

Application for Ravenna Public Schools School

Applicant's Name: Dawn Standage

1. **Are you a resident of the Ravenna Public School District? Yes**
2. **Are you a registered voter in the Ravenna Public School District? Yes**
3. **What day is the first day you would be available to join the Ravenna Board of Education? Immediately**
4. **What is your primary reason for wishing to become a member of the Ravenna Public Schools Board of Education?** A passion for education and a strong belief that everyone deserves the opportunity to learn and grow. A desire to make the school a safe and healthy environment and provide opportunities for all students. Understanding the financial position of the district and planning for future needs of the students, along with preservation of the facilities, required changes and upgrades that will benefit the students for years to come.
5. **Tell us why you believe public education is important?** Public education offers students the opportunity to come together to learn from teachers, from mentors and each other. It is the ability to come together with a diverse population providing experiences that help to open minds, unlock division, and create unity. Historically public school systems have sustained years of healthy well rounded graduates.
6. **Are you aware of any potential "conflicts of interest" being a member of the school board might present? (family members working for the school district, personal business interests with the school district that represent a potential conflict, etc.) No**
7. **Can you make yourself available every 2nd Monday of the month at 8:00 PM for the regular monthly board meetings? Yes**
8. **Can you make yourself available for board subcommittee work that generally occurs during the weekday in the evening between regular board meetings, if you are appointed to a board subcommittee? Yes**
9. **Which educator had the most positive influence on you?** Personally, I have had many positive experiences with educators. I believe that any educator who believes in their students, challenges the students, and has well defined expectations can have positive influences upon many students.
10. **How do you proceed when you are faced with making a difficult decision?**
In life there are many times I have been faced with hard decisions, some more significant while others are more situational. My approach is to explore and gain understanding of the options, to ask questions, and to think big picture as to the effects of the decision for the long term. The right thing to do is not always the easy thing to do, so you cannot be afraid of the doing the hard thing.

Dear Ravenna Board of Education Members,

I am adding to the application a note that will hopefully be of aid in you making a decision that is best of the future of Ravenna Public Schools.

A fair question would be, 'why are you applying to fill a position on the board when you recently ended your tenure on the board?' True. When I left my position on the board, I felt the school was such a solid and favorable position with the administration. With the transition of superintendent and secondary principal there will be new learning curves, opportunities, and areas of growth to occur and with that I am willing to fill the position to be of help, to lead and mentor for the success and positive direction of our school.

Additionally, you may ask why did you leave the board months ago? I have a passion and walking away was hard and my passion has not kindled. Education, kids and bringing both together are wildly important to me.

While here are many parts and pieces that will be moving and changing there is likely to be questions, lessons to be learned, and challenges. While I am only one person, I do have knowledge and understanding of the school policy, finances, budget and systems and I am willing to share that for the greater good.

In your position it is difficult to fill a vacancy and I would openly say – follow your heart if you have a solid candidate(s) that you feel would fulfill the position and grow into the role, I understand. I offer because I care deeply about Ravenna Public Schools and all that I have been a part of building and getting in position – I want nothing more than for the school to continue to thrive in healthy ways.

Dawn Skandage