

**VOTER GUIDE – NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION
SOUTH LYON SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

Website: my.lwv.org/michigan/oakland-area

E-mail: lwvoami@gmail.com

Phone: 248-594-6602

5 Candidates for School District Board Member for THREE 6-year terms

<p>CANDIDATES for SCHOOL BOARD</p> <p>THREE 6-year terms <i>Vote for no more than THREE</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>ANTHONY R. ABBATE 24518 Brompton Way South Lyon, MI 48178</p>	<p>I am a veteran educator of 18 years, first teaching US History in SLCS before becoming a Principal in Livonia Public Schools. This is my sixth year on the SLCS Board of Education (Board Secretary) and SLCS Policy Committee, and I am a founding member of the South Lyon Education Foundation. My Bachelor of Education and Master of Public Administration degrees were earned from the University of Michigan, and I live with my family near Hardy Elementary, including three sons enrolled in SLCS (grades 4, 3, and preschool). I have extensive experience in both districts I represent, work daily in school policy and leadership, and serve on numerous committees dedicated to school/district improvement, positive behavior support, climate/culture initiatives, and human resources. I am passionate about serving our community and the Board has been a natural fit for my background. Though every candidate brings value, I am confident I offer the widest range and greatest depth of experience in education.</p>	<p>We must safely return all students to in-person instruction ASAP, manage our new bond projects so that these improvements are timely and of high quality, and look ahead to alleviate the budgetary impact brought on by recent state funding cuts. Reopening schools must be guided by public health considerations and community-wide teamwork. I am working with Board colleagues and SLCS leadership to ensure we remain committed to welcoming students back in October, assuming stable pandemic factors. Our bond projects will require significant committee work and oversight, in which I am excited to participate in a planning and policy-oriented role. I also look forward to engaging in future budget analysis as we seek ways to restore the positions and material resources that were cut due to the pandemic's impact on state education funding. As a career educator and the most senior incumbent on the ballot, I feel my experience has prepared me well and afforded me a unique perspective for this work.</p>
<p>MARTIN LEFTWICH 660 N. Hagadorn St. South Lyon, MI 48178</p>	<p align="center">DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	
<p>DANIEL SCHWEGLER 23755 Prescott Ln. E. South Lyon, MI 48178</p>	<p align="center">DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

SOUTH LYON SCHOOL DISTRICT (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for SCHOOL BOARD</p> <p>THREE 6-year terms <i>Vote for no more than THREE</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>ANGELA M. HARVEY <i>(Write-in)</i> 61161 Saddlecreek Dr. South Lyon, MI 48178</p>	<p>I participated in the districts strategic planning focus group 3 years ago. As a mom of 4 I wanted to learn as much as I could about the district and the educational and operational priorities. I have been on multiple non-profit boards and find that a new voice is always helpful to a team to bring in outside perspectives. I have called into many of the School Board meetings and believe it is time for a change. To bring in more community members that have a vested interest in the results of the decisions.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding concerns. It is always discussed how the district is underfunded compared to others in the state. I'd want to focus on how we can utilize and promote resources available to make up for funding gaps. 2. Staffing resources. In this challenging time it appears that staffing resources are also a big concern. I want to help the district look at creative ways to operate with the resource challenges. 3. School health and safety. This is a challenging time for all of us. I believe that we should operate in a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff. I think we need to look to other successful districts on how we can do this in an in-person situation. I believe that there was not enough time spent on planning what the fall would look like, and the start of school has been a bit of a challenge. I would have asked the administration to work the contingency plan much earlier in the year.
<p>STEVEN CLARE MORROW <i>(Write-in)</i> 58358 Eleven Mile Rd. South Lyon, MI 48178</p>	<p align="center">DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

SOUTH LYON SCHOOL DISTRICT (Continued)

2 Candidates for School District Board Member for ONE partial term ending 12/31/2024

<p>CANDIDATES for SCHOOL BOARD</p> <p>ONE partial term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</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>BRIDGETT ANNE MCDOWELL <i>(Write-in)</i> 13795 Forest Ridge Cir. South Lyon, MI 48178</p>	<p>I moved to South Lyon in 2016 with my family looking for a great community and wonderful schools.</p> <p>Professionally, I have worked in education for more than 15 years. I am a former middle school math teacher and have worked in math education, research, and assessment since 2004. I currently work in educator preparation at the Michigan Department of Education.</p> <p>I love public education. I received my M.Ed in Educational Psychology at North Carolina State University, where I focused on assessment and psychometrics. I am also a proud Michigan Wolverine.</p> <p>I live to serve. Currently, I manage social media for South Lyon Area Pumpkinfest. I am a sustaining member of the Junior League of Birmingham, MI, where I most recently served on the Management Team as the Director for Marketing & Communications.</p> <p>I am the proud mom of a Brummer Bobcat. I live for details and data. I love to research creative solutions to complicated problems. I promise to always keep all South Lyon kids my top priority.</p>	<p>1) Managing Online and In-Person Teaching</p> <p>No one could have predicted a pandemic, but SLCS teachers and staff do an amazing job adapting and showing students they care. Our educators are experts trained to teach in-person. Administration and the Board need to listen to teachers, parents, and students and support them by providing staff opportunities for professional growth and families the resources they need.</p> <p>2) Early Literacy</p> <p>SLCS's lack of a comprehensive, evidence-based early literacy program sets our students up for struggles across content areas for their entire academic careers. Teachers and staff need more support and training, including ongoing professional development. Students and teachers need evidence-based instructional resources that are proven effective for all.</p> <p>3) Early Literacy</p> <p>Because early literacy touches every aspect of a student's academic experience, I'm saying it again.</p>
<p>ANN MARIE RIMANELLI <i>(Write-in)</i> 10167 Otter Dr. South Lyon, MI 48178</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

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