as evidenced by the offices I have held, willingness to listen and work toward reaching consensus, and my research skills and contacts in the educational arena will help as the board tries to create a unified vision on the issues before it. As a classroom teacher, I have always had to work as part of a team for the greater good of my students. Collaboration and cooperation were essential for us to achieve our goals and increase student achievement.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): I want to be on the School Board because I care about children and their parents, I care about educators in this district and I care about the future of CMS to attract and retain the best and brightest. I want to help mend the fences that have been broken in our community, to restore trust and integrity where it's needed. I want to make sure that we continue the good things that happened under Dr. Gorman's leadership and I want to help the Board of Education as well as the interim and future Superintendent understand that our students, parents, teachers, staff, and our community deserve to be treated with respect and sincerity when decisions are made that affect their well-being. The future of my family and every other family is invested in what happens as CMS moves forward without Dr. Gorman. My grandchildren currently attend CMS schools and my daughter is vested in CMS as a teacher. As the former president of CMAE, I've investigated the erosion of trust and extinction of teacher/staff morale within the CMS family. I believe that if we are to go forward in providing quality public school education for every child here in CMS, we've got to repair the bridges.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): I would first revisit the excessive summative testing that the school district has implemented as part of their quest for teacher effectiveness and student achievement. The needs in the classroom will always be my first priority so we need to make sure that the Instructional Support portion of the operating budget is continually scrutinized to determine if programs and policies effectively increase student achievement. If they do not, we must get rid of them and direct any savings to expand those that work.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit):

(Continued on page 9)

Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Mary T. McCray (Cont'd)

Campaign Manager
Erlene Lyde
erlenelyde@att.net
<http://marymccrayforschollboard.webs.com>

DeShauna L. McLamb—No Response

Tim Morgan

Website URL: www.morganforschollboard.net
Email: timmorgancms@gmail.com
Phone Number: 704-577-3102
Facebook Page or URL: www.facebook.com/timmorgancms
Twitter name or URL: [timmorgancms](https://twitter.com/timmorgancms)
Current Occupation: District 6 School Board Member
Education—Highest Degree: MBA from UNC-CH
Most important organizations you belong to (up to three):
South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church, Boy Scouts of America,
Mecklenburg County Republican Party

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit):

Elected to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education District 6 seat

Scoutmaster for Troop 119 – Assisting almost 20 Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle Scout

Mecklenburg County Park-n-Recreation Commission – Vice Chair and Chair of the Greenway Committee

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit):

I bring a thorough knowledge of the history of CMS and a clear understanding of direction we are heading as a school system. I believe increasing student performance among ALL students should be at the heart of every discussion we have and every decision we make. We need to recognize that a one-size fits all mentality does not work for every child. This includes everything from per pupil expenditures to the classes or extracurricular activities offered at each school. During our recent budget debate, I was criticized by some because I supported additional funding for programs that would not directly benefit my district, but were none the less very important to the academic success of children from other districts that are very different from mine. As Board members, either at-large or district representatives, we need to recognize the different needs of our students and be willing to have respectful, but direct, conversations with community leaders,

groups and parents regarding our

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): As an at-large Board member, I want to address the following three issues:

Hire a new superintendent who will work with the Board to build on, and continue, our forward academic progress.

Provide a safe and effective learning environment for our students at every school. This includes making sure we have an effective teacher in every classroom and a well trained principal in every school. We need to identify and reward strong teachers and we need to expand our professional development offerings so all teachers can improve their performance in the classroom.

Utilize our resources more efficiently. Our Weighted Student Staffing and Strategic Staffing programs allow us to direct extra funding to the students who need additional resources to be successful. For the first time in the history of CMS, we have appointed a Privatization Committee that will study various cost-saving measures and outsourcing opportunities.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit):

The most important decision we will make as a Board that will directly impact students and the future of CMS is who we hire as the next superintendent. This person will need to work with the Board to build on, and continue, our forward academic progress. As a sitting Board member, I will be very involved in determining the process we will use. The first step started with naming Hugh Hattabaugh our interim Superintendent and charging Mr. Hattabaugh with the responsibility of continuing our forward progress during this time of transition. The Board has hired a search firm and will begin the important work of involving all members of the community, including students, in determining what qualities we as a community are looking for in a new superintendent.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit):

Residents can get involved by contacting me through my website or emailing my campaign manager Larry Shaheen at timmorgancms@gmail.com

Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Ken Nelson



Website URL: www.kenwnelson.com
Email: knelsud92@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 704-364-4657
Facebook Page or URL: [Nelson for Mecklenburg County School Board](#)
Twitter name or URL: [Nelson for Mecklenburg County School Board](#)
Current Occupation: Technical Business Analyst, Keane, Inc.
Education—Highest Degree: BS, Criminal Justice, University of Delaware, 1992

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Campaign For Liberty, Mecklenburg County Republican Party, NC Republican Liberty Caucus

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Due to my leadership as an activist Republican statewide, North Carolina was finally able to elect a Republican majority in the State House and State Senate. That kind of leadership is needed locally, where we need similar change to make an effective difference in Charlotte. Also, due to being an activist for liberty, the Republican Party has adopted several more "libertarian" positions, which will enable it to appeal to a wider base of voters.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): Due to my experience as a Business Analyst and Project Manager, I bring the skill set of being able to manage projects effectively, rather than throw things against the wall and see what sticks. We need to determine what is truly important, what could be looked at, and what should be scrapped from a project management perspective. I also have the experience of working with people from diverse backgrounds who have important roles to play in all projects.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): To improve the education for all students in CMS. That sounds simple. Unfortunately, when CMS is more concerned with its standing with outside groups, the Chamber of Commerce, Teach for America, and other groups who are not concerned about the INDIVIDUAL student, someone needs to stand up and make a difference. Our schools are more concerned with "data" and marketing instead of being concerned on whether or not all students can read. That is unacceptable.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): I will make every effort to remove the incessant county-wide standardized testing. Students should be taught the three R's, not be tested on 52 different subjects. I believe the testing in-

terferes with classroom time that could be better used for real teaching and real learning. Your teachers should be imparting knowledge of the subject at hand, not the answers to a test.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Please contact me directly at 704-364-4657, 919-818-9248, knelsud92@yahoo.com. I'm looking for people to work the polls during early voting and on Election Day. If you believe like I do that our schools belong to us, and not outside groups, please join my campaign. This is the most important election in Mecklenburg County in the last 25 years. We have a unique opportunity to change the direction of the board for the better. If you value our children's future, please join my campaign. Thank you.

