

## **Carla Cain Wieggers**

*530 Bittersweet Road • Lansing, Kansas 66043 • (913) 297-0502 • c.wieggers@yahoo.com*

### **EXPERIENCED LEADER**

- **Military Analyst for the Department of Defense Office of Inspector General, Pentagon**
- **Colonel, US Army recently retired with 30 years of federal service**
- **Commander, administered/facilitated/delivered coursework of Tactical Information Operations**
- **Supervisor, ensured subordinate instructors gained qualification and course accreditation**
- **Leader, held positions of increasing responsibility to human and fiscal resources, accountability**

### **TEACHER/INSTRUCTOR/TRAINER**

- **Northrop Grumman, contract instructor/trainer of War Simulation Exercises, current**
- **Morgan Hunter Education Division specialist in support of multiple school districts, current**
- **Central Texas College Adjunct Faculty, taught American History**
- **Lansing Elementary, provided differentiated instruction for special needs students**
- **Ancilla Center, University of Saint Mary, KS, developed and delivered reading skills lessons**
- **Nisqually Middle School, WA, taught English and Social Studies**

### **VOLUNTEER**

- **Site Council Leader/Member, Elementary/High School/District level, USD469, current**
- **Leader of Girl Scouts USA, Lansing Troop 506, 2005 to current**
- **Church Council Chair, First United Methodist Church, Leavenworth, current**
- **Musician, First United Methodist Church, Leavenworth praise team, current**
- **Mission work Appalachia Service Project, Canyonlands, KC City Union Mission, Kitchen Angels**
- **Sponsor, church youth group, Sunday school teacher, camp counselor of special needs adults**
- **Board Member, Lansing Community Library**
- **Board Member, River City Community Players, Leavenworth**
- **Board Member, Friends of the Frontier Army Museum, Fort Leavenworth**

### **EDUCATION**

**University of Illinois**  
**MA in Public History**

**Illinois State University**  
**Educational Administration**  
**BS in English Education, teacher certification**

#### **Continuing Education**

**Faculty Development Course, Assessment in the 21st Century Classroom, Equal Employment Opportunity Course, Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection, Joint Inspector General's Course, Cybersecurity, Jamestown Archeology Field School, current Security Clearance**

**Personal Interests: history, camping, travel, National Parks, music**

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Dear Members of the Board of Education USD469,

It is with great enthusiasm that I request to be considered for the available school board position.

I truly believe that it is at the local municipal level of government where we model morals and social norms for our children. They watch how we as parents value and regard others in our community and support our fellow citizens and the spirit of our town. They emulate that civic relationship as they grow and contribute to their community, either here or in a new place.

We already know each other, you and I, for we have visited together on the bleachers at a football game, maybe listened to the pep band in the gym, auditorium, at a breakfast, etc. Barb Robinson, Pete's spouse, was an inspiring 3rd grade teacher to both of my daughters. Debbie Deere's first bill in the Kansas House encompassed early Scoliosis Screening in Kansas schools, because she took the time to listen to our oldest daughter's story. A current sophomore at the United States Air Force Academy, our daughter Leah has frequently commented about the pride she feels for having come from the same high school as Scott Hattok, Falcon Football Captain, and that Scott never fails to acknowledge her by name when they meet in the halls of the Academy. I thank John and Stephanie Dalbey for telling my Girl Scouts about the national Coca Cola Scholars Foundation; two of my girls were selected as Kansas semifinalists representing Lansing in 2018 and 2020.

I have high expectations for the students of our district as they grow from K-12 and as they launch into their own. I am a huge advocate of developing critical thinking in youth, resiliency and stretching them to find their voice through service and gain compassion for others. I have served as a Girl Scout leader for fifteen years in this community. Girl Scout Troop 506 started in kindergarten, and those girls are now in their Senior year at Lansing High School. I have mentored ten young women to earn their Girl Scout Gold Award, Girl Scouts' highest honor accomplished by less than 6% of those eligible. Among the issues they independently researched and advocate are Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, Voters Rights, Alzheimer's, Scoliosis, Anxiety and Depression, Ecology. Many of the girls chose these topics based on their personal experiences. They engaged lawmakers, conducted interviews and developed proclamations to take action and make their world a better place.

And I have observed *your* collective service to my community, School Board, and the policies that you have developed that guide our district and school culture. I offer you my energy and wide breadth of experience to collaborate for student success.

