

APPLICANT INTEREST: CHERYL LOVELL

With about a year left in the current term, I believe the Board will benefit from appointing someone who is very familiar with the school communities as well as the role and responsibilities of a trustee. It would be an asset to appoint a candidate who can undertake the position quickly to be an active member of the board of trustees.

As a retired teacher with 33 years of experience with the GECDSB, most of those years in Amherstburg/LaSalle schools, as well as 12 years of service with the GECDSB as a Trustee, I feel the combination of my qualifications and experience would make me an excellent candidate to fill one of the two vacancies. Not only do I know the responsibilities, but I have also served at the provincial level as the OPSBA Director for the GECDSB.

My resume, which forms part of this application, outlines my teaching career as well as the positions of added responsibility as a trustee which I hope will be informative of the experience I could bring again as a trustee.

During the first 18 years of my teaching career (15 years in Family Studies), I taught students from the schools in the Amherstburg/LaSalle constituency. These schools included the former Prince Andrew Public School (now Legacy Oak Trail Public School), Amherstburg Public School, Anderdon Public School (Amherstburg) and Malden Central Public School (Amherstburg). I have a strong appreciation for the family of schools in Amherstburg/LaSalle and feel I can relate and be useful in representing these areas of the district school board.

When Family Studies and Industrial Arts were discontinued in individual schools, the board developed a new approach and program named "Design 2000" for all elementary students. I was one of five teachers selected to develop the program, design and write the curriculum as well as to implement the program for all County elementary students. Although the program was located at Essex High School, I was responsible for teaching students from all the elementary schools across the County, which increased my familiarity with the school communities of not only Amherstburg/LaSalle but also Leamington/Pelee Island.

When the County and City school boards amalgamated, a parallel program was created for all Windsor elementary schools. The City program was located at Herman Secondary School and I was selected to train and work with two Windsor teachers to setup and implement this "high tech" program for the City elementary program.

Design 2000 was a great opportunity for me to become familiar with all the elementary schools in the system and to ensure that the program continued to meet the needs of the students.

As a trustee, I appreciated the fact that we represented the entire district school board, both elementary and secondary panels, and my teaching experience helped me a great deal in knowing the school communities and ensure that board decisions were responsive to student needs and well-being.

During my 12 years as a trustee, I was an active member of many committees at the board level, as well as OPSBA and the Ministry.

Name of Applicant: Cheryl Lovell (Continued)

As a member of the Supervised Alternative Learning Committee, I would like to point out that the committee dealt with students from both the City and County Schools, and I attended these committee meetings, monthly at Leamington District Secondary School.

My considerable experience as a trustee should assure you that I am very familiar with the protocols and procedures which contribute to good governance. While committee names may have changed and updated policies and procedures may now be in place, I am confident in my ability to quickly adapt.

My personal philosophy while teaching for the board, and as a former trustee, is "Learning for All". I strongly believe in public education that is inclusive and equitable for all students. The fact that all students can learn is a personal guiding value as an educator, trustee and community volunteer.

I have a personal investment in this guiding value in that my grandson was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. This contributed to my keen interest in how schools can support children and families struggling with ASD. To support this interest, I took classes at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak Michigan related to autism which helped me learn and understand the impact on families, available treatments and community supports. This additional training helped me also in my role as a trustee to ensure that student needs were identified as early as possible and that resources and programs were provided to support these needs.

Lastly, I would like to mention that I have personal lived experience related to special needs. I have learned to compensate for my physical challenges and continue to be highly active in both my professional life, public service and community volunteer roles.

I urge you to read this Notice of Application Form in conjunction with my resume for the full range of information regarding my commitment to public education, my extensive involvement with the Greater Essex County District School Board and its communities to support my candidacy. I believe that I was successful in my past service as trustee and can continue to serve as a strong trustee advocate for public education. I will serve the best *interests of all students across the district and feel confident that I can effectively* represent the areas of Amherstburg/LaSalle or Leamington/Pelee Island until the end of the term.