

VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION
SOUTHFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tuesday, November 3, 2020
POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

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7 Candidates for School District Board Member for TWO 6-year terms

<p>CANDIDATES for <u>SCHOOL BOARD</u></p> <p>TWO 6-year terms <i>Vote for no more than TWO</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for School Board and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position that you are running for.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top three (3) Priority Issues facing your school district and what actions would you take to address them if elected to the school board?</p>
<p>ASHANTI BLAND 27331 Red River Dr. Lathrup Village, MI 48076</p>	<p>My name is Ashanti Bland and I'm running for a seat on the Southfield Board of Education. I have lived in Southfield and Lathrup Village for over twenty years and I am a proud product of Southfield Public Schools (SPS). After graduating from Southfield-Lathrup High school I attended Central Michigan University and received my Bachelor of Science in Public Administration. I am a parent of two children. My son is a University High School Academy alumni who is currently starting his sophomore year at The University of Michigan Ann Arbor. My daughter is entering the second grade at McIntyre Elementary School. I've had over twenty years of administration experience working in the manufacturing and automotive industry, managing budgets and ensuring that organizations use best practices in diversity and inclusion. For the last five years I've been an active board member of Helping Operations for People Empowerment (H.O.P.E) a 501c3. I am a parent, alumni and advocate for the SPS district.</p>	<p>The primary issues of my campaign are health and safety for students and staff, enhancing parent engagement and allocating resources appropriately to propel the incline of student test scores in the district. I want to work as a Trustee to solidify SPS as a key Public School District in the state which will aid the state's goal of becoming a Top 10 education state in 10 years. Health and safety for SPS students during this pandemic is a top priority. ensuring that the district is engaging stakeholders to assess their concerns and needs. Regular assessments of the districts communication tools through district surveys and phone calls will increase engagement and allow for more fiscal accountability of district funds. Test scores have increased in SPS for 2018-19, we can continue this trend by supporting the Superintendent to carry out evaluations of professional staff members, and their implementation of development/training programs.</p>

SOUTHFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT (Continued)

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<p>VICKIE BROCKMAN HALL 18400 Wiltshire Blvd. Lathrup Village, MI 48076</p>	<p>I am a Director of Human Resources Operations for a large public university. I have a doctorate in Public Administration with a focus on leadership, and a MBA. I have been a resident of both Lathrup Village and Southfield for a combination of 17 years, and as well a former parent of the district with two of my three children in attendance. I served as an administrator (2015-2019) of the district in the role of Associate Superintendent of Human Resources/Legal and Labor Affairs. Serving in this role provided me with the inside knowledge of the daily operations of the district. However, most important serving in this role allowed me to attend to the district's most value assets, its employees, students and stakeholders. I will look to bring a collaborative spirit to discuss in detail short/long term goals of an education strategy that commits to a vision of high expectations for safety for all, student achievement and quality instruction in the district.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achieved learning for all students in a pandemic environment - This can be achieved by researching other liked institutions of learning using health official guidelines to ensure the safety of all. Implement small test models to determine effectiveness and student achievement. 2. Building Relationships with higher education institutions for continued learning - Make the most of relationships by partnering with local higher education institutions for a broader learning experience for students. 3. Analyze student learning data for the purpose of continuous improvement - collectively as a united board, the data can be analyzed and actions plans established that will allow for resources to be infused that support student achievement.

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<p>AMANI JOHNSON 29726 Somerset Dr. Southfield, MI 48076</p>	<p>I'm a life-long Southfield resident, proud graduate of Southfield-Lathrup High School, and member of the Southfield Parks and Recreation Board. My degree from Central Michigan University is in Public and Nonprofit Administration. When I was in high school, we faced many of the same challenges that our schools do now: crumbling infrastructure that forces kids to sit in hot classrooms or miss school altogether, suspensions and missed days of school due to dress code or other minor infractions, and a tightening budget that limits academic and extracurricular options for our children.</p> <p>I am a former substitute teacher and have worked alongside leaders that have helped to shape Southfield into the vibrant community it is today. I've worked in the offices of former Mayor Brenda Lawrence, former State Representative Jeremy Moss, and the Southfield City Administrator. My youth, ideas, and experience make me the best candidate for Southfield Board of Education.</p>	<p>Increase Revenue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lobby and work with the State Legislature to change the way school districts are funded in Michigan. - Create a Grants Office with staff tasked with applying for grants and sponsorships on behalf of students, staff, and administrators. - Invest in solar energy to save taxpayer dollars and fight climate change. <p>Increase Enrollment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listen intently to student, parent, and staff feedback. - Add academic, extracurricular, and athletic options that keep us competitive with surrounding districts, including a city-wide internship and jobs program for our students. - Promote the great things SPS is doing. If we don't tell our district's story, someone else will. <p>Build Better Relationships:</p> <p>The last meeting between our city and school officials was a year ago and there is no ongoing communication. I'll build productive working relationships with community members and elected officials because we must work together if we want to effectively advocate for our students.</p>

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MICHAEL POOLE 18830 Lincoln Dr. Lathrup Village, MI 48076	<p>Michael Poole was elected to the Southfield Board of Education in 2009. He entered the Southfield Board of Education with a “Yes We Can” approach to Leadership. His vision was to provide a servant business management style in developing cost effective solutions that would offer greater college and career workforce opportunities to students. The focus is on design, collaboration and implementation of quality accredited educational programs that would meet the economic development goals of the community.</p> <p>Michael, holds academic degrees from the following colleges and universities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelors of Science Degree in Business from Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan. • Masters of Science (MSA) Degree in International Administration from the Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. <p>Michael is a Master Platinum member of the Michigan Association of School Boards, National School Board Association, and a Lifetime member of the National MBA Association.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Keeping students, teachers, administrators, staff and parents safe during COVID-19. This will be accomplished by closely following the guidelines from the Center for Disease Control, World Health Organization and other local, state and federal officials. 2) Provide multiple modes of teaching and instruction for maximum learning. The mode of instruction will be based on the science at the time in the region. This may also be adjusted by zip code, building, floor and/ or classroom. 3) Administer a safe yet impactful educational experience by offering a rigorous high quality learning environment that leads to impactful student achievement.
BETTY CARLTON ROBINSON 21889 Glenmorra St. Southfield, MI 48076	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	
YVETTE WARE-DEVAULL 28567 Castlegate Dr. Southfield, MI 48034	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	

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<p>ANDREA WRIGHT 19785 W. Twelve Mile Rd. #145, Southfield, MI 48076</p>	<p>Candidate Andrea Wright is a long time resident of Southfield, Michigan with 20+ years involved in the Southfield Public School District...Wife and mother of three beautiful children who were taught in the district with one child currently still in the district. I have held various PTA positions as treasure, membership, vice president, and president. I currently serve as Southfield Area Council First Vice President. I also served on the 2020 Southfield School Millage Committee with the millage passing in March 2020.</p>	<p>Enrollment - Regaining the community trust (stakeholder, students, and teachers) with transparency and Integrity...Starting with listening and responding in a timely manner.</p> <p>Equity Access - Community involvement writing to our state and federal government demanding from the people we elect in position to give funding to our school district to ensure ALL children have an equal opportunity to be successful and our teachers and staff get equal pay.</p> <p>Southfield Schools Infrastructure - Sitting down with the board members to develop a plan to get ALL school buildings up to par and functioning to restore students morale.</p>

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