



Marine Village School Election Nominee Applications (2025)

9 Seats Available

Parent Nominees

- Kate McDearmon (A current parent of both a 3rd grader and alumni student, as well as, an incumbent member)
- Dr. Katie Swanson (Current parent of both Kindergarten and 3rd grade students)

Teacher Nominees

- Anessa Beimert (MVS Kindergarten Teacher)
- Lauren Henninger (MVS 2nd Grade Teacher)
- Michelle Johnson (MVS 1st Grade Teacher and incumbent member)
- Colleen Tetreault (MVS Special Education Teacher)

Community Member Nominees

- Jenn Cress (Community Member and incumbent member)
- Gerald Glomb (Community Member)
- Kelly A. Jeanetta (Community Member and incumbent member)
- Michael Lammi (Community Member and incumbent member)
- Kien Nguyen (Community Member and incumbent member)



Parent Nominees



Parent Nominee: **Kate McDearmon**

My Name is **Kate McDearmon** and I am a current school board member.

Over the past few years, I have been deeply involved in various initiatives that have positively impacted our school. My dedication to fostering an inclusive and supportive educational environment has driven my efforts to address the unique needs of our students and staff.

I am committed to continuing this important work and to contributing my experience and insights to further advance the goals of our school community. I believe that my background, combined with my passion for education and community service, makes me a strong candidate for the parent 2-year position on the school board.

Thank you for the opportunity,

Kate McDearmon



Parent Nominee: Katie Swanson

My name is **Katie Swanson** and I live in Marine on St. Croix.

Why I am interested in a board position:

In the late winter of 2024, my three daughters, husband and I toured MVS. We were looking for a change and considered moving to the St. Croix Valley. We were drawn to MVS because of its small size, commitment to love of learning, focus on ecology, and the development of thoughtful citizens. Within a few minutes of stepping into the school, we knew it was where we wanted to be.

MVS is a special place. It is also in a period of transition, and still very new. I want to be on the board because I want to help see it through to the next phase of stability. My oldest is in 3rd grade, and my youngest is 3 years old. Largely because of MVS, we moved within walking distance of the school and are here to stay.

On a personal note, my professional background is in medicine. I work as a physician in the St. Croix Valley. I completed residency at North Memorial and before medical school I was an ER nurse at Hennepin County Medical Center. I have experience working with, listening to, and learning from diverse and often differing perspectives. I bring a commitment to excellence, a strong work ethic, and a well-developed sense of teamwork. Outside of medicine I love to spend time with my 3 daughters and spouse, explore and care for nature, connect with friends, make music and art, and give back to my community.

Thank you for your consideration!

Board seat classification: Parent



Teacher Nominees



Teacher Nominee: Anessa Beimert

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Marine Village School Board. As an experienced kindergarten teacher I have a strong commitment to public education. I believe I can contribute meaningfully to the MVS school board mission of fostering academic excellence and student success.

My background includes being involved in education for over 20 years in a variety of roles including kindergarten, intervention and special education as well as serving as an interim board member at a charter school. I am particularly passionate about equitable education, innovative learning experiences, teacher leadership, and fostering a love of learning and I believe that my perspective would be a valuable asset to the board.

I am eager to collaborate with fellow board members, school administrators, educators, and families to ensure that all students have access to high-quality educational opportunities. I understand the importance of transparent governance, sound policy-making, and maintaining public trust.

I am looking forward to representing our community here at MVS at this crucial time in our school's history with our first ever elected board. I want to see MVS thrive and flourish more than it already is for both teachers and students.

Thank you for considering my application. I would be honored to serve the community in this important capacity!

Sincerely,

Anessa Beimert

Kindergarten Teacher



Teacher Nominee: Lauren Henninger

My name is **Lauren Henninger** and I am the 2nd grade teacher at Marine Village School.

Why are you interested in a board position?

I am interested in joining the Marine Village School Board because I am committed to the continued success and growth of this school. Over the course of my two years here at MVS, I have witnessed first-hand the extremely unique and supportive environment that the school offers, and I believe there is no other school quite like it. As a second-year teacher who began my career here, I've had the privilege of not only teaching but also being part of developing processes within the school that help it run on a daily basis. Watching it grow in size has been an incredibly rewarding experience, and I'm excited to continue contributing to this journey in an impactful way.