Hans Peter Plotsener



Name: Dr Hans Peter Plotsener
Website URL: www.DrPlots.com
Email: DrPlots@DrPlots.com
Phone Number: 704-906-2900
Facebook Page or URL: [Hans P. Plotsener](#)
Twitter name or URL: [drplots](#)
Current Occupation: Teacher at CMS West Mecklenburg High School

Education—Highest Degree: PhD in Social and Economic Sciences

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): International Rotary Club, AATG, Kappa Delta Pi

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Member of Advisory Board for Solid Waste Management of the Mecklenburg County Commission, President of the Austrian Culture Society

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): I am the only candidate who has both extensive business experience (IBM Worldwide Program Manager for Human Factors, VP for Re-Engineering at Bank of America, CEO of international software company) and eleven years of teaching experience in CMS classrooms.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): I am at a point in my life where I can serve my community and not to worry about my career. My background brings together the experience, insight, and knowledge with the desire to make a difference.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important

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Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Hans Peter Plotseneder (Cont'd)

accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): My '7 and 7 Plan' for the first 180 days will establish the basis for significantly improving teacher morale, curricula, parent involvement, and re-establish the trust in CMS. This in turn will accommodate 'purposeful learning' and drastically improve student achievement, graduation rate, and close the achievement gaps. For more information, please visit <http://drplots.com/drplots7and7plan.html>.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Residents are invited to volunteer in a variety of ways: put up yard signs, hand out flyers at voting locations, make phone calls, or contribute financially to the 'Dr. Plots Fan Club'. Please visit www.DrPlots.com, call 704-906-2900 or send e-mail to DrPlots@DrPlots.com. Your help will be much appreciated.

Aaron J. Pomis



Website URL: www.aaronpomis.com

Email: aaron.pomis@gmail.com

Phone Number: 704-576-6934

Facebook Page or URL:
www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Aaron-Pomis/117501415858

Twitter name or URL: [@aaronpomis](https://twitter.com/aaronpomis)

Current Occupation: Dean of Instruction at KIPP Charlotte

Education—Highest Degree: BS in Chemistry, University of Illinois at Urbana

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Leadership Charlotte, Teach For America, KIPP

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): During the last five years I helped found KIPP Charlotte, a public charter school with students who are over 90% African American, 70% free and reduced lunch, but are doubling the state growth in Math, doubling the state growth in Reading, and tripling the state science scores, all while starting at KIPP on average, two to three grade levels behind their peers in more affluent communities. Only about 30% of students enter on grade level, but more than 90% leave proficient on end of grade tests.

I served four years and was chair of the board of directors at The Community Charter School for two years, where we turned our staff's instructional priorities into our board's budget priorities to raise our Math scores by 20% and have a budget surplus. Finally, as a member of Leadership Charlotte Class 32, I volunteered

at Windsor Park elementary school to raise parent involvement in Parent University.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): I have teaching experience closing the achievement gap in my classroom, administrative experience working shoulder to shoulder with teachers across CMS - from schools like West Charlotte to Garinger, and board experience engaging educators and the community to build bridges and make smart choices for students. I have dedicated my life to doing whatever it takes to ensure that students get a great education regardless of their zip code, how much money their family makes, or the color of their skin. The kids in Mecklenburg County CAN learn and WANT to learn. It's up to US, the adults, to give them the opportunity.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): I am running for school board because as an educator I believe that we can do a better job fulfilling our promises to our children. As a teacher, administrator, and board member I have learned one thing over and over. The children in our community CAN learn and WANT to learn. It is up to US, the adults, to give them the opportunity. It is one thing to make campaign promises, but I have been living these promises to our students for the last decade.

While in our most high needs schools with our most at-risk students, I've learned three clear steps we must take. First, if we want to give our students what they need to be successful, we must give our teachers and principals what THEY need to be successful. That means the right professional development, support, and training to ensure they have what they need to do the hard work of closing the achievement gap. Second, we need a focused and strategic budget to prioritize our spending on what works best for students. We need to turn our instructional priorities into our budget priorities. And last, we need build strong partnerships for our students. We know our students learn best when they have the entire city standing behind them.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): The number one accomplishment I will make next year to directly impact students will be to help reprioritize our budget to ensure that we spend our money on what works best for kids. We need to go line by line in our budget to make certain we are putting our money toward what will help us reach our mission: student learning. As the board chair of a local school board, I helped us turn our instructional priorities into our budget priorities. We raised our Math scores by 20% and had a budget surplus, all because we did the hard work of listening to people on the ground and ensured students got what they needed to succeed.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Residents can get involved in our campaign in three different ways. First, residents can give their voice. They

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Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Aaron J. Pomis (Cont'd)

can talk about our campaign with their friends, co-workers, and neighbors and encourage them all to go vote on November 8th or during Early Voting. Second, residents can give their time. They can contact Rashaunda Jackson at jacksord@gmail.com to knock on doors, make phone calls, put up yard signs, or pass out literature on behalf of our campaign. Each of those functions is critical to the overall success of our campaign. And finally, residents can give their money. Simply by going online to www.aaronpomis.com and clicking DONATE, residents can amplify the voice of our campaign, ensuring that everyone hears our clear message. The children in our community CAN learn and WANT to learn. It's up to US, the

Darrin L. Rankin



Website URL: www.rankinforcms.com
Email: info@rankinforcms.com
Phone Number: 704.661.4428
Facebook Page or URL: www.facebook.com/#!/pages/RANKIN-for-CMS/179273982134567
www.facebook.com/darrinrankin
Twitter name or URL: [darrinrankin](https://twitter.com/darrinrankin)
Current Occupation: INSURANCE AGENT/
NC Real Estate Broker
Education–Highest Degree: MBA

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): PTA, UNCC Athletic Foundation, City of Charlotte Community Relations Committee

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Flag Football Coach (not sure if technically "civic")-Emphasis on Hard work, dedication, teamwork, sportsmanship, etc. City Council At Large campaign (did not win, but first time on ballot) 2009, vote total 43,936, Member of the State Executive Committee-NC Democratic Party

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): Experience as a business owner (budgeting, decision making, proposals, human resources), leadership skills and communication skills. I am forward thinking, flexible, open minded, inclusive, honest and a person that values diversity. I am a person that has a vision for CMS, a good listener and I want what is best for children. I also have a child in the school system, so I understand how decisions made by the school board trickle down the to the classroom level.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): I am concerned about the quality of education that OUR children are receiving in CMS. We have to increase academic achievement by every student at every school and increase the graduation

rate. We have to focus on quality instruction and meaningful activities for students. I believe the school system has to focus on "educating children". I have a son in CMS (3rd grade at Mallard Creek Elementary School) and we have experienced the effects of strategic staffing, bell schedule change, testing and now overcrowding. What I bring to the board, is the perspective of a parent, business owner and community leader. I will be a thoughtful decision maker.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): That is a difficult question to answer, because you need 5 votes to accomplish things as a board member. What I will provide is thoughtful decision making with the interest of students in mind. I will travel around the county to have discussions with students, parents, and teachers in a relaxed environment to gain first hand knowledge of what students need to be successful. Children need quality teachers in the classroom, access to advanced classes, sports and the arts to be well rounded students. So my accomplishment for the first year will be establishing a relationship between students and the School Board.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Contact Jarrod Clay at 704.506.3864 We need people to display a yard sign, make phone calls to voters, donate, distribute information in their communities, tell your friends and neighbors about our campaign, and help us with social media.

Lloyd Scher

Website URL: www.LloydScher.com
Email: LScher@Windstream.net
Phone Number: 704-845-9083
Facebook Page or URL:
Twitter name or URL:
Current Occupation: Writer
Education–Highest Degree: BA University of North Carolina

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Fraternal Order of Police, Rotary International, Lion's Club

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): I went to Wisconsin and Ohio to support the Teachers, Fire Fighters and Police Officers who were being severely hurt by the new laws passed, which affected them and their right to negotiate contracts or file grievances.

