

2018 School Board Elections

The 2018 PPSEL School Board Elections will occur on October 24 from 3:00-4:00 in what is called a “Membership Meeting”. The board election ballot was decided upon by the School Accountability and Advisory Committee as prescribed by the school’s bylaws. There will be one vote per household of current PPSEL families. There are 2 positions open on the board. The three candidates and their bios are listed below in alphabetical order.

Bob Bishop

My name is Bob Bishop and I am running for the PPSEL School Board. My wife, Kate, and I have three boys who have attended PPSEL and graduated from PPSEL. We moved to Colorado from the Chicago area in 2004. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Studies Education from Oral Roberts University and a Master of Science in Management in IT/Project Management from Colorado Technical University. I have been on the PPSEL school board since 2011 and have been the board president for 2 years.

As a former teacher in the Chicago Public School system, I have worked with administration, community groups, and parents on various aspects of the Improving America’s Schools Act of 1994 and through the Title 1 programs provided by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to boost the performance of “at risk” schools in impoverished neighborhoods. In addition to my classroom teaching duties, I developed a computer-based pilot program designed to engage students through hands-on practical applications of the skills taught in traditional classrooms, directed and supervised an afterschool and Summer “Lighthouse” program designed to provide safe learning zones aimed at boosting student confidence, and served on school improvement planning committees creating zero-based budgets to cut spending on traditional programs and increase funding for programs focused on getting the students out into the community and experiencing learning through action.

Currently, I work for a software development company in the physical security arena as a business development engineer assisting our customers through detailed business analysis to solve complex operational challenges and conducting experiential adult training. Additionally, I have been actively involved in community service through the Boy Scouts of America as the founding Cubmaster of Pack 231 which meets at PPSEL and with Troop 444 which serves the Falcon/Peyton community. I believe strongly in building integrity through the demonstration of a solid character and sharing that vision with others.

I believe strongly in the community that this charter school has created and support the mission of PPSEL to actively engage the students in the learning process through practical experience. I appreciate your consideration for a position on the PPSEL School Board and look forward to serving and strengthening our community.

Jennifer Burger

Thank you for your consideration in voting me to continue working on the PPSEL school board, which I began in 2015.

I have 3 boys, one currently attending PPSEL, one who graduated from PPSEL and one who graduated from high school in 2014. My husband and I have both served in the Air Force and I am currently serving in the Air Force Reserve. After staying home with my boys for 7 years, I went back to work full-time for Lockheed Martin as a Senior Trainer. In my spare time, you will find me creating something crafty or reading a book...sometimes both at the same time. As a family, we enjoy board games and hobby farming. We recently moved a little further east to allow us to raise chickens and various other animals. It has been a fun learning experience for us all.

The decision to move our boys into PPSEL was one of the best we have ever made. I have watched my boys thrive in this environment and am continually amazed at the depth in character this school fosters. As a parent, it warms my heart to see them being taught the same values in school as I strive to teach them at home. As a member of the community, I am pleased to know the children of PPSEL are learning to build and thrive in an environment where individuality is valued and respected while working together for the community.

I believe my 19 years in the military have taught me both leadership and followership. My years as an instructor have given me some small insight into what lengths our teachers go through to help our children succeed. Having been a stay-at-home mom and a working mom, I can understand the challenges of both. As a board member, I have used my life experience to focus on the best interests of our children and hope to continue in that capacity. The choices we make for them now is an investment in our collective futures.

I am honored to have been considered to continue on the school board and look forward to serving you.

Bruce Thomas

Bruce Thomas earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Missouri Valley College where he served as the captain of the football team. After graduation, he and his wife Cortney moved home to East Texas where he taught high school math for 5 years. He currently works as a software engineer for one of the leading fund management solution providers in the nation. His analytical mind and knack for problem-solving provide innovative solutions to the multi-faceted problems he faces at work, but his love and devotion to his wife and five children make him the man he is today. All 5 of his children attend PPSEL (Pre-K, Kindergarten, 4th, 6th, and 8th grades).