The dedication of the teachers, staff, and administrators is nothing short of inspiring and encouraging. They work tirelessly to create a positive, nurturing, and academically challenging environment for our students. I have seen the results of their hard work in the success and well-being of our students, and I believe strongly that this school has the potential to achieve even greater things. My hope is by being elected to the board, I would be in a position to not only support but also help guide the strategic decisions that will shape a successful future for MVS.

I am passionate about being a part of something larger than myself, and serving on the board would provide me with an opportunity to directly contribute to the long-term success of a school that has already given me so much. The growth of MVS has been a community effort, and I want to continue to be a part of that process. With my experiences as a teacher here I hope to help guide MVS toward continued success by being a voting member of the board.

Sincerely,

Lauren Henninger

2nd Grade Teacher



Teacher Nominee: Michelle Johnson

My name is **Michelle Johnson** and I am the 1st grade teacher at Marine Village School.

I am running for a position on the school board because I believe in MVS! I am passionate about fostering an environment where every child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

As a teacher at MVS, I have the opportunity to see first hand, the impact our school has on our students and community. I also see the hard work and dedication that every member of our staff give on a daily basis to make MVS the special place that it is. I want to help ensure that our school continues to provide a high-quality, innovative learning experience tailored to the needs of each student, while making sure that those contributing to these experiences feel valued each and every day.

Having been involved in education for over 25 years, I've seen firsthand the positive impact that engaged leadership can have on the direction and success of a school. I believe I can bring valuable perspectives and a collaborative spirit to the board. My goal is to work closely with other board members, administrators, teachers, and parents to maintain a school environment where creativity, critical thinking, and engaged learning are prioritized.

Marine Village School is a special place! Its small size, dedicated staff, involved community, proximity to outdoor learning spaces, theatre program, and high academic standards are what make it so special. I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the future success of our school and our students.

Sincerely,

Michelle Johnson

1st Grade Teacher



Teacher Nominee: Colleen Tetreault

I am running for a two-year teacher chair position.

I am currently the special education teacher here at MVS. I have many teaching experiences in various positions. I would like a seat on the board because I will advocate for students who are being serviced by an Individualized Education Program (IEP), as well as those who are struggling and need help within our school. With my experience in special education, I would support all student achievements and provide opportunities for all students. MVS is a special place, and I want to be part of its future success.

As a board member, I will advocate for continued unique opportunities for our students such as time outdoors, physical education, science specialist teaching, Spanish class, music class, and theater.

Sincerely,

Colleen Tetreault

Special Education Teacher



Community Member Nominees



Community Member Nominee: Jennifer Cress

My name is **Jennifer Cress** and I am a Founding Board Member/Community Director.

I have believed and worked on behalf of the community and our dear MVS since its inception. I believe my creative skills along with diplomacy and my passion for our kids and the MVS family is as important to me now as it was when we first started the process of opening this beloved school!

Along with my all-in attitude, from discovery to finished product, I bring big-picture vision, inspired ideation, strategic solutions, and detailed management to every project. I thrive in generating new approaches and connecting the community to create safe spaces for growth.

- **October 2021 - Current Founding Board Member**
- Member originally responsible for the coordination and alignment of resources for Marine Village School to achieve marketing, engagement, board member, and staff goals.
- Helped to create and collaborate to create a high-performing community wherein students and families feel supported, and community members feel connected and successful.
- Previously managed all social media channels and online engagement, print materials, graphic design, and online PR.
- Helped grow enrollment via community and social engagement from 0-100 (cap 125) in 1.5 years.
- 5 years of service on the Marine Village School Board.



Community Member Nominee: Gerald Glomb

My name is **Gerald Glomb** and I am applying for a board seat as a community member.

Having a school in town is essential to keeping the community vibrant and thriving. Marine faces unique challenges due to its geography, with resources and representation heavily concentrated in the southern part of the school district. To ensure the presence of a school in Marine, a robust volunteer effort is crucial. I believe I have both the skills to contribute meaningfully and the time to devote to this important cause.

I recently concluded two terms as a Trustee at Hill-Murray School, where I served as Chair of the Finance Committee. After my term ended, I continued to serve on that committee to ensure continuity. During my tenure, I used my background in nonprofit governance to help guide the school through a transformative period, shifting its management practices from traditional "ma and pa" operations of the 20th century to a modern, strategic governance model. This transformation was crucial as the school was woefully unprepared for the steep enrollment decline that followed the 2008 recession.