(Continued on page 13)

Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Lloyd Scher (Cont'd)

Memberships:

Fraternal Order of Police, Sierra Club, Equal Rights Group, The Hickory Grove Lion's Club, Engelhard Rotary Club, Hyde County Chamber of Commerce, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, American Heart Association, Writer's Guild of America West Coast

I helped write the law to require children under the age of 16 to wear helmets when riding bicycles, roller blading and using scooters.

I helped raise money for Camp Dogwood for the Lion's Club. The camp is a special experience for families and children who are sight impaired.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): 8 years as a County Commissioner I bring the experience of helping to put together billion dollar budgets. As a former teacher and counselor in the CMS I understand what is needed in the schools to help provide a safe and quality education to teachers, staff and students.

I joined every PTA in my district and helped raise money for the schools from \$10,000 Computer Lab for Windsor Park to a \$5,000 Track & Field for Idlewild. I also arranged quarterly meetings with the teachers, staff and students. I plan to have these meetings again because it allows me to have an open dialog and hear their concerns and needs.

I have been a volunteer and tutor in schools for years and realize the importance of getting involved in the school system. Knowing that government cannot do it alone I will strive to obtain 5,000 new volunteers to help in schools through tutoring, reading and lunch buddies to show support for both our teachers and students.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): It is about Education & NOT Politics. It is vital that we Re-build the Trust with our Professional Teachers and the community and most important to improve the Morale among all CMS employees.

It is about providing a safe environment for our teachers, staff and students giving them the best opportunity to learn. These are the issues we should be discussing it is Not about students being given another Test.

8 years as a Mecklenburg County Commissioner gives me an understanding and experience about the school systems budget process and the problems that exist. I would like to change the budgeting process making it easier for the School Board to prepare

the budget so that Teachers will no longer receive Pink Slips before the process is done only to be Re-hired at Less Pay.

Rather spending large amounts of Bond Money why not look at Schools being Donated or Leased by CMS. This would Save Taxpayer Money because the county would not have to pay interest on bonds to build schools.

CMS needs to do more Technology in Schools for both our Teachers and Students. It is time for the Board to look at changing the way we purchase books using I-Pads. It will Save Money & Trees.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): I want a strong working Relation with Studetnts. CMS is there for them to learn and I need to know what are their concerns and issues. We are here for them and I want them to be apart of the Solution to our School Problems.

I would want student input because they see things differently. I would look to the Student Council to give a monthly report to the School Board.

I would hold quarterly meetings with students to hear from them directly. This would be apart of my program to improve the Morale that has been deteriorating over the past several years. I want to provide every student in Middle and High School with an I-Pad (not for games) that will have all their books on it. That would mean lighter book bags. It would also be easier for students to do their homework on the I-Pad and teachers could download it for a quicker review.

For 32 years, I ran a Video Company it allowed me to work with well known Nationally and Locally Athletes. They are aware of the problem we are having in funding Middle School Sports Programs. I have obtained commitments from several athletes to help raise money so that no student would be prevented from playing sports in Middle School.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit):

Manager is Sylvester Fleming can be reached at 704-398-7057
Volunteer Coordinator Fostoria Pierson Fostoriab@aol.com
Contact me through my webpage or my personal email address
LScher@Windstream.net
Contribution can be made through PayPal on my website they will be greatly appreciated

This is your school system and it is important that you get invovled so that the people you support will get elected. If you see a candidate you like and like what they stand for then go and help them.

Charlotte Mecklenburg School Board of Education At-Large

Jeff Wise



Website URL: VoteJeffWise.com

Email: jeff@votejeffwise.com

Phone Number: 704-517-9905

Facebook Page or URL: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Vote-Jeff-Wise/242240872460522>

Twitter name or URL: VoteJeffWise

Current Occupation: Director of Information Services with FreemanWhite

Education–Highest Degree: Bachelor of Science, Journalism (completed master's coursework in Arts Administration)

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Bluecoats Drum & Bugle

Corps alumni association, The Light Factory

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): I was part of the inaugural class of the Arts & Science Council's Cultural Leadership Training program. The CLT is recognized nationally as a model program for preparing upcoming community leaders to be productive board members for arts organizations.

After completing the CLT program, I started on the board of directors with The Light Factory and was appointed the Chairman of the Education Committee 15 months ago. Our Adult Education program was already performing well, even during the recession and we are currently on track to increase enrollment and revenue by over 12% for this fiscal year.

Lastly, I chaired the committee that coordinated and sent over 200 East Lincoln High School students, instruments, uniforms and parents to Hawaii to perform and commemorate the 65th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. We were accompanied by an inspirational Pearl Harbor survivor and his wife, both native Charlotteans, who married a few days before prior to December 7, 1941.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective school board member? (1000 character limit): I am a good listener, I am patient. I work to understand all sides of an issue before reaching decisions and I'm a problem solver by nature.

Over the 13 years that I've worked at FreemanWhite I've helped to open a handful of branch offices. I've also had to close some of them. I've implemented new technologies to help increase worker productivity and I've had to make aging equipment stay functional to save money. My success as the head of the IT department is due mostly to my ability to adapt, relate and listen.

My belief in public education is strong and I believe every student can be successful. By placing students and teachers as top priorities, I know we can work together as a board to create a better school system.

Why are you running for the school board? (1250 character limit): I am a parent, husband to a teacher and a taxpayer. As a taxpayer, I know that successful, well-prepared graduates will strengthen our community. As the spouse of a teacher, I know that supporting and trusting teachers will strengthen the education of our students. As a parent, I know that being involved and ensuring my child attends a school that has the necessary resources will strengthen his education. We all understand the importance of building strong bonds in our society and we know it starts with education. I want to help shepherd that belief to a fuller realization. I want our students to create new operating systems, write the great American novel, discover cures for disease, win the World Series and be great citizens. We can do this, it won't be easy, but it's worth doing so let's do it right.

Question Provided by Kids Voting: What is the most important accomplishment you will make next year that will directly impact CMS students, not their teachers or parents? (1250 character limit): We need to move away from a reliance on testing to measure achievement and growth. Instead, let's measure achievement by applying the concepts being learned in more real world terms, not by sitting at a desk bubbling in answers. What if, instead of taking a series of EOG's, students were told to create? For example, create a movie about why Alexander Hamilton wanted to set up a federal bank in the early 1790's, what problems did he face politically, economically and socially, write a script, produce it and present it. This is what 21st century learning is about.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): There are many ways to get involved. Drop us a line and we'll be happy to talk about what we're working on and what you can do to help spread our ideas.

Town of Huntersville

Beth (Danae) Caulfield—Mayor



Website URL: www.CaulfieldForMayor.com
Email: FreedomWithPurpose@bellsouth.net
Phone Number: 704-948-1187
Facebook Page or URL: [Elect Caulfield Mayor](#)
Current Occupation: Real Estate Broker / Huntersville Town Commissioner
Education—Highest Degree: Avionic / Electronic Technical Degree - US Air Force College, 2 Yrs. Buss Mgmt. - Real Estate License

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): My Local Church, Board of Realtors, National Rifle Association

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit):

Huntersville Town Commissioner: I have enjoyed serving for the past 2 years. I have had the privilege of meeting great people and had the opportunity to help many residents and businesses. Upon coming on Board I began to hold Coffee Meet-ups. I felt it was important to have a way for the citizens of Huntersville to be heard so that they would truly be represented. I was able to get Work Sessions implemented before big votes, got a sidewalk priority list added, spearheaded getting a Victims Advocate, and negotiated a lower tax rate for our citizens after the County performed a property revaluation.

