

District 34 Board of Education Candidate Information

On April 7, 2015, Glenview School District 34 voters will select four Board of Education members from a slate of five candidates. The candidates who have filed for the four open seats on the District 34 Board of Education were recently asked to submit biographical information and responses to two questions regarding the district within a specified word limit. Each submitted response is provided.



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Samuel W. Ach

Biographical Statement:

My wife and I moved to Glenview in 1995. Our three children attended D34 schools, as well as GBS. I attended public grade/high schools, and graduated from Amherst College and the University of Chicago Law School. I was a law firm Partner; then joined Ameritech Corporation where I eventually became General Counsel of its cable subsidiary; later was appointed Chief Counsel for IDOT, and subsequently returned to the private sector as General Counsel of a \$1B+ chemical distribution company. I now work independently as a consultant and attorney focusing primarily on business continuity, strategic threat assessment, and environmental sustainability initiatives.

Why are you running for the Glenview School District 34 Board of Education?

I was elected to the Board in 2011, after previously serving on the district's New School Task Force in 2008-09, the district's Strategy review team in 2009, the district's technology committee since

2008, and as a member/Chair of GEF from 2005-2011. My goal is to sustain D34 as an extraordinary community asset characterized by consistently high student growth/achievement, ambitious learning standards, exceptional productivity, ongoing professional development, and exceptional financial stewardship.

What do you think are key issues facing the Glenview District 34 Board of Education in the next two years?

Financially, we need to manage through a difficult period of flat/declining revenues while concluding new labor agreements that reward productivity and excellence. Instructionally, we must continue adapting our teaching practices and program offerings to provide all students with learning opportunities tailored to their individual developmental needs/abilities. Institutionally, we must continue crafting an administrative leadership team that consistently works across functional responsibilities, promotes cross-building collaboration, and effectively prioritizes among competing demands.

Jennifer Fiebig

Biographical Statement:

Jennifer Fiebig moved to Glenview five years ago with her husband and her then five-year-old daughter. Born in Atlanta and raised in California, Jennifer received her master's degree from Pepperdine University and her Ph.D. in psychology and education from the Ludwig-Maximilian University in Munich, Germany. She has extensive experience as a university teacher, researcher and administrator. Currently, she is a faculty member at Loyola University Chicago. Her recent research has addressed cross-cultural issues in education and acculturation barriers facing Hispanic youth. These topics highlight her desire to work with and advocate for the needs of District 34 students and families.

Why are you running for the Glenview School District 34 Board of Education?

Given my professional background, I feel compelled to actively give back to the community in which I live. Looking at the current Board Members (and those running), there is not one person with a background in education. I feel strongly that I can provide new and different perspectives to the Board that will be valuable for mastering the many challenges the board will be facing in the future.

What do you think are key issues facing the Glenview District 34 Board of Education in the next two years?

Increasing budgetary constraints, as every district is forced to do more with less. Another area of concern is how to implement Common Core—especially when there has been a lack of support from the State and a lack of available curricula. Above all, District 34 must focus on ensuring that students are prepared for and have the skills necessary to achieve their academic, personal, and career goals.

John Heggie

Biographical Statement:

I have been a Glenview resident for about ten years. I am the owner of Edward and Lee LLC, a company that markets insurance programs to independent insurance agencies across the country. My background is in engineering and risk management. Later in life, I attended The John Marshall School of Law. I am licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois. Since moving to Glenview, I have coached youth tee-ball, participated in Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Be-Friend-A-Family program, and have been active in my children's nursery school community.

Why are you running for the Glenview School District 34 Board of Education?

As a community, Glenview can provide the buildings, but it is the teachers, staff and administration that provide the education. The work of a school board is to wisely use the taxpayer's money to create excellent schools and increasing property values. I want to help the board continue to facilitate the teachers, staff and administration in their efforts to provide a top-flight education to District 34 children.

What do you think are key issues facing the Glenview District 34 Board of Education in the next two years?

The board will always face tough decisions about where to apply the resources provided by the property owners of Glenview. All day kindergarten and standardized testing are at the top of the list with class size and use of technology closely following.

Financial Projections Show Balanced Budget Through 2018 Fiscal Year

The Citizen's Finance Advisory Committee (CFAC) presented a financial forecast to the Board of Education on February 9, based on key inputs and assumptions.

The extensive report projects that District 34 will have a nearly balanced budget through 2018 in the operating funds. Deficit spending in 2019 and 2020 is projected due to multiple variables.

CFAC is comprised of staff members and residents with financial backgrounds. It was established in 2001 with

the purpose to provide the Board of Education with financial recommendations and reports. The group has researched and reported on district spending and revenues since that time, as well as performed benchmarking analysis for various district metrics.