Respectfully,

Carla W. Wieggers, Colonel, US Army (Retired), March 27, 2020



Lansing Unified School District no. 469  
School Board Candidate Questionnaire

Name Carla W. Wiegers

1. Why do you want to be on the Board of Education and what has been your past involvement in our schools?

I want to serve on the board to support the deliberate learning environment for students of our district. Our two daughters thrived in this educational environment, both were admitted to highly selective colleges (United States Air Force Academy and University of Chicago). The support of teachers and administrators contributed to this success. I am encouraged by the update of the local curriculum and the deliberate and systematic Professional Development the district is recently adopting through the Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) process, and I seek to be a part of this change. I have been an involved parent and I have observed the process and decisions made in USD 469 since 2005. My involvement has included: LES Site Council from 2005 to 2012, Room Parent, Field Trip Chaperone, Field Day volunteer, paraprofessional, substitute teacher, Future Cities volunteer, Model United Nations Judge, Cross Country Parent, Band Parent, Speech & Debate Judge and Hospitality Host, Scholars Bowl Judge, Operation Graduation Committee 2018 and 2020, LHS Site Council 2016-2020, District Site Council 2020.

2. What role does the board have in supervising improvements in curriculum and instruction?

The role the board has in supervising improvements is to select an innovative superintendent and trust that individual to carry out the authority legally granted to that position by the board, state and federal levels to provide excellent education. The board should support the superintendent in choosing exceptional educators to form a strong faculty. With this delegated responsibility, the board should expect selected professional staff to facilitate, develop and implement interlinked and nested curriculum and instruction that advances concepts from kindergarten through 12th grade. The board should provide resources necessary to carry out district vision. KESA has a direct impact on improving curriculum and instruction through a comprehensive model that is synchronizing the professional efforts of our district. The board should request to be kept apprised of the KESA process at regular intervals, offering support and assistance of resources necessary to reach and sustain accreditation objectives and, ultimately, student achievement.

3. In your opinion, how much involvement should the board have in the preparation of budget priorities?

In preparing budget priorities, the involvement of the board should reflect school policies and meet legal requirements. Additionally, transparency and collaboration of the many stakeholders

in a district and the community is imperative. The board should receive monthly budget reviews. The board must work professionally with the superintendent to establish priorities and fully understand the allocation of funds as it relates to student achievement. The board has a trusted role to demonstrate good stewardship of fiscal resources of the community and simultaneously support the superintendent.

4. Do you think boards of education should evaluate their performance annually and set district goals? Why or why not?

Yes. It is integral for an effective organization to have a feedback loop. The process of Goal-setting, Performance (executing the business of the board) measurement and Evaluation provides the opportunity for critical thinking, creative problem solving and reflection upon the decision-making process and the resulting impact. Annual performance evaluation should include candor and professionalism to hold the board accountable for accomplishing district goals in support of the vision of student achievement. Criteria should be determined through measurable objectives clearly defined and published early in the year - these are targets and quantifiable milestones for the strategic focus of the board to strive to achieve. For example, I have discerned that there could be more of a linkage between the site councils of each building and the district site council. I was pleased to learn that KESA considers this in its compilation of information. Site Councils should, by design, be familiar with the function of their building's leadership team, for it impacts the educational environment. This is just one facet of how the board could evaluate its performance, by perhaps widening the breadth of knowledge and interrelation and measurement among so many various groups doing great things across our district.

5. Should the board have any day-to-day involvement in the operation of the schools? Explain.

The primary day-to-day involvement of the board should be to serve as a positive delegation promoting and advocating for excellence in education for the students of this district. Day-to-day involvement of the board could best be represented by carefully crafted district policy with strategic vision that sets the superintendent, administrators, educators, students, parents and other stakeholders up for success - and allows them to do their jobs and inspire learners to become leaders. During this current COVID-19 crisis, I am incredibly proud of the rapid communication that the district has enacted as we attempt to mitigate the virus spread. Governor Kelly boldly announced the closing of Kansas school buildings under these unprecedented circumstances, and USD469 is rolling out the continuous learning and meeting the needs of our students with agility and professionalism. As a parent of a current high school senior in our home, emotions run the gamut over this. In recent years, much of her coursework had been online delivery or at least submission, so I observe that our district students and staff are more prepared than many with this instant change from physical school to virtual school.

Thank you for your consideration. Respectfully, Carla W. Wieggers, 3-26-2020