



League of Women Voters  
of Northwest Wayne  
County

# Nonpartisan Voter Guide

CLARENCEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Election: Tuesday, May 6, 2008

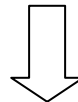
Polls are open: 7a.m. – 8 p.m.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY

Website: [www.lwnwww.org](http://www.lwnwww.org) E-mail: [lwnmail@yahoo.com](mailto:lwnmail@yahoo.com) Phone: 734-421-4420

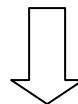
<p>Two Candidates Running for One 1-Year Term</p> <p>VOTE FOR ONE</p>	<p>Question 1: (200 words or less) Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for the School Board. What relevant qualities and skills would you bring to the position? If you have school-age children, do they attend public school in your district?</p>	<p>Question 2: (200 words or less) What are the top three priority issues facing your school district and what actions would you take to address them if elected to the school board?</p>
<p><b>Jillian Cramb</b></p> <p>18413 Floral Livonia, MI 48152</p>	<p>I am a 23 year old student at Eastern Michigan, and will receive my B.S. degree this April. I have always excelled in school and because I only graduated high school 6 years ago, I can bring a new perspective to the board if elected. Many of the exams/programs are fresh in my memory and I know what helped prepare me for life after graduation, and what did not.</p> <p>I chose to run for the board when I heard there were several open seats, which was unfortunate for a great district to be "under-staffed". Public service has always been a part of my family and I took an interest at an early age. I served 2 years as the Secretary on the Livonia Youth Commission.</p> <p>I am a highly motivated individual and put 100% of my effort into any endeavor. I am organized, creative and intelligent. I worked for the Department of Public Service for 6 years which gave me experience working well under pressure.</p> <p>I do not have any children, but if I did, I would be extremely happy to enroll them in Clarenceville Schools. I think highly of the quality education they provide, and admire the close-knit community.</p>	<p><i>Funding;</i> funding is set by the State, I would continue to look for and apply for any grants our district could be eligible for. I would also work closely with our legislators to find out about any programs or grants that could benefit our school district and continue to maintain the quality education Clarenceville provides. The majority of Clarenceville's tax dollars come from the Livonia Mall so I will work with the Mayor and his letter-writing campaign to Sears to encourage them to sell a portion their property so that we can re-develop the mall.</p> <p><i>Enrollment;</i> nobody can change the amount of students that live in the district, but we can closely evaluate the possible benefits of admitting students under the Schools of Choice program. This would have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis in order to properly weigh the pros and cons.</p> <p><i>Student achievement;</i> although Clarenceville has an astounding 98% graduation rate, student achievement is what education is all about. What needs to continue is working with students to prepare them to transition to college or other life after graduation. Current programs in place are the Oakland Technical Center, AP programs, dual enrollment and the alternative education program.</p>

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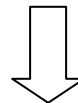
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<p><b>Brad Tripp</b></p> <p>20360 Louise Livonia, MI 48152</p>	<p>I have a BS in Electrical Engineering Technology and a MS in Engineering Management. I have been employed as an engineer at Ford for over 13 years. My wife and I have lived in the district for over 12 years and have 3 children; one of which attends Grandview Elementary.</p> <p>I chose to run for the school board because I want to help move this district forward. For the past 3 years I have attended Clarenceville School Board meetings on a regular basis. I have also visited other school district's board meetings to contrast the workings of various school boards. In addition, I have read the Clarenceville School Board Policy Manual to further my understanding of district policies and procedures. I have volunteered for many activities through the schools including chaperoning, coaching and running for treasurer for the Trojan Wrestling Club. I have also coached city sports teams and have been active in Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and with Young Marines.</p> <p>I work well in a team setting and listen carefully to the concerns of others. If there are questions that I can't answer, I am consistent and thorough in researching, then following-up to ensure that the question is answer</p>	<p>1) Budget, bond issue/funds. We need to work with other school districts and the Oakland County Schools ISD to see what services we can share.</p> <p>Bond funds have been used to complete the first phase of improvements, new roofs at all schools, by the end of this year. Some considerations for the next phase of improvement projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All schools: add air conditioning and review entrances to ensure the school offices can safely monitor the arrival of visitors</li> <li>- Redevelopment of the former high school pool</li> <li>- Repair or replace the running track</li> </ul> <p>2) Academic achievement. Review progress made through the trimesters change at the HS and the same gender classes at the MS. Additionally, I think the district should review the requirements for Blue Ribbon School designation and work on implementing changes and improvements to succeed in gaining Blue Ribbon status throughout the district.</p> <p>3) Security and safety. In addition to reviewing the safety of entrances at the schools, I would encourage the Board to examine the possibility of adding security cameras to the outside of all the school buildings (like at the high school). I would also like to request that the city examine adding caution lights on Middlebelt to flash during student arrival and dismissal times, reminding drivers to be cautious.</p>

