

School District of Sturgeon Bay Board of Education Election Summary April 2, 2019 Election



Background:

The School District of Sturgeon Bay Board of Education consists of nine members. Terms of office are for three years, with three Board seats up for election each spring. From time to time, a Board member is unable to complete his or her term for one reason or another. The Board then can make the choice to wait until the next election, or the Board can appoint an interested citizen to serve a portion of the term of office.

Here in Sturgeon Bay we have had resignations in recent years:

- In 2014, Dr. Joel Kitchens resigned from the Board after being elected as Representative to Wisconsin's First Assembly District. Mr. Chad Hougaard was selected by the Board of Education on February 26, 2015, and sworn in at the next regular Board meeting on March 18, 2015.
- In 2016, Mr. Jake Schulz resigned from the Board in order to move to the Philippines and serve at the Children's Shelter of Cebu. Ms. Jessica Holland was selected by the Board of Education on September 7, 2016, and sworn in at the next regular Board meeting on September 21, 2016.
- In 2018, Mr. John Hauser resigned from the Board in order to complete an advanced degree and be able to serve as a hospital chaplain following a career in banking. Mr. Mike Stephani was selected by the Board of Education on July 23, 2018, and sworn in at the next regular Board meeting on August 15, 2018.

As a result of the most recent resignation, we have four candidates, all of whom are current board members, running for four spots. The three leading vote getters in the April 2, 2019 election will be elected to 3-year terms, with the fourth leading vote getter elected to a 1-year term. This 1-year term is the final year of the 3-year term John Hauser had been elected to in 2017. Then in April 2020, the Board would have three 3-year seats on the ballot once again.

April 2, 2019 Board of Education Candidates:

Let's meet the candidates running for our Board of Education this spring (*in alphabetical order*).

Scott Alger: Scott has served on our Board since April 2016. Scott had previous Board of Education experience in Thorp, Wisconsin. Scott works at Marine Travel Lift as the Director of Sales for Asia and Oceania. Scott and his wife, Linda, have three daughters and are currently serving as the host family for our Rotary exchange student, Ralu. Scott has the following to say about serving on the Board of Education: "It is an honor to serve on this board and working with our administration and staff to positively influence our students. We are all grateful to this community as they understand the importance of education and what it provides to each student and our future. I look forward to more improvements and the continuing of the students of Sturgeon Bay's strong scholastic and community reputation."

Beth Chisholm: Beth has served on our board since April 2016. Beth is a Sturgeon Bay High School graduate, along with her husband and two children, and works as the Children's Services Program Manager for Door County Human Services. Beth has the following to say about serving on the Board of Education: "It has been an honor to serve on the Sturgeon Bay School Board the past three years helping to ensure the same opportunities my husband, children and I enjoyed in our academic and extra-curricular experiences in the district. I am so proud of the well-rounded education our faculty and staff are giving to our students every day."

Chad Hougaard: Chad has served on our Board since being appointed in 2015, and then was re-elected in April 2016. Chad had previous Board of Education experience in Lancaster, Wisconsin. Chad serves as a Sergeant with the Sturgeon Bay Police Department and has lived in Sturgeon Bay since 2004. Chad and his wife, Kari, have two daughters. Chad has the following to say about serving on the Board of Education: “Public service and community involvement has always been a part of my life. Serving on the Board of Education is an honor and privilege, as we direct our education system and develop our youth into becoming productive citizens who can give back to their community.”

Mike Stephani: Mike is our newest Board member and was appointed in August 2018. Mike serves as a financial advisor with Blahnik Investment Group. Mike and his wife, Annette, have a son. Mike has the following to say about serving on the Board of Education: “I plan to serve on the Board to the best of my ability, with no agenda other than to provide the best education we can to our students. Education provides the keys to open doors for life. It is my honor to serve that mission for our children.”

Current Board Members and Offices:

The Board holds an annual reorganization meeting as part of the regular Board of Education meeting each May. At this meeting the Board considers a variety of topics from the election of officers, to special representative appointments, to the regular meeting day for the coming year, and more. At the Board meeting in May 2018, the current officers were elected by the Board.

President: Teri Hooker

Vice President: Keith Miller

Treasurer: Amy Stephens

Clerk: Tina Jennerjohn

Our remaining Board members are Scott Alger, Beth Chisholm, Jess Holland, Chad Hougaard, and Mike Stephani.

Additional election details are listed below.

When is the election? The School Board election and other elections will be held on **Tuesday, April 2, 2019.**

Where do I vote? City of Sturgeon Bay Wards 1-6, 22-24, 29 at City Hall; Wards 7-10, 18-21, 25-27 and 30 at Bay View Lutheran; Wards 11-17 & 28 at Jaycee Hall. All Town of Sevastopol eligible voters vote at the Sevastopol Town Hall (including the Town of Sevastopol residents living in Sevastopol Ward 2/Sturgeon Bay School District).

How do I get an absentee ballot if I'm not able to vote on Tuesday, April 2? In order to vote by absentee ballot in Sturgeon Bay, contact Municipal Clerk Stephanie Reinhardt at 920-746-2900. March 18 is the first day that electors are able to go into the Clerk's Office to vote. March 28 at 5:00 P.M. is the last day for electors to request an absentee ballot by mail. March 29 at 5:00 P.M. is the last day for electors to register to vote for the April 2 election—and it is also the last day to absentee vote in person in the Clerk's Office. To vote absentee ballot for Sevastopol, contact Municipal Clerk Amy Flok at 920-746-1230.

Additional Information: If you would like to see information about the school district or the educational programming operational referendum, please check out the “**District Update Presentation**” PowerPoint on the Sturgeon Bay Schools website (www.sturbay.k12.wi.us). There are also other resources available on our website, including the most recent edition of the *ClipperPride* community newsletter.

You can contact Superintendent Dan Tjernagel at dtjernagel@sturbay.k12.wi.us or 920-746-2801 if you have any questions. Thank you for taking some time to be informed on the school district-related elections this spring.