Church: I have always been very involved with my local church. I have many roles and held many positions. In the past I have served as Womens Ministry Director, Sunday School Administrator, Leader involved with helping the homeless, and currently I am involved with the College Group as well as the Prayer Ministry.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective mayor? (1000 character limit): I have spent the last 13 years working as a Real Estate Broker. One of the most important skills that a Realtor® needs to be successful is the ability to bring people together. The first role of Mayor is to bring the Town Board together. We may have different passions and ideals but utilizing the skills I have learned as a Realtor® will be very effective in bringing our Board together to accomplish great things for our Town. I will also use this skill to bring our town together. People have felt a great disconnect from our government for a long time. I plan to implement bi-monthly Mayor Meet ups as a way for people to connect to their town. I will invite residents, business owners, as well as community leaders to meet in order to give them a voice, resolve issues, and be a part of improving Our Town. My Campaign is a great example of bringing people together. I have volunteers from every political persuasion as well as a variety of cultural and racial backgrounds.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): We have already implemented a Top Road Priority list. We must stay focused on this and continue to keep the progress of our roads ahead of our development. We must also work closely with the County and State to ensure that Huntersville receives it's fair share of the funding that is needed to widen Hwy. 77. There are sometimes less expensive measures that are overlooked. One thing that I have advocated for while on the Board is the need to add right turn lanes. It is an inexpensive way of keeping our traffic moving. I believe it is also important to work towards being a pedestrian/bicycleye friendly town and that means planning now instead of playing catch up.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): I believe we can do a lot more to help our small businesses. We have to have the courage to take a look at our sign ordinance and make sure that the balance between keeping the aesthetics of our Town to a high standard and ensuring that businesses have good visibility. When elected I will form a new committee that will be made up of small business owners. It will give them a chance to brainstorm together on how the Town can be more supportive. The committee would meet regularly with our Staff to work through ideas in hopes of implementing changes that will benefit our small businesses.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): I am always available to speak by phone or email. You can visit my website to learn more about my accomplishments as a Town Commissioner as well as my goals as Mayor. Together we can make a positive difference in OUR town.

Jill Swain—Mayor



Website URL: www.jillswain.com
Email: Jswainworld@gmail.com
Phone Number: 704-609-6803
Facebook Page or URL: [Mayor Jill Swain](#)
Twitter name or URL: [Swainworld](#)
Current Occupation: Mayor, marketing consultant, substitute teacher
Education—Highest Degree: Bachelor's Degree

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Huntersville Town Board, Metropolitan Transit Commission, Huntersville

Connection

Town of Huntersville

Jill Swain (Cont'd)

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit):

1. Led the town toward economic development and expansion with the arrival of ABB, Lime Energy and Positech, the expansion of Saertex and Microban -- all of which come with investment in our town and the addition of hundreds of new jobs.
2. Announced the expansion of Destination Huntersville, into the new Huntersville Connection -- a networking and partnering group with nearly 200 businesses, non-profits and community entities that meet monthly to discuss opportunities for partnerships and how to grow audiences. This is truly a community-driven group that continues to grow by word of mouth.
3. Working behind the scenes to find a solution to our overcrowded police station. When the board decided that an \$18 million facility would not pass a bond referendum, I worked with several others to find a more realistic option and will be making the announcement in the next month regarding our success.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective mayor? (1000 character limit): Twelve years of being on the Huntersville Town Board has given me an opportunity to watch the changing needs of our growing community. I have also worked diligently to develop positive relationships with leaders regionally, statewide, nationally and now, internationally, as we continue to court overseas economic development prospects. I have a positive relationship with every mayor in Mecklenburg County and firmly believe in the non-partisan aspect of our town charter, because it has allowed me to work with people of all viewpoints to come to positive solutions on behalf of the town. Although I am not a native of Huntersville, 19 years of residency and many of those in public service have allowed me to learn aspects of Huntersville's history that are important to always have at the table in any discussions about growth.

I have served two terms as mayor and can honestly say that I truly love what I am able to do with and for my community.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit):

The Town of Huntersville, because of our tremendous growth, will continue to have transportation challenges. We will need new roads built, older roads paved and more outlets for diffusion of traffic. Additionally, we will need to continue to plan for and advocate for, alternative forms of transportation. With the State budget woefully lacking in roads monies, it is important to have a healthy relationship with the leaders of the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Secretary of Transportation Gene Conti and Chief Operating Officer Jim Trogon have been very open to working as partners in our future plans and that relationship is essential. Huntersville will need to be open to options for creative forms of financing, firm in our planning, and amenable to continuing our involvement on the Lake Norman Transporta-

tion Commission (an offshoot of the Mayors' Transportation Task Force created by Davidson Mayor Woods, Cornelius Mayor Tarte, Mooresville Mayor Thunberg and myself specifically to look at regional transportation issues.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): I am excited about the continued success of Huntersville Connection, which has allowed small businesses to get together monthly to meet, network, discuss challenges and potential partnerships for marketing and building audiences. Huntersville Connection has grown because of the current economic climate and the need for small businesses to have low-cost marketing options to grow their bottom line. There is no better guide for how to support small businesses than to hear from the business owners themselves. With Huntersville Connection, if there are challenges that can be helped by the Town, this has been the place to pass the word.

Additionally, our Planning Department has made more of an effort to let small business owners that there are options in the zoning code that can help with some of their challenges. Getting the word out to this audience is crucial to everyone's overall success.

I have made it a point to walk around and get to know as many business owners as possible. Often, I may meet a manager or employee, but believe it is important that they know who the mayor of their town is and that I can often be their conduit toward assistance.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit):

First of all, I'd encourage everyone to take advantage of our extraordinary right to vote -- even if you are happy with the status quo or believe your vote doesn't matter. Two years ago, a very good mayor lost by only 12 votes. Your vote matters! I have yard signs available, candidate cards to be passed out to neighborhoods and can deliver -- simply email jswainworld@gmail.com. Additionally, it is my hope that people will encourage at least five of their friends or neighbors to go vote. We need citizen involvement in this campaign and I am hoping that I am given the opportunity to continue the positive work that has been done over the past four years.