Visit Glenview.34.org for additional details.

Natalie Jachtorowycz

Biographical Statement:

My husband and I have resided in District 34 for 10 years. We have two school-aged children. I hold an undergraduate degree from the University of Saint Thomas [Saint Paul, Minnesota] in political science and a law degree from DePaul University. As an attorney I have worked in the field of intellectual property. I have also worked extensively as a volunteer. I am currently a school board member of the Ukrainian School of Chicago. I am also currently serving as the Student Needs liaison for Lyon School, and as a member of the D34 Student Needs Advisory Panel.

Why are you running for the Glenview School District 34 Board of Education?

I have had the privilege of living in Glenview for many years. Since having become a parent I have had the opportunity to become involved in District 34 as a PTA member, Student Needs Liaison, and SNAP member. These involvements have ignited my passion for service to the school children of Glenview and to the mission of School District 34.

What do you think are key issues facing the Glenview District 34 Board of Education in the next two years?

We face a changing educational environment which presents many questions. Are we providing the highest level of education? Are assessments being used effectively? Is technology appropriately integrated into the instructional day? What are the benefits and feasibility of an all-day kindergarten program? What will be the impact of possible legislative changes on district funding? These challenges will require a proactive and strategic approach.

Jacqueline “Jackie” Lutz

Biographical Statement:

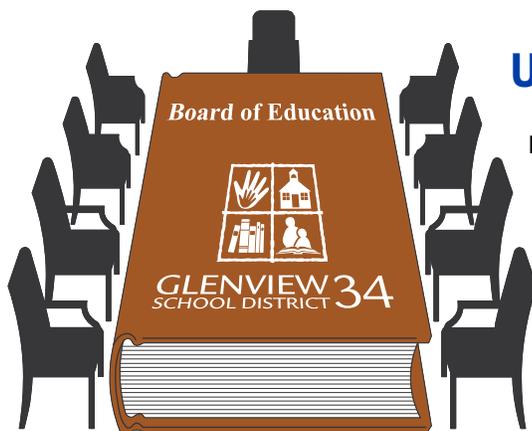
My husband, Marvin, and I moved to Glenview in 2001 because we felt it offered the best balance of excellent schools and broad recreational opportunities within a culturally diverse community. I hold a bachelor's in engineering and a master's in business from the University of Pennsylvania, and my professional background is in strategy consulting, and consumer-based product development within the health care industry. I stopped working outside the home about 7 years ago in order to focus on raising our two children, and feel fortunate to have found meaningful ways to give back through service to the schools.

Why are you running for the Glenview School District 34 Board of Education?

Our public schools are one of Glenview's greatest assets, and effective governance protects the interests of students, families and the broader community. Serving on the Board has been a demanding yet incredibly rewarding experience. District 34 is in a strong position in terms of student learning, teacher effectiveness, and fiscal management; but challenges remain. I would like to continue to work towards the goals established for our students and schools.

What do you think are key issues facing the Glenview District 34 Board of Education in the next two years?

The greatest challenge for the district is the impact of potential legislative changes related to state pensions and school funding. This could stretch budgets at a time when revenue will be relatively stagnant. Our funding is linked directly to the rate of inflation, which is projected to remain low. An opportunity for District 34 is the ongoing work on curriculum, instruction and assessment designed to impact student learning and growth.



Upcoming Key Dates

March 16 Regular meeting

April 6 Regular meeting

April 7 Election of new Board Members

May 4 Organizational and Regular meeting

June 15 Regular meeting



Keep Up with Board Decisions

Learn more about the discussions and decisions of the Board of Education at the District 34 website where agendas, meeting minutes and supporting documents are available for review.

To view, go to *Glenview34.org*, select "Board" at the top of the page, then "Meeting Agenda and Minutes," then select the link on that page titled "agendas and minutes."

The page, titled Board Docs, also provides all historical information for the past several years related to board discussions and decisions.



Download Our Smart Phone App

Stay up to date with the latest district information with the District 34 mobile app on your smartphone. The free app can be downloaded by visiting iTunes or Google Play. The new resource includes news, calendars, Board of Education information, job listings, and links to the district's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

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Periodical

POSTAL PATRON

Schoolook (USPS 090370) is published five times per year for citizens residing in the School District by Community Consolidated School District 34.

Periodical postage paid at Glenview, IL Postmaster.

SCHOOLOOK

Volume 53 • Number 4
March, 2015

Our Mission
To empower children to be self-directed learners and responsible decision makers.

Julianne Beck, *Editor*
Terry Sinnott, *Photos & Design*