At Marine Village School, I could bring the same willingness to address the non-exciting and often overlooked but essential governance functions that underpin a school's stability and long-term success. Key areas I could contribute to include board development, strategic planning, financial oversight, policy creation and review, risk management, compliance assurance, and, in my view, the most frequently overlooked yet critical governance function—mission fidelity.

My commitment to these governance functions would ensure that Marine Village School is equipped to thrive, adapt, and fulfill its mission. Please let me know if you'd like further information.



Community Member Nominee: Kelly A. Jeanetta

My name is **Kelly A. Jeanetta**. I live in Marine on St. Croix.

I am applying for a two-year seat as a community member.

I am an incumbent, having been on the Board since August 2024. Currently, I am Secretary of the Board. I would like to continue my work on the Board.

I am an attorney with over 25-years' experience in the labor and employment law arena. My husband, Dan Willenbring, and I have lived in Marine since spring of 1998. Two of our three children attended Marine Elementary School. (Our oldest, Erin, attended Scandia Elementary.). All three graduated from Stillwater High School. Our children now have their own children. Our school-age grandchildren attend Stillwater schools.

We loved the Marine School. It was the beating heart of our community. Our kids received an excellent education at that school. Many of our life-long friends are parents of the kids who went to school with our kids.

The four cornerstones of the Marine Village School are academics, ecology, community, and service – which is so fitting because our community is filled with members who model those building blocks every day.

A thriving school environment will help to insure the vitality of our city and instillation of those important values in our young people is instrumental to maintaining a civil society. I welcome the opportunity to be part of this school community and to provide whatever service I can in order to help this school thrive.



Community Member Nominee: Mike Lammi

My name is Mike Lammi and I am hereby applying to run for an MVS Board position. I am willing to run for a two year community board position.

I am currently serving on the board as Treasurer and am happy to continue on in that position for the next two years. I have been involved with the MVS school board since approx. December 2023.

As a Minnesota native, I grew up just south of Duluth, in Carlton MN, and graduated from the University of Minnesota with a BS in Ag and Applied Economics. After spending several years in the US Peace Corps, I married and settled back in Minnesota.

Starting out at the Minneapolis Grain Exchange as a runner on the floor, I soon worked up to become a futures and cash trader. This trajectory propelled me on a 35 plus year career working within the Food and Beverage industries on all things purchasing and supply chain related. I have worked for 5 fortune 100 companies delivering results as a Director of Strategic Sourcing and Business Consultant, while traveling extensively in Japan, China, Europe, and the United Arab Emirates.

Having lived in Marine on St. Croix since 2002, I have come to understand the importance of education within our community. Local involvement is important, and I have tried to do my part and enjoyed serving as a Co-President of the Marine Elementary School Parents association, a Cub Scout and Boy Scout Leader, Football Coach, president of the Jackson Meadow HOA board and a past member of the Marine City Council.

Additionally, I have an entrepreneurial streak that has, over the years, led me to start several small companies that are still in operation today and even though I am now "retired" I still have no problem keeping myself busy.



Community Member Nominee: Kien Nguyen

My name is **Kien Nguyen** and I live in Marine on St. Croix.

I am applying for a community member position.

I am an incumbent candidate, having joined the Board in October 2024. Currently, I am the Vice Chair of the Board and lead the Governance Committee.

I am a healthcare executive with over 25 years of experience in the medical device industry. My wife, Julie Warren, and I have lived in Marine since 2021. Julie grew up in Marine on St. Croix and attended Marine Elementary School. She also graduated from Stillwater High School, and we met as students at University of MN over 35 years ago.

I grew up in Rochester, MN and have attended public schools throughout my educational experiences. I believe that great schools are critical to encourage a love of learning and provide a strong foundation for life-long learning experiences.

Marine on St. Croix is our forever home, and we are committed to supporting the community. Julie currently serves as a member of the planning commission, and we are both volunteers at the Marine Mills Historical Site and other civic projects. We strongly believe that Marine Village School is a critical component to our community and will continue to serve an important role in the future of Marine. I want to contribute to this future by serving as a community school board member.