Sandy Tilley—Mayor No Response

Town of Huntersville

Melinda Bales—Commissioner

**Website URL:**

www.votemelindabales.com

Email: melinda@melindabales.com**Phone Number:** 704-728-9643**Facebook Page or URL:** [Melinda Bales for Huntersville Town Commissioner](#)**Twitter name or URL:** [VoteMelinda](#)**Current Occupation:** Stay at Home Mom**Education—Highest Degree:** Attended East Tennessee State University

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): [Metrolina Church](#), [Huntersville Greenway Commission](#), and [Torrence Creek Elementary PTA](#)

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Women's Ministry Director, PTA President and Chair of the Huntersville Greenway Commission

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): Huntersville need leaders that can look at the issues and think outside the box in order to find solutions. I have addressed issues in this manner in every role I have taken on, whether it was as a Quality Manager, ministry leader, PTA President or serving on the Huntersville Greenway Commission. I will bring this approach to the role of Town Commissioner as well. I am a servant-leader and look to set Huntersville up for continued success for many years to come in the areas of road improvements, essential services, business growth and addressing the needs of our youngest citizens by working with CMS and the County to ensure our students have facilities in which to learn that are not over-crowded.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): Huntersville needs to address transportation in a couple of different ways. Huntersville can add new turn lanes, lights and sidewalks to our current road infrastructure that would help citizens move a bit easier within Huntersville. For example: by adding a second left turn lane at the corner of NorthCross and Sam Furr this would allow more traffic to move seamlessly through the intersection. Huntersville will need to continue working with the State in order to address the congestion concerns on our State maintained roads as well. I believe that by developing a solid plan and then executing the plan in a thoughtful way we can address our transportation needs for years to come.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): [Huntersville](#) should be a great place to do business. I will work with the new board to review town policies and ensure that the current policies are in line with growing business not stifling it. We should do all we can to support our small businesses and many small business owners that I have talked with struggle with signage. We need to ensure that our current policy on signs does not hinder our business community. I want to work with leaders from our small business

community to come up with solutions that will benefit the town as a whole. We must work together in order to achieve success.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): If you are interested in getting involved in my campaign, I would encourage you to email me at melinda.melindabales.com

Adam Boatsman—Commissioner

**Website URL:** www.voteadamboatsman.com**Email:** aboatsman@boatsmangillmore.com**Phone Number:** 704-892-0745**Facebook Page or URL:** <http://www.facebook.com/#!/aboatsman>**Current Occupation:** CPA and founder, Boatsman Gillmore PLLC - a local CPA firm**Education—Highest Degree:** BS Accounting and Information Systems

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): [Lake Norman EDC](#), [Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce](#), [Ada Jenkins Center](#)

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Raised / Donated \$26,000 to local charities this month through my firm's new foundation, helped create jobs in the greater Charlotte area, helped bring over 100 kids from Afghanistan to the LKN area for medical care through Solace for the Children.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): As a CPA with a specialization in tax, I understand both fiscal accountability and tax policy (e.g. the ways the town 'makes' money). As the owner of a public accounting firm that specializes in helping our clients grow in a fiscally responsible manner I understand how to help existing businesses thrive in our community. As a board member on the EDC I know what needs to be done to help attract companies to Huntersville. And as a business owner with operations in Charlotte AND Huntersville I have had the opportunity to become well-connected in Charlotte and our surrounding neighboring towns - I will leverage these relationships to help us get things done.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): Economic development is the key to our transportation needs. More money is needed to fund our road improvement projects. That money can come from either the existing tax base (your taxes) or from growing the size of the revenue pie (adding companies to the Huntersville area). I believe that we should be focused as a board on growing the number of tax payers and keeping our rates low, not increasing our existing rates to fund improvements. I think that I am well qualified to make this happen.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support

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Town of Huntersville

Adam Boatsman (Cont'd)

small business? (1250 character limit): Work closely with the EDC, VLN, and the Chamber to promote growth in the area and speed up the commercial real estate development process for the existing six months to 30 days.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): 1.) Vote for me if you believe in my message at www.voteadamboatsman.com. 2.) Tell your friends. 3.) Contact me about putting up a campaign sign.

Charles S. Guignard—Commissioner



Phone Number: 704.875.1407

Current Occupation: Real Estate Redeveloper

Education—Highest Degree: BA Economics-NC State University

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Angels of 97, The Cove Church

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Supporter/Leadership position in Transit Tax

Promote small business venture start ups

Organize yearly Angels of 97 Spaghetti Dinner, which has funded over \$400,000 in student scholarships in the last 15 years

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): Lifetime activity in Political Campaigns from college until present. Experienced in local government as a Huntersville Commissioner. I have redeveloped many older buildings in the Downtown Huntersville area. I have worked with planners and government personnel to start and finish many projects.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): Enhance working relations the town has with other local, state and federal transportation entities, so as to best plan and construct needed future transportation. Find ways especially working with North Carolina Department of Transportation to be aggressive in creativity in funding Freight/Passenger Commuter Rail.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): Expand Huntersville Connection to work with more small businesses. Quarterly meeting with a cross section of small business owners to listen and work out a plan of action.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Contacting Charles S. Guignard- Anytime at 704.875.1407

Charles Jeter—Commissioner



Website URL: www.votejeter.com

Email: cjeter@votejeter.com

Phone Number: 704-400-8031

Current Occupation: President at Intermodal FCL, Inc.

Education—Highest Degree: BA in Business Economics from Wofford College in 1995

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Huntersville Town Board, Lake Norman Transportation Committee and Hugh Torrance House and Store Board of Directors

List up to three (3) of your most important

political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): I created the first municipal school advisory committee that works on behalf of Huntersville residents to have greater interaction and involvement with CMS to ensure Huntersville gets its fair share of school funding. I served on the Mayor's Transportation Task Force that created the Lake Norman Transportation Committee. I have voted against any and all tax increases for the past five years. I am the only incumbent candidate that can say that as I was the only candidate who voted against the tax increase passed by the Huntersville Town Board in June of 2011.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): I am in this job solely to help make Huntersville the best it can be. I make informed decisions based on the facts and do not make votes in order to satisfy anyone's political agenda. I've done this for six years and I hope the voters will give me the opportunity to do so for two more.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): Continue what we're doing. In my six years, we have accomplished more road improvement projects than the previous 25 years combined. The Hwy 73 widening project will be completed by the end of the year, we have instituted a Top 10 list of road projects that is in its second generation of projects. Perhaps my greatest accomplishment is making roads our number one priority and actually ensuring improvements are done. We will continue to push this and we will continue to make more road improvements year after year.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): We need to make sure that codes are business friendly and fair. We need to ensure customers can access the businesses through roads and other transportation methods. Mostly, we need to make sure Huntersville is the best it can be so that we can ensure businesses want to be here, people want to be here and that those people stay and shop here.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): The one thing people can do is to help me via word of mouth. Call your neighbors and friends and ask them to vote for Charles Jeter for Huntersville Town Commissioner. Nothing is more effective and helpful than that.

Town of Huntersville

Ron Julian—Commissioner



Website URL: www.voteronjulian.com
Email: VoteRonJulian@aol.com
Phone Number: 704-607-9642
Facebook Page or URL: [Ron Julian Huntersville Town Commissioner \(http://www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=1523648326\)](http://www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=1523648326)
Twitter name or URL: [VoteRonJulian \(http://twitter.com/#!/voteronjulian\)](http://twitter.com/#!/voteronjulian)
Current Occupation: Property Management/Investor

Education—Highest Degree: Nuclear Engineering Technology Degree

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Huntersville First Baptist, Lake Norman Economic Development Corporation Committee, Huntersville School Advisory Committee & Lake Norman Chamber.

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Jobs: I have been instrumental in helping to bring ABB a cable manufacturer, a 100 Million dollar investment to Huntersville. As the Huntersville Representative on the EDC board, I have consistently met with, supported and voted for plans and improvements in Huntersville that will support bringing Jobs to Huntersville. Some of these companies includes: Irwin Tools, SAERTEX USA, ABB, Prositec Tool Corporation, Lime Energy . Transportation - Was instrumental in lobbying to secure millions in Federal and State dollars to improve Huntersville Roads including the Hwy 73 widening project . Worked with Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) to expand parking for commuter bus riders. Continue to Lobby and support the North Commuter Rail Line (Train). Have lobbied for ROAD Improvements (widening of I-77, Finish the last leg of I-485, etc).