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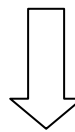
<p>Three Candidates Running for Two 4-year terms</p> <p><b>VOTE FOR TWO</b></p>	<p><b>Question 1: (200 words or less) Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for the School Board. What relevant qualities and skills would you bring to the position? If you have school-age children, do they attend public school in your district?</b></p>	<p><b>Question 2: (200 words or less)</b> <b>What are the top three priority issues facing your school district and what actions would you take to address them if elected to the school board?</b></p>
<p><b>Brenda Uren</b></p> <p>19174 Antago Livonia, MI 48152</p>	<p>I am Brenda Uren an incumbent of 10 months for Clarenceville School District, seeking re-election for a four year term. I have two children in this district - an 8<sup>th</sup> grader and a 6<sup>th</sup> grader. I have been married for 17 years. I was enrolled at Botsford Elementary School at the age of four into the preschool program. I continued my education at Clarenceville until graduating in 1979. Taking advantage of the vocational program at that time, I was able to start a career in the medical field. I spent 22 years as a physician assistant until opening my own daycare 13 years ago.</p> <p>I have chosen to seek re-election for a school board position because with the changing educational atmosphere it is important to have someone familiar with the district both past and present.</p> <p>Through my many leadership opportunities with both the district and the City of Livonia, I have exhibited the abilities of critical thinking, informed decision making and handling whatever challenges presented to me.</p>	<p>The top 3 priorities facing this district at this time are budget, student achievement and declining enrollment.</p> <p>In this day and age with reduced financing, we need to provide our students with every educational opportunity while staying within our means.</p> <p>Working together, our community- teachers, counselors, administrators and school board members can provide our students the support needed to meet their graduation requirements. By fostering each child, we are giving them the opportunity for great achievements both now and in the future.</p> <p>With the current Michigan economic forecast, declining enrollment remains a constant concern. By maintaining a positive focus we can show others what great things Clarenceville has to offer.</p>

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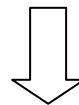
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<p><b>Cindy Immonen</b></p> <p>20427 Milburn Livonia, MI 48152</p>	<p>I have been a residence of the Clarenceville school district for about 15 1/2 years and have two boys in the school system, one at Clarenceville Middle School and one at Grandview Elementary School. I am an involved parent at Grandview Elementary School, as I have served on the FOG Board and co formed the parent ran flag-football group for 2005. I am a member of Boy Scouts of America for Pack 279 (at Grandview Elementary), holding position of Committee Chair Person. I was a member of Pack 287 (at Bostford Elementary) and held a Den Leader position with that pack. As well as being a very involved parent, I hold a management position at ASK Services, Inc.</p> <p>I feel being a part of the Clarenceville Board of Education I bring added leadership and experience that helps our community. I feel I'm a fair person when making decisions, even the hard ones that face our school system. The community and our children can trust that I will place their education and welfare first. I'm a well inform decision maker and a problem solver in these economic trying times. I have been looked upon as an excellent leader and organized person, both in a voluntary situation and professional positions.</p>	<p>First issue is the schools budget. I plan on being as well informed as possible and keeping our children in mind while making the best decision for the school.</p> <p>A second issue is parent involvement and keeping parents informed. I would like to see that we hold more parents meeting with school administration and parents. I feel that a well-informed parent is key with students today.</p> <p>The third issue is making sure our students are getting the best education possible. I plan on working with the administration regarding our curriculum and instruction that is provided to our children.</p>

