

Voter Guide - Fairfax County School Board (vote for 1 district rep & 3 At-Large reps.)

DISTRICT	CANDIDATES	PREFERRED CANDIDATE	COMMENTS
Braddock	Megan McLaughlin	Vote for: MEGAN MCLAUGHLIN www.mclaughlinforschoolboard.com	Reformer. Megan still has children in FCPS which is a huge benefit. She is a proven leader and a former college admissions officer. Her bi-partisan approach is a welcome change.
Braddock	Nell Hurley		Reformer. Nell has encyclopedic knowledge of FCPS issues and has volunteered in the schools for years.
Dranesville	Louise Epstein	Vote for: LOUISE EPSTEIN www.LouiseEpstein4SchoolBoard.com	Reformer. Louise probably brings the most added value of all the candidates. She's such an FCPS budget expert that some sitting school board members seek her out for briefings. She works across the board with teachers and parent groups to deliver results - which is why these bi-partisan leaders have all endorsed her. Louise doesn't hide the ball and voters can trust her to tell the truth. If elected, Dranesville will finally get it's "own" School Board representative, reduced class sizes and an independent auditor.
Dranesville	Jane Strauss		Jane Strauss is the ultimate status quo incumbent. Would you want your child to have the same teacher for 18 years? The same goes for School Board. New ideas and improvements come with new people. Dranesville needs its own advocate. Strauss hasn't fulfilled that role and too often puts her own constituents last. Her votes against parental notification and for Gatehouse II and to increase class size are also big drawbacks.
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Hunter Mill	Nancy Linton	Vote for: NANCY LINTON www.nancylintonforschoolboard.org	Reformer. Nancy would bring distinctive value to the school board with her background as a professional counselor. She's also run her own business and understands the ins and outs of budgeting. She is focused on restoring community trust in the School Board, curriculum improvements like restoring honors courses and reducing class size.
Hunter Mill	Pat Hynes		Status quo or reformer -TBD. Pat was handpicked to run by the least liked School Board member of all time - Stu Gibson. Pat's background as a FCPS kindergarten teacher is appealing, as is her vocal support to restore honors.

Lee	Tammy Kaufaux	Vote for: TAMMY KAUFAX www.kaufaxforschools.com	Status quo or reformer-TBD. Tammy is another candidate whose children currently attend FCPS so she will bring a parent perspective to the Board. With no opponent, the only agenda she has put forth is to "keep our schools strong."
Lee	Unopposed		
Mason	Sandy Evans	Vote for: SANDY EVANS www.evans4sb.org	Sandy's almost two-year record demonstrates she straddles the fence between reformer and status quo proponent. She does represent Mason well by working to put the interests of her constituents first. It is troubling though that she criticizes others who want their school board member to do the same.
Mason	Unopposed		
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Mount Vernon	Michelle Nellenbach	Vote for: MICHELLE NELLENBACH www.nellenbach.com	Reformer. Michelle Nellenbach pushed hard on the Full-Day kindergarten effort and she's been a vocal proponent to restore upper-level honors courses and to reduce class size. She also brings the added benefit and perspective of having kids in FCPS. Michelle won't sit on the sidelines.
Mount Vernon	Dan Storck		Status quo incumbent who has been in office for 7 years. Dan is nice guy and while he has "listened" to the concerns of parents and teachers, he hasn't led at a pace many would like - especially on the Honors and full-day kindergarten issue. He was also the Chairman of the School Board in 2007 and pushed for the infamous "\$130 million" Gatehouse II" new administration building proposal. That's a big negative.
Providence District	Patty Reed	Vote for: PATTY REED www.pattyreed.org	A true reformer who has put earned bi-partisan respect for her efforts to ask the tough questions and get "the most bang for the buck" from current budget dollars.
Providence District	Unopposed		

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Springfield District	Elizabeth Schultz	Vote for: ELIZABETH SCHULTZ www.elizabethschultzforschoolboard.org	Reformer. Elizabeth's credentials on data-based decision making will make her a true asset to FCPS. Her dedication to fostering authentic engagement between officials and the public will go a long way to restoring Springfield's faith in better leadership.
Springfield District	John Wittman		Status Quo or Reformer - TBD. John has the full support of the status quo though which is an indicator of where his loyalties may fall.
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Sully District	Sheila Ratnam	Vote for: SHEILA RATNAM www.SheilaRatnam.org	Reformer. Impressive working mother with elementary school aged children in FCPS who is a careful listener and enthusiastic go-getter. Will make improvements in FCPS' decision-making process and increase accountability.
Sully District	Kathy Smith		Status quo incumbent and defender of all things FCPS. Was chairman of the board during the Clifton ES closure and FOIA trial. Also voted for Gatehouse and against parental notification.
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AT-Large	Sheree Brown-Kaplan	Vote for: SHEREE BROWN-KAPLAN www.browncaplan4schoolboard.com	Reformer: Energetic and dedicated leader who gets to the heart of an issue with clarity - especially on budgets. Still has kids in FCPS. Brings a unique perspective and depth of knowledge about special education issues.
AT-Large	Lin-Dai Kendall		Reformer: Fulbright scholar and small business owner whose children graduated from FCPS. A good choice for voters seeking a budget hawk and a refocus on curriculum.
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AT-Large	Lolita Mancheno-Smoak	Vote for: LOLITA MANCHENO-SMOAK www.lolita4schoolboard.com	Reformer: Dynamic educator and business efficiency expert. Lolita brings exceptional budget expertise to the table and will get the independent audit done right. Added benefit includes her fluency in Spanish and her street cred in the minority community.
AT-Large	Ryan McElveen		Status Quo: Very nice young man, but young. Would you put your recent graduate in charge of \$2.2 billion dollars? We already have a student rep on the board, and there is a reason they can't vote.

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AT-Large	Ilyrong Moon		Status Quo political weathervane who has used his 12 years on the board to follow rather than lead. His choice to "abstain" from critical votes shows he wastes his county wide voice on the board. Voters can do better.
AT-Large	Steve Stuban	Vote for: STEVE STUBAN www.stubanforschoolboard.com	Reformer: Man of great integrity who has earned the respect of the media, the public and surrounding school districts for his critical work on discipline reform. Former West Point grad. This is the guy you want advocating for your child because "every student does matter."
AT-Large	Ted Velkoff		Status Quo: Vocal defender of the status quo and School board member Kathy Smith's protégé. Wrote letters to the editor bashing FAIRGRADE and the Fairfax Education Coalition. Supported Dr. Dale's contract renewal.