Schools - Have met with CMS officials to ensure Stumptown Elementary is built to relieve Torrence Creek Elementary.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): I worked in the Corporate Banking Field for 20 plus years before leaving to start my on Developer/Real Estate Management/Contracting Company called Teron Service, Inc. As an entrepreneur/capitalist, these experiences have provided me the tools needed to succeed as your Huntersville Town Commissioner. I was elected as a Commissioner to the Town of Huntersville in November of 2007 and I am completing my second term. Prior to being elected, I was a member of the Town Board of Adjustments for 5 years of which 18 months I served as the Chairman. I was also a member of the East Huntersville Area Development which completed their project and submitted the final recommendation to the Town Board in March of 2007.

Since being elected in 2007 I have served in the following roles: Huntersville Town Board Representative for:
Council of Government
Planning Liaison
Visit Lake Norman

Lake Norman Regional Economic Development Committee
Economic Development Committee
School Advisory Committee

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit):

Roads definitely need to be the first priority but roads alone cannot fulfill all the needs in the future. We must look at and support every option i.e.: Roads, Buses, and Trains. The commuter rail will help serve two purposes for Huntersville residents. It will allow residents another path for commuting, and it will help Huntersville with its land use plan. By supporting the land use plan and offering alternatives we will ensure Huntersville has a sustainable growth pattern and URBAN SPRAWL (Atlanta) does not take place putting our roads in grid lock. We are already paying for light rail through the counties 1/2 sales tax, so now we need to fight and get the service from the county that we are paying for. As for the cost of the north rail line, developers have stepped forward to say that they will endure the cost of the railroad stops therefore not burdening the taxpayers. The future will take all 3 transportation vehicles (Roads, Buses and Trains) to keep Huntersville the Great Town I believe it is.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): Huntersville Connection has been a great asset supporting the small business by giving businesses a venue for sharing ideas, upcoming events, needs, etc. and gaining support from other businesses. We also are in the process of re-examing the sign ordinance to give businesses more flexibility.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): To get involved in my campaign you can contact my campaign manager and wife, Teresa Julian at 704-607-9643. I am looking for individuals who are willing to put signs in their yard or who are interested in handing out literature at the polls and in neighborhoods .

Sarah R. McAulay—Commissioner



Website URL: SarahMcAulay.com
Email: srmcaulay@aol.com
Phone Number: 704-875-6872
Current Occupation: Retire - Banking
Education—Highest Degree: UNCG - BA Economics

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Mecklenburg Chapter DAR, Historic Rural Hill, Latta Plantation

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): Elected 5th Term Huntersville Town Commissioner, Historical Preservation at Rural Hill and Latta Plantation, Huntersville Economic Growth

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Town of Huntersville

Sarah R. McAulay (Cont'd)

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): I served as Huntersville's mayor for 5 terms between 1979 and 1991, have been a member of different planning commissions, and Town Commissioner for 5 terms since 2001. I am an active citizen of the Huntersville area and strive to provide progressive thinking leadership with a mature accomplished and interested understanding of citizens and businesses for Huntersville's progressive, diverse growth community. Also, I currently represent the Town of Huntersville Board of Commissioners at several regional planning and economic development commissions and committees including the Mecklenburg Union Metropolitan Planning Organization also known as the MUMPO for regional transportation planning.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): Town of Huntersville recently completed an updated rewrite of the Long Range Community Plan with citizen workshops and input that identified transportation issues and tasks completed in the near future. The Town continues to work with regional, NC State and Federal elected officials and agencies for funds to partnership for improvements to all form of transportation.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): Support buy locally movements, continue to provide a growth diverse growth environment for the Town of Huntersville area, identify an negative impact on small business, and find corrective solutions.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): Talk with Sarah McAulay, Huntersville Town Commissioner and life long Huntersville citizen call at 704-875-6872.

Dempsey Miller—Commissioner

Website URL: www.electdempseymiller.com

Email: dempsey@electdempseymiller.com

Phone Number: 704-654-9482

Current Occupation: Real Estate Broker

Education—Highest Degree: BS

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): 1. Charlotte Region Realtor Association - I am on the Government Affairs Committee and the Real Estate and Building Industry Coalition Board. 2. Community Link Board - CL enables individuals and families to obtain and sustain safe, decent and affordable housing. I am the Board Development Chairperson. 3. Trips For Kids Charlotte Board - TFKC is a non-profit that provides life lessons to youths in fragile neighborhoods through mountain biking outings. I am an active member/volunteer.

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): 1. I have been involved as a volunteer with Realtor Care Day since its inception. We provide home repairs for homes identified with critical home-maintenance needs. 2. I was elected as the Mecklenburg Soil and Water Conservation District Su-

pervisor. Term 2011 - 2015. 3. Taking kids out on mountain bike rides and seeing the happiness they express from the new experience and the attention they get from the volunteers.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): 1. I am a listener of the people. I will be there to serve the public. 2. I am a dedicated worker. I intend to do an excellent job for the people. 3. I have a business mentality. I am a retired civil engineer and previous owner. 4. I bring negotiating skills. I am currently a real estate broker. 5. I am a people person. I care about the well being of others. I am an active member of Victory Christian Center.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): Advocacy. We need to be making alliances with our state representatives and neighboring towns. We have to band together to get the necessary needs made for this community. I am willing to make our voice heard. We have to provide smart projects by the town to help alleviate congestion.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): Remove governmental barriers for starting new businesses, maintaining existing businesses and expanding business. Keeping Huntersville affordable, such as lowering taxes, also helps businesses.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): 1. Telling others about Dempsey Miller and voting. 2. Placing signs in their yards. 3. Volunteering at polls passing out material. 4. Making a donation to "Elect Dempsey Miller." Send to PO Box 3543, Huntersville, NC 28070. Call Dempsey Miller at (704) 654-9482 or email to Dempsey@ElectDempseyMiller.com

Jeff Neely—Commissioner



Website:

www.jeffneely4commissioner.com

Email: jeff.neely@gmail.com

Phone Number: 704.651.7263

Current Occupation: Retired Belk Vice President

Education—Highest Degree: Associates Degree Additionally this year became a Licensed Life & Health Insurance Agent

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Second term appointment to Town of Huntersville Planning Board, Elected to Skybrook Ridge HOA Board

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): During the process of helping to formulate the Huntersville Year 2030 Community

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Town of Huntersville

Jeff Neely (Cont'd)

Plan as a member of the Town Planning Board, I became even more committed to serving the citizens of Huntersville. The development of the 140 page plan took over a year to complete and in addition to time spent at Planning Board meetings on the project I attended joint workshops with Town officials. To ensure maximum involvement I also spend one on one time with members of the Town Planning Department

In an effort to continue to learn more about Huntersville I attended and graduated from 29 hours of instruction at the Huntersville Citizen's Police Academy.

