

To Superintendent Dr. Ziegler and the Board Members of Loudoun County Public Schools,

My name is Lauren Shernoff and I would like to be considered for the Leesburg District Seat on the Loudoun County School Board. My husband and I have been residents in Loudoun County for 14 years, spending our first 7 years in Ashburn, then calling Leesburg home for the past 7 years. We consider it a privilege to raise our two beautiful daughters in this wonderful community. On a professional level, I am invested in our community through my work as a part time Pathways Facilitator at Loudoun County Public Schools. I believe in this community, and I believe in our schools, hence I want to take an active role by joining the school board. I will approach serving on the school board with both the lens of a parent and an educator. My professional and personal experiences have unknowingly prepared me to have a positive impact at this level as a voice for our students and teachers. We are living in unprecedented times that call for discerning wisdom, various perspectives, a listening ear, and grace towards one another and I am committed to being a board member who exhibits these characteristics.

As a parent [REDACTED], I have a vested interest in our students being safe, respected, and taught with excellence. I am actively involved in both my community and local school due to my strong belief that children reach their highest potential in the presence of strong community and school connections. I believe we must begin to get back to what really matters for our children: providing a safe community for diverse learners who are given the opportunity to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically. Since our children will shape our world they need to be empowered and adequately equipped to make meaningful contributions. The foundation for their success is built on learning in a safe, respectful, and nurturing environment combined with equitable access to the core curriculum. I look forward to creating the policies and structures that will impact a future generation for many years to come. Additionally, I anticipate restoring a positive connection with parents so they will again feel confident that sending their children to Loudoun County Public Schools ensures their students will receive the best education available.

I also envision my role as school board member through the lens of an educator. I have been working in the field of education for the last 14 years. In college I spent time working with children with Autism in addition to helping to build a school for children living with HIV in Honduras. These diverse experiences inspired me to become a teacher attuned to all students and committed to discovering unique ways to meet their individual needs. After several years as a primary teacher in Fairfax County, I entered Loudoun County Public Schools and spent the past 5 years as a literacy coach and part time Elementary Pathways Facilitator. The majority of my years as an educator have been in Title 1 schools where the focus on meeting a student's particular social and emotional needs is critical. Student needs are high and unique after the challenges of Covid-19 but we have an opportunity to leverage our strengths to help children make learning leaps through collaboration. In my role as facilitator, I collaborate with various levels of educators in a building including Principals, Classroom Teachers, Specialists (EL and Sped teachers), as well as other Department Facilitators across Loudoun County. It is this kind of collaboration that allows us to see multiple perspectives and make sound decisions to help

students succeed. I spend my days in classrooms, with teachers and students, fine tuning best practices to ensure an equitable access to core literacy instruction, as well as implementing high leverage strategies to target individual student needs for intervention. Everything I do comes from a foundational belief that it is our responsibility as educators to change outcomes for our students. It is through my relationships with teachers and staff, and working in classrooms side by side with students, that have allowed me to see that happen. I will bring this same commitment to collaboration in my work as a school board member. I believe we can find a way to put our own agendas aside and collaborate in the interest of doing what matters most for kids, which is creating a supportive learning environment at all educational levels.

I am hopeful for the future of Loudoun County Public Schools. My hope comes from the belief that when people work together, with their diverse experiences and views, toward the common goal of making decisions to positively impact students, teachers, and communities, they can change lives for the better. We have the opportunity to come together and take steps to ensure that students, staff, and parents feel both heard and supported. I believe we can rally together, to support our teachers, and ensure all students have a safe and secure environment that will support their academic and social learning. With my first hand experience as a parent and educator I look forward to humbly serving Leesburg while helping to lead LCPS forward in a new chapter. Thank you for your consideration.

Lauren E. Shernoff

Address:

OBJECTIVE

To fill the Leesburg District School Board Seat

EDUCATION

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY - Columbus, OH

- Graduated in Winter 2006 with a BS in Human Development and Family Science, Early Childhood Development and Education, *Magna Cum Laude*
- Major: Human Development and Family Science, Early Childhood Development/Education (preK-3)
- Minor: Education
- GPA: 3.82

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY - Columbus, OH

- Masters Degree in Early Childhood Education, certification Pre-K-3
- GPA 4.0

EXPERIENCE

LCPS Pathways Staff – Part Time Hourly Work

--2016-present

- Facilitate Lab Sites for Pathways and provide in classroom coaching (Guilford Elementary, Leesburg Elementary, Frances Hazel Reid Elementary School, Lucketts Elementary School)
- Help facilitate and present at Literacy Meetings and train Reading Specialists
- Support Administrative Tasks for Pathways
- Monitor and Facilitate the DRA3 for LCPS

Lutie Lewis Coates Elementary School

-2009-2015

- Kindergarten Teacher in a general education classroom
- Team Leader 2012-2014
- Literacy Committee Chair 2011-2015
- Partnership with George Mason- hosted student teacher 2010-2015
- Co-Led Back to School Boutique
 - Community outreach program to help families receive clothing and school supplies

Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences

-2007-2009 school years

- First Grade teacher in a general education classroom- 2007-2008
- Kindergarten Teacher in a general education classroom 2008-2009
- Participated in Saturday School- program for students in the community to receive master classes in the arts
 - A Partnership with George Mason University
 - Lead the parent portion: offering parents a place to discuss different topics to help their child succeed.

