2017 School Board Elections – Candidate Bios

On May 16, voters will also elect three members to the Arlington Board of Education. The terms of Peter Bodnar, Jennifer Eraca, and Pauline Herr will expire on June 30, 2017. The three incumbents are running to fill these seats. Those elected to the Board will serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2017.

The candidates are listed in the order that they will appear on the ballot.

Pauline Herr

Residence: A 34-year Arlington resident living in Pleasant Valley

Education: Masters, Library Media Specialist, C.W. Post, Long Island University. Permanent Certification: Education (N-6, English 7-12). Bachelor of Arts (cum laude), SUNY New Paltz.

Career: Arlington Central School District School Librarian (1989-2012). District Library Coordinator (1999-2011). Mount St. Mary Adjunct Professor (2005-2007).

Community Involvement: School Board Member (2014 – Present). Member of New York Library Association/Section of School Librarians (NYLA/SSL). Past President of NYLA/SSL (2011-2012). Pleasant Valley Free Library Trustee. Pleasant Valley PTA (Former President/Honorary Lifetime Member).

Mission: I am committed to Arlington's mission statement and to keeping an open mind to the educational opportunities offered to us, as well as those we construct ourselves. I attend various learning opportunities afforded to me through the New York and Dutchess County School Board Associations, as well as the yearly New York Library Association Conference. These, along with listening and study, assist me in providing our students with the best educational experiences possible.

Jennifer Eraca, Ed.D.

Residence: An 18-year resident of Lagrangeville

Education: B. A. in Psychology/Special & Elementary Education, Marist College. M.S. in Reading, Dowling College. Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership, Certificate for Intermediate Administration and Supervision, Western Connecticut State University.

Career: Special Education/Reading Teacher in the Millbrook Central School District, Business owner with husband, Greg.

Community Involvement: Active supporter of Sparrow's Nest Charity and Anderson Center for Autism. Hobbies include cooking, traveling, running, reading, entertaining; most cherished thing is spending time with husband and four children. Member of Board of Education since 2013.

Mission: Serving on the BOE has been a privilege. Having served for 4 years, I have witnessed programs implemented and best practices employed. I have grown personally and professionally having experienced the value of consensus and the spirit of community. I have a deep understanding of the systems needed to maintain and grow Arlington. As a result, I am an effective conduit of community views as it relates to the oversight of education policies and protocols.

Peter Bodnar

Residence: A 20+ year (on and off) Arlington resident living in LaGrange

Education: Graduated from the Arlington Central School District in 1992. Graduated from Columbia University in 2011 with a Bachelors of Arts, double majoring in American Studies and Political Science. Currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Education, specializing in Special Education and Social Studies.

Career: Retired - Police Officer (Injured in the Line of Duty).

Community Involvement: Pack 182 (Noxon Road School) - Cub Master and Den Leader (Webelos). Knights of Columbus - PGK, PFN. Saint Kateri Church – Lector. Active in Town Sports. Member of the Board of Education since 2014. Four children in the school district.

Mission: I am running again for the Arlington Board of Education for my children and yours. I am a graduate of the Arlington Central School District, and I know how excellent the schools have been. When I worked as a substitute teacher, I was able to see where the district is now and what is being asked of our dedicated teachers. As a Board Member, I have worked for the betterment of all our children and for the teachers, who are dedicated to providing the best education possible.