This year I will again work the Annual Fund Drive for the National Leukemia Foundation by fund raising in my community.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): I have 25 years of successful retail executive experience which includes functioning as the Senior Vice President and General Manager of a National Retail Chain with over 350 stores and more than 2,000 associates. As General Manager I had full profit and loss and strategic planning responsibility for the company.

While at Belk Stores I was chosen as the company executive to attend the "Leadership Charlotte Program." This program takes place over a 9 month period focusing on community involvement and learning the interactions of city government.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): With the dramatic population increase of the Town over the past 20 years and the projected increase in the next 20 years our transportation needs will continue to grow. In the 2030 Huntersville Community Plan, which is available online, pages 50 to 69 deal with transportation. The challenge will always be how do we pay for what we need. I believe my past experience will help to answer that question.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): My business background and Planning Board experience increase my commitment to growing our small business base. Our current Huntersville Connection group of 40 or so small business members is a start. We must find ways to support this group and help to expand their base. A large and healthy small business base adds to the quality of life of the citizens of Huntersville. Small businesses are drawn to a community when they see that current population of small businesses are successful. With proper strategic planning and communicating with potential new small businesses, the probability for success is increased.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): I welcome support, help, contributions and involvement from the community. Please visit my website at www.jeffneely4commissioner.com Additionally my email is jeff.neely@gmail.com

Danny Phillips—Commissioner



Website URL: <http://www.dannyforhuntersville.com/>
Email: dannyforhuntersville@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 704-622-2611
Facebook Page or URL: <http://www.facebook.com/DannyForHuntersville>
Current Occupation: Owner - Old Store Produce and Hubbard Farm
Education—Highest Degree: High School

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Associate Member North

Mecklenburg Republican Women, Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce, and Piedmont Archaeological Society.

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): I have been a volunteer for local elections during the last five years and in the process got my own children who are 20 and 24 into the importance of local politicals—they now volunteer on their own during elections because they understand why voting isn't a right, but an honor. These elections may seem small to some people, but have put people in office that shape our everyday lives in the Town of Huntersville and shape the future. Over the last five years I have worked the polls not just on election day but during early voting too. You truly get to know the needs and wants of the people in your community when they are on their way in to vote—you see people get angry at those that they don't support, but you also get to see people interact with the people that they do support—you learn what is important to people.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): I have lived and owned businesses in Huntersville for almost three-decades, which has allowed me to see the long term benefits and failures of the Board of Commissioners, not only for residents, but for businesses too. I believe that my time spent in Huntersville has given me the insight to vote for the betterment of Huntersville's present and future, because I know what repercussions a poorly educated vote can do for the town. I also believe that owning and operating a small business connects me to the community more, because I hear the complaints of citizens at my business, especially this year, because I have seen people budget money much closer. I also buy and sell to other local businesses, so I understand what they need from the town too.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): Immediate relief is the most important thing the Town of Huntersville can do to meet the transportation needs of the citizens. Especially during these hard economical times, the Town of Huntersville should make wise choices about how they handle transportation—there shouldn't be large projects for the future when the small projects costs much less and can make a huge difference now. The town should also stop spending money

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Town of Huntersville

Danny Phillips (Cont'd)

on future road studies when they need to focus on current road conditions. The most important projects that should be handled include widening lanes in heavily congested areas such as Beatties Ford Road and Highway 73 and making the area around Lake Norman Charter School a School Zone, which would reduce the speed limit in the area and make it an over all safer traffic area.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): The most dire thing the town can do the support small business is to encourage more small businesses to come to Huntersville. The planning process in Huntersville is extremely hard for new comers, and discourages them from joining our community - The Charlotte Observer actually had an article a few weeks ago about how people in our area don't shop in our area because we don't have a wide variety of shops. It shouldn't take years for a business to open in our town, especially when the economy is weak. Yes, we should be picky about what businesses we have in our town, but each business should be treated on a case-by-case basis. People shouldn't have to wait years to open a business in Huntersville, this discourages them from joining our community-we should streamline this process, in regards to those that have all their finances ready to open and for those that are trying to open a second location. People complain that there are many empty shopping centers-this falls on the Town for not being business friendly and not promoting local businesses to partner together or buy from one another.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): To get involved with my campaign, please feel free to call me or send an email.

Adam Planty—Commissioner



Website URL: <http://tinyurl.com/AdamPlanty>
Email: adam@voteadamplanty.com
Phone Number: 704-912-2855
Facebook Page or URL: <http://tinyurl.com/AdamPlanty>
Twitter name or URL: @adamplanty
Current Occupation: Charlotte-

Mecklenburg Police Officer

Education—Highest Degree: BA Criminal Justice - Currently enrolled at UNCC in MPA Program

Most important organizations you belong to (up to three): Mecklenburg County GOP, North Mecklenburg Republican Women, Mecklenburg Evening Republican Women

List up to three (3) of your most important political/civic accomplishments in the last five (5) years. (1000 character limit): In the last five years I've been a child safety seat technician and ran a Safety Seat Checking Station. I checked hundreds of car seats and taught parents how to properly secure their children in their seats. As an HOA president, I worked with Town and County engineers to establish a time line for our roads to be repaired using the developers construction and maintenance bonds.

When complete, our roads will become eligible to be turned over to the Town. I was elected as chairman of my voting precinct for the MeckGop and participated as a delegate at the county and state republican conventions. It has afforded me the opportunity to interact with elected officials at the local and state levels.

What qualities or experience do you bring that will make you an effective commissioner? (1000 character limit): What I bring to the board is leadership and problem solving skills. I spent over 7 years in the Army and another 6 years in the Reserves. After 9/11 I trained soldiers in Homeland Security to protect our critical infrastructures and those deploying to Cuba, Iraq, and Afghanistan. I've been a Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Officer for just under 12 years. I've spent this time in the community improving their quality of life and investigating crime. I'm an HOA president dealing first hand with problems that are facing our community. I've dealt with many problems and worked with various government agencies to solve them. I'm currently a Fellow at the Institute of Political Leadership, which is a bipartisan school to prepare myself for working with people of the opposite political party. I have a life time of service and this is the next step in my life in serving the public.

What can the Town of Huntersville do to address the transportation needs of the citizens of Huntersville? (1250 character limit): The Town can work closely with NCDOT in prioritizing roadway projects. Many roads have become degraded and in need of repair. The Town can also work with CATS in expanding the bus line routes and hours of service. The North Corridor Red Line Regional Rail Project is currently being examined. However, there are many unanswered questions that will need to be addressed before this project can become a reality. Funding and the cost to residents will need to be closely examined.

What more can or should the Town of Huntersville do to support small business? (1250 character limit): In order to support small business there must be low taxes, an infrastructure that supports transportation and can be easily traveled, local ordinances and regulations that aren't overbearing, and a high quality of life. I would address all of these issues by assessing needs versus wants and being fiscally responsible.

How can residents get involved in your campaign? Please include campaign manager or volunteer coordinator's contact information (1000 character limit): If you would like to get involved in my campaign, please feel free to email or call me; adam@voteadamplanty.com/704-912-2855 . I'm looking for volunteers to help distribute palm cards at the early voting site and on election day. If you would like a sign one can be delivered. If you would like to donate, please send a check to Committee to Elect Adam Planty, PO Box 524, Huntersville, NC 28070. Also, visit my facebook for daily updates.