Richard Avenue Elementary, Student Teaching: Columbus, OH

-January 2007-June 2007

- Student Teaching in a 1st grade classroom of 25 students
- Taught for 10 weeks as the primary teacher developing and executing lesson plans across the curriculum

Publishing in *Language Arts* research journal

- Requested by program supervisor to write an excerpt of my views on inclusion as a result of my experiences in a special needs preschool
- Published March 2007:
Atkison, L. (2007). Various voices of inclusion. *Language Arts*, 84 (4), p. 387.

Oakstone Academy- Student Teaching at an Inclusive Autistic Preschool: Columbus, OH

-August 2006-December 2006

- Student taught in an inclusive preschool classroom of 14 students, 8 on the spectrum for Autism
- Learned about Autism and working with special needs students in an fully inclusive classroom
- Adapted lessons to meet the IEP goals of students
- Developed my professional skills by collaborating with special needs educators

Service Learning Trip to Honduras, "Montana de Luz" Orphanage for children with HIV/AIDS

-Spring 2006

- Completed an Independent Study with Dean Andrews, Dean of the Colleges of Education and Human Ecology, Research for developing a preschool in Honduras, Spring 2006
- Designed and set up a preschool at the orphanage
- Provided the preschool teacher with training guides
- Visited Schools in local villages to do more thorough research on the education system abroad
- Result: a functional preschool for the children at the Montana de Luz orphanage

HONORS & ACTIVITIES

Habitat for Humanity- Historian and Family Advocate

-School year 2003-2004

- Documented house building project
- Liaison between the family, the project, and Greater Columbus Habitat for Humanity

Phi Upsilon Omicron- Human Ecology Honorary

- Active member since Autumn 2004

Kappa Omicron Nu- Human Ecology Honorary

- Active member since Autumn 2004

REFERENCES

-Available Upon Request

November, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for **Lauren Shernoff**. Having hired and supervised Mrs. Shernoff for two years as her former Assistant Principal, I have been impressed by her dedication, enthusiasm, and rapport with parents and families. In her role as Kindergarten teacher, she has been a leader among her peers on her teams. She brought new ideas to our school and put them into place not only in her classroom but with her teammates as well.

Mrs. Shernoff worked closely with her teammates during Collaborative Learning Team meetings so that the needs of all the students could be better met. She developed strategy groups and also helped students before and after school. In addition, she created common assessments and consistently used technology to enhance instruction and promote student engagement. She motivated her students to always do their best and I know students and their families expressed their gratitude for Mrs. Shernoff's impact in their lives.

Mrs. Shernoff understands the challenges the many of our students bring to school with them each day, and she never gives up on her students. She is skilled at planning, teacher, coaching, and responding to student needs. She believes parents are educational partners, and works to support families as they learn together at home. Mrs. Shernoff is a model teacher, and seen by many as a "teacher's teacher." Her skills and knowledge would be a great addition to any organization.

Sincerely,

Brendan P. Menuey, Ed.D.

November 10, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

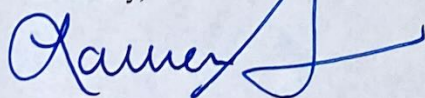
It is my pleasure to write a recommendation letter for Lauren Shernoff. I have known Lauren for four years through my role as principal of Guilford Elementary School. Lauren has served as the literacy coach for Guilford Elementary, supporting teacher literacy instruction and student achievement. I have witnessed firsthand Lauren's commitment, passion, and knowledge to the education of all students in Loudoun County Public Schools.

Lauren is committed to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential no matter their sex, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. Guilford Elementary is one of seven Title I schools in Loudoun County, this means 83% of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch. Also, 78% of students are English language learners. Lauren has been strategic in identifying resources, providing professional development, and collaborating with various stakeholders to meet the needs of students.

Lauren is passionate about students developing a lifelong love of reading. Lauren advocates for students to be taught our LCPS Comprehensive Literacy Curriculum. When reflecting on the journey here at Guilford Elementary, Lauren has listened to teachers' concerns, provided professional development, developed scaffolds, and modeled numerous lessons to improve instruction.

When she is here at Guilford Elementary to support our staff you can find her in classrooms working alongside teachers and students. She believes in coaching teachers to hone their craft and working alongside all learners to reach their potential. Her commitment to helping teachers grow, as well as meeting individual student needs is apparent in her day to day work. These skills and passions would be an asset to any organization supporting the academic needs of a child.

Sincerely,



Lauren Sprowls

Zaina Marie Agbo Brown

November 5, 2021

Loudoun County School Board
21000 Education Court
Ashburn, Virginia 20148

To Whom It May Concern:

The open position on the school board needs to be filled by a dedicated Leesburg parent who will be fair, honest, and respectful of the entire community they will represent. This person will need to be strong enough to handle the stressful nature of being on the school board and accept their focus can not simply be what will be best for their family, but what is best for all families within Loudoun County. It is a very difficult position to take on during these times, but it pleases me to recommend Lauren Shernoff as a very competent candidate.

Mrs. Shernoff is a local mother [REDACTED], where I currently serve as the President of the PTA. Throughout the years, she has been an active PTA member, helping with several of the events we have held at the school, including, but not limited to the Family Dance, Muffins with Mom, Donuts with Dad, accepting the Room Parent responsibilities each year, and offering her support to the Teacher Appreciation Committee.

Should Mrs. Shernoff be chosen to fill the vacant seat, I have no doubt that her experience within the Loudoun County Public Schools, combined with her compassion, dedication, and overall willingness to serve as an advocate for all students and families, will be a solid addition to the Loudoun County School Board.

Your careful consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Zaina Marie Agbo Brown

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]