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<p><b>Mark Brooks</b></p> <p>31561 Norfolk Livonia, MI 48152</p>	<p>My decision to put my name in the running is not one I came upon with light regard. I grew up in the community and graduated from Clarenceville in 1989. My wife, Melissa, and I chose to buy our first home within the district. When we outgrew that home, moving out of the district wasn't an option, so we bought our second home within the district as well. I currently have two daughters (Brittany and Cortney) that are flourishing adolescents due to the combined efforts of the dedicated staff members of the district, the community and our family. Brittany is a junior at Clarenceville High School and Cortney is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Clarenceville Middle School.</p> <p>I'm currently employed at Motion Control Components in Novi Michigan. Having stable employment with MC2 for the past six years, I have no intentions or desire to move or relocate</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student Achievement - Stay current on NCLB mandates, state standards and testing along with continually celebrating student successes. Seek ways to reduce student shortcomings. Keep teachers up to date and motivated on research based methods of teaching <u>that work</u>.</li> <li>2. Budget - Help develop a working budget that benefits all members of the Clarenceville Community (students, parents, teachers, and administrators) that weighs the needs and wants of all involved while keeping the district in the black.</li> <li>3. Student Safety – I support 'ZERO TOLERANCE' for violence, weapons, and drugs. We should seek grants that will aid in keeping up to date security equipment that keeps students and staff in Clarenceville safe. Review procedures for various incidents and make sure they are practiced. Research, visit and compare practices from other districts for the most effective methods that would work for Clarenceville.</li> <li>4. I would also like to include an additional issue that shouldn't be overlooked. School board member turn over – When I make a commitment I follow it through. My career is stable and will not interfere with my board member duties. I will not be moving or quitting on our district.</li> </ol>

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<p>One Candidate Running for One 3-Year Term</p> <p>VOTE FOR ONE</p>	<p>Question 1: (200 words or less) Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for the School Board. What relevant qualities and skills would you bring to the position? If you have school-age children, do they attend public school in your district?</p>	<p>Question 2: (200 words or less) What are the top three priority issues facing your school district and what actions would you take to address them if elected to the school board?</p>
<p>Sharon Simpson</p> <p>21105 Hugo Farmington Hills, MI 48336</p>	<p>Biographical Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trustee Clarenceville Board of Education 1999-present</li> <li>• Certified Pediatric Nurse-employed at Childrens Hospital of Michigan</li> <li>• Educational Degree- Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Madonna College</li> <li>• Proud parent of 3 Clarenceville graduates- Rob and Rebecca are attending Wayne State University and Marc attends Central Michigan University</li> </ul> <p>I am running for another term as I have been honored for the last nine years to have represented the families of the Clarenceville School District. Given my experience I feel I will be able to provide continued leadership on the board. I will also continue to support the goals and vision of the Clarenceville community.</p>	<p>I feel the three top priorities of the Clarenceville School District are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Achievement- Our top priority as a public school district is that we have the curriculum and programs available for our students to achieve. We also need to continually stress to our students and their families the importance of their education in order to compete in today's workplace and that a challenging curriculum will help each student achieve to their full potential. I will continue to support the development of curriculum and programs that achieve this goal.</li> <li>• Budget- In these days of economic uncertainty and challenging school funding I continue to support the development and implementation of a lean, balanced budget. Often times this requires difficult decisions but as in the past I will support funding which is in the best interest of the students of the Clarenceville district.</li> <li>• Declining Enrollment- Yearly the school administration and school board addresses the issue of declining enrollment as this affects our budget so significantly. I have supported a limited Schools of Choice policy in the elementary schools that enables us to continue with the policies, programs and curriculum which the families of our community insist on for their children.</li> </ul>

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County is a nonpartisan organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. The League never supports or opposes any political party or candidates. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies exceeded the stated word limitations. **Spelling and Grammar were not corrected.** The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters. The League takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.