Brian Sisson—Commissioner

No Response

The NC Voter Bill of Rights

In North Carolina, you have the RIGHT TO VOTE . . .

1. . . . **between 6:30 am and 7:30 pm on Election Day**, or if you are in line or inside the polling place before the polls close at 7:30 pm. (NC General Statute (NCGS 163-166.01)
2. . . . **without presenting any identification or your voter registration card to poll workers.** (NCGS 163-82.8) However, if you are a first-time voter who registered to vote by mail without providing a NC driver's license or Social Security number or other identification, it makes sense to take with you a current and valid photo ID, or a document showing your name and current address, such as a current utility bill, bank statement, or a bill, license, permit, letter or other document from a government agency. (NCGS 163-166.12)
3. . . . **by provisional ballot** if you submitted a voter registration form in the county, but your name is not on the rolls; or if you believe you've registered but your name is not on the list; or if you question the voting district (or ballot) assigned to you and believe that you are qualified to vote a different ballot. (N.C. Administrative Code 10B.0103d.) You must also be given a way to find out whether the provisional ballot was counted, and if not, the reason it was not counted. (NCGS 163-166.11(3))
4. . . **at your same assigned polling place**, if you have moved within the same precinct or changed your name without telling election officials. (NCGS 163-82.15, 163-82.16)
5. . . **in your new precinct or at a central location** if you have moved and lived in your new location for 30 days or more. If you moved and have lived in your new location for less than 30 days, you must vote in your old precinct, cast a provisional ballot in your new precinct, or vote early at an Early Voting site in your county. (NCGS 163-82.15)
6. . . **by using another ballot, if you make a mistake and "spoil" your first ballot.** You can spoil up to three ballots. (NCAC 10B.0104b)
7. . . **with assistance from a person of your choice**, except your employer or agent of your union, if you cannot easily read or write or if you are blind or otherwise disabled. (NCGS 163-166.8)
8. . . **with assistance at the curb, in the vehicle you came in**, or at the door of the polling place if the polling place is inaccessible to you due to a disability. (NCGS 163-166.9)
9. . . **if you are in jail, as long as your citizenship has not been forfeited, or if you are an ex-felon** who has completed all terms of your sentence, including parole and probation -- and if you have registered or re-registered to vote. (NCGS 13-1)
10. . . . **without being intimidated** or forced to vote for anyone you don't wish to vote for. (NCGS 163-271).

You also have the right to take this bill of rights into the voting booth with you.

If anyone tries to deny you these rights when you vote, call the Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE or 1-866-522-4723.

For Voters with Disabilities:

Sometimes access to your regular polling place can be difficult. If so, you may want to use Early Voting instead, since all Early Voting sites must be accessible. But if you prefer to vote on Election Day, you can vote from the curb without leaving your car. Polling places have a special spot for curbside voting near the front entrance. Simply pull up and wait and a poll worker will come out to assist you. (Usually, voters entering the polls will alert the poll worker that a car is waiting.) Before you go to vote, you may also want to check the accessibility of the polling place by calling the local Board of Elections or the State Board of Elections at 1-866-522-4723. You have the right to request another permanent polling place before the election if yours is inaccessible. Remember, if you go to your polling place and find it is inaccessible, you can vote at any other polling place in the county by asking for a Provisional Ballot.

For more information on disability rights in North Carolina, call Disability Rights North Carolina at 1-877-235-4210 (voice) or 1-888-268-5535 (TTY). Or visit their website at www.disabilityrightsncc.org

Make sure every vote counts: Be a part of Election Protection!

True democracy means every voter is respected and every vote counts. To make sure the election is fair, you can be part of a national effort called Election Protection. Election Protection is a coalition of national and state organizations that train local volunteers, monitor elections and help voters who encounter problems or see suspicious activity at polling locations. Based on the information it receives, Election Protection can quickly dispatch lawyers to talk with election or court officials and insist that all election laws are followed and voter's rights are respected. You can volunteer to help in three ways:

1. Be a poll monitor who receives training to look for possible problems;
2. Help staff a hotline in North Carolina that relays problems to lawyers and others;
3. Tell others about the Election Protection Hotline and tell them to call if they have problems: 1-866-OUR-VOTE.

To volunteer or to report a problem or suspicious activity, call the toll-free Election Protection Hotline at 1-866-OUR-VOTE (1-866-687-8683).

ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING—Locations, Dates, Times

Hal Marshall Annex—618 North College St, Charlotte

Weekdays

Oct 20-21 8:00AM—5:00PM
Oct 24—Nov 4 8:00AM—7:00PM

Weekends

Oct 29 (Sat) 10:00AM—1:00PM
Oct 30 (Sun) 1:00PM—4:00PM
Nov 5 (Sat) 10:00AM—1:00PM (Final Early Voting Day)

Additional Locations

Beatties Ford Rd. Library, 2412 Beatties Ford Rd., Charlotte
Hayes Bldg (Ballantyne), 11405 N. Community House Rd., Charlotte
Independence Regional Library, 6000 Conference Dr., Charlotte
Main Branch Library (Downtown), 310 N. Tryon St., Charlotte
Matthews Branch Library, 230 Matthews Station St., Matthews
Morrison Regional Library, 7015 Morrison Blvd, Charlotte
Mountain Island Library, 4420 Hoyt Galvin Way, Charlotte
North County Regional Library, 16500 Holly Crest Ln., Huntersville
South County Regional Library, 5801 Rea Rd, Charlotte
Steele Creek Library, 13620 Steele Creek Rd, Charlotte
University City Regional Library, 301 East W.T. Harris Blvd, Charlotte
West Boulevard Library, 2157 West Blvd, Charlotte

Additional locations open these hours:

Oct 29 (Sat) 10AM—1:00pm
Oct 30 (Sun) 1:00PM—4:00PM
Oct 31—Nov 4 (weekdays)
11:00AM—7:00PM
Nov 5 (Sat) 10:00AM—1:00PM
(Final Early Voting Day)

RIDES TO THE POLLS

For free transportation to the polls on November 8 call the Mecklenburg Voter Coalition at **704-550-6118 (new number)**

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Voter Guide design and content by the **League of Women Voters of Charlotte-Mecklenburg**. The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Join the League and be directly involved in shaping the important issues in our community. Membership in the League is open to men and women of all ages. With more than 9` years of experience and 850 local and state affiliates in all 50 states, the League is one of America's most trusted grassroots organizations. For more information please visit www.goleaguego.org or call and leave us a voice mail message at 704-556-4600.

Additional support and distribution of this voter guide is being provided by:

KidsVoting, a non-partisan nonprofit 501(c)3 program educating Charlotte-area elementary, middle and high school students about

civic engagement, life skills, leadership and government through an effective combination of standards-based civics education, authentic election experiences, volunteering and service learning, and opportunities for students to learn about and get involved in government and the community. For more information, please visit www.kidsvoting.org

And member organizations of the **Mecklenburg GOTV** (Get Out the Vote) Coalition. This coalition's mission is to increase the capacity of non-profits and community organizations to do non-partisan civic engagement work that both educates potential voters and increases voter turnout in Mecklenburg County. For more information about the Mecklenburg GOTV coalition, contact Charlotte-based Democracy NC Organizer Robert Dawkins at robertdawkins@democracy-nc.org or 704-957-3105.