

## Greer Middle College 2021 Special Election BOD Candidates

### Lori Larsen

My name is Lori Larsen and I am interested in serving on the GMC School Board. I strongly support the mission of Greer Middle College of preparing our students to enter a competitive 21st century workforce. I have two daughters currently attending GMC, a sophomore and a junior. My desire for them - and for all GMC students - is that they receive a high quality education that prepares them for the future.



I have a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Marshall University and a Masters degree in Education from Furman University. My professional career spans more than 20 years in the education space and includes work in the public, private, and homeschool environments. I have been a classroom teacher, a professional development specialist, and an administrator at the district level.

I am currently employed as an Educational Consultant for Public Consulting Group where I have the opportunity to work with state departments of education and school districts across the country, designing online professional learning for teachers and administrators.

I would like to serve on the board so I can be an active participant in maintaining excellence at Greer Middle College and to support the teachers and staff dedicated to this school and its students.

### Hannah Mahaffey

My name is Hannah Mahaffey and I would appreciate the opportunity to continue serving on the Board of Directors for Greer Middle College Charter High School. I have worked as the Director of Community Engagement for Greenville Federal Credit Union for the past six years and currently serve as the Academic Excellence Committee Chair for Greer Middle College Charter High School's Board of Directors. I am a Greenville native and attended Clemson University, where I received my degree in marketing and management. I come from a family of educators and have seen firsthand the positive impact of charter schools through my brother's attendance at Langston Charter Middle School and Greenville Tech



Charter High School. I have served on the Board of Directors since 2019 and represented the school at the South Carolina Charter Schools Conference in late 2019. Under my leadership, the Board of Directors administered a school survey to gather feedback from students, parents, and faculty and developed actionable recommendations for school administration. I have also been a senior project judge for the past 5 years and my company contributes annually to the school's fundraiser initiatives. In addition to Greer Middle College, I also serve on the Advisory Council for Rebuild Upstate, the Greenville Chamber's Business Advocacy Committee, and the Greer Chamber's Programs and Events Committee. I am passionate about my community and education and would appreciate the opportunity to continue supporting Greer Middle College by serving on the Board of Directors.

### **Jason B. Ross, Ed.D**

I am the Director for Corporate Development at North Greenville University. I am responsible for increasing the visibility of the University in the area. It is important to identify, cultivate, solicit stewarding corporations, corporate foundations, and private foundations. I am actively engaged in working to establish long-term partnerships and strengthen existing relationships with the corporate and foundation sector, as well as other key communities, that will result in funding for the immediate and long-term goals of the University. I am also an adjunct professor where I teach under the College of Business and Entrepreneurship at NGU. I am also The Battalion Commander in the SC Military Department. I enjoy surfing, backpacking and spending time with my wife Shelley and son Kaiden.



### **Zach Salvato**

Zach Salvato has more than twenty years' experience in Information Technology with strong credentials in the areas of IT infrastructure and services, information security systems and compliance, administrative systems, and client support services.

Mr. Salvato has served as the Director of Information Technology of the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport District since July 2017. He provides leadership for the continued development of an innovative, robust, and secure information technology environment throughout the Airport.



Mr. Salvato was a recipient of the 2019 SC CIO award recognizing outstanding South Carolina-based information technology executives.

Mr. Salvato received a bachelor's in Management Information Systems from the University of South Carolina Upstate. Mr. Salvato also holds several industry recognized certifications (MCSE, CCNP, CCNA Security, CEH, VCP-DCV, C.M.)

### **Gerald Tilson**

\*South Carolina native born and raised in Charleston and relocated to Greenville in 2000.

\*Married for 16 years to Erin Tilson with three children spanning elementary to high school (daughter is currently a freshman at GMC).

\*M.Ed. Clemson University 2005

\*Taught as a special education teacher with Greenville County Schools (GCS) for 13 years.

\*Currently serving my fourth year as a Special Education Specialist supporting special education programming at multiple elementary school locations in GCS.



### **Brad Wallace**

20+ years of Human Resource Leadership Experience with Fortune 100 organizations such as The Dollar General Corporation and Honeywell Aerospace. Current HR Executive with JPS Composite Materials. Prior volunteer experience as Technology Committee for Tulpelhocken School District (PA), Taylors Elementary Watch-Dog Volunteer (SC), 5 year Board member within the United Methodist Church (NC), and founding member, officer and past president of Union County HR Association (NC). MS in Human Resource Management from Western Carolina University, BS in Technology from Trevecca Nazarene University. Former Society for Human Resources Academic Scholar and currently hold SHRM-SCP, PHR and Steel Sports Certified Coach



designations. Optimistic, creative, out-of-the-box thinker who is passionate about developing young people and organizations.

## **Paige Wisdom**

Hi, I'm Paige Wisdom. My son, Chase, is a freshman at GMC. We moved to Greenville about two years ago from the DC area. Chase attended Camperdown Academy prior to GMC. I also have a 24 year old daughter who is an aspiring actor. She lives in Brooklyn, NY.



I'm a senior financial services executive with experience as a Chief Financial Officer, Chief Risk Officer, and capital markets leader at large public companies, mid-sized private companies, and FinTech start ups. I currently serve on Morgan Stanley Bank N.A. And Morgan Stanley Private Bank's board of directors. I'm a member of the the Audit and Risk committees and previously served as chair of the Operations and Technology committee and the Nomination and Governance committees. I have been a board member for the past six years. My undergraduate degree is in math and computer science from the University of Illinois, Chicago, and I hold and MBA from The University of Chicago, Booth School of Business.

I am passionate about education. My mother holds her masters degree in Education and worked for the Illinois Office of Education. She still consults with the Chicago Public Schools at the age of 85! My father was a high school teacher and basketball coach his entire career. He still has former students who stay connected with him.

I feel one of the most important contributions I can make for my kids is giving them the best educational opportunities possible. For my daughter, it was enrolling her in schools that not only provided academic excellence but also art and drama programs that allowed her to perform and grow. For Chase, who has dyslexia, it has been finding academic environments that support a variety of ways to learn. He also is very athletic, so having sports activities have been a priority for him.

I would be honored to join GMC's board of directors. I believe in the school's mission of creating a community of learners where mutual respect, trust, integrity and the pursuit of knowledge are valued. I am also aligned with their priority of providing equitable opportunities for all students to acquire an education focused on linkages among technology, careers, and rigorous academics. I feel my financial and risk background along with my belief in the importance of education make me a very qualified candidate.