

Santino Laster

Santino Laster has lived in Sheboygan since 2003. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Lakeland College (now University) and a Master of Science degree in Leadership & Executive Management. He currently holds the position of Public Safety Specialist for Mead Library in Sheboygan.

In addition to his role with the Board of Education, Santino is involved with the Black-American Community Outreach (BACO), the Sheboygan County Housing Coalition, and as security leader for his church.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

I am beyond motivated knowing that I will be a strong voice for our children, families, teachers, and community. I'm motivated to continue to keep the school district enriched in a foundation built on strong values, strong morals, and diversity. I'm very blessed to have been elected by our community, to be a voice of reason and understanding.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

I'm most proud of the district's resilience. Our teachers, administration, and staff fight hard to ensure our children are put first. The WE mentality is amazing! Everyone is valued and their voices are being heard. This inclusive model is what continues to help our district grow personally and professionally. I believe that our district staff are highly professional and require our children to be great, not just in the classroom, but in life as well.



PRESIDENT

Joined
Board of Education:
2021

Term Expires:
2027

Committee
Assignments:
Board President is ex-officio on all committees



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —

Heidi Boehmer

Heidi has lived in Sheboygan for 10 years. Having grown up in western Nebraska where water was scarce, Heidi enjoys living near Lake Michigan and taking daily walks by the lake. She is an avid reader and documentary watcher, and she sings, kayaks, and is learning to play the ukelele. She and her husband, Eric, have three children - two currently attend schools in the Sheboygan Area School District, and one is a recent graduate of North High.

Heidi earned her BA in Theatre and Speech/Communications at Northwestern College. She has worked as an elementary and high school teacher and as an education consultant specializing in best practices of education. She is currently a certified and accredited Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) practitioner in her private practice, Hope EFT. Heidi enjoys serving at the Sheboygan County Food Bank's Community Cafe. She tutors and mentors new neighbors through the Refugee Support Community, and is trained as a literacy tutor with the Literacy Council. She is also active in volunteer work through her church.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

I believe in civic duty and service to one's community. I'm passionate about education and am eager to share my training and experience. I'm excited to learn all I can about the workings of SASD and seek improvement where needed and to champion the many successes that our schools foster.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

I'm proud of our district's vision that each kid succeeds in their own path. Families can choose language options, arts and music, and sports and academic activities at all grade levels. I love that college-bound kids have so many opportunities to earn college credit while those looking to enter the workforce after graduation have opportunities for job-focused skill building with the many certificates available.



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —



VICE PRESIDENT

Joined
Board of Education:
2023

Term Expires:
2026

Committee
Assignments:
Chair, Committee of the
Whole
Finance and Budget
Human Resources

Kay Robbins

Kay Robbins has lived in Sheboygan since the mid-1970s. She served as a teacher in the Sheboygan Area School District from 1976 to 2011 and then as a substitute teacher until 2017. She earned a BS in English and Journalism Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and an MS in Education from Lakeland College (now University).

She enjoys volunteering at the Sheboygan County Food Bank and working to support candidates for local office who aim to improve the community for all its citizens.

Kay's favorite activity is spending time with her spouse, four children, and four grandchildren. She enjoys reading as many books as possible as well as working in the yard. Her two youngest children graduated from SASD.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

I have been involved in education all my life and believe it is the basis of a democratic society. Working on the Board is something I can do to give back to our community. Public service is very important to me.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

I am very proud of the constantly evolving efforts of our district to meet the needs of every child. We do not stand still.



TREASURER

Joined
Board of Education:
2020

Term Expires:
2026

Committee
Assignments:
Curriculum and Instruction
Human Resources



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —

Sarah Ruiz-Harrison

Sarah has lived in Sheboygan for over 30 years. She and her siblings all attended SASD schools, from grade school at James Madison, to middle school at Horace Mann, to graduating from South High. Sarah has an Associate Degree in Human Resources as well as a BA in Business Administration. She currently works as a Branch Manager at Fox Communities Credit Union, overseeing the Manitowoc and Two Rivers locations.

Sarah is an active member of the community, serving as a current Board Member of the Salvation Army of Manitowoc County, as well as the President of the Eastern Shores Credit Union Chapter as the citizen appointed to the Capital Improvements Committee. Sarah also serves as a Board Member of the Manitowoc Balloon Glow Committee and as a Committee Member of Leadership of Manitowoc County.

Sarah has a strong volunteer presence in the Sheboygan community and beyond. She has volunteered as a Salvation Army bell ringer and Sunday School teacher for over 10 years. She also volunteers for Rebuild Together, the Children's Miracle Network, Fisher House Wisconsin, Saint Clement Catholic Church, and Back 2 School Basics, which helps to provide school supplies for children. She also volunteers as a financial literacy representative at local Reality Fairs.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

Our rich diversity is what motivates me to serve on the board. Giving a voice to all our students and giving back to the community I so love.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

The teachers and faculty who want our students to be successful. I'm also proud of how diverse our schools are. I'm so blessed to be on the board and involved with a school district that truly cares for its students.



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —



CLERK

**Joined
Board of Education:
2022**

**Term Expires:
2026**

**Committee
Assignments:**
Finance and Budget
Facilities/Rec/Theatre

Mary Lynne Donohue

Mary Lynne Donohue was raised in Sheboygan and graduated from North High School. Her husband and two sons are also SASD graduates.

She left Sheboygan for higher education and returned here in 1981 after earning a BA in English Literature, MA in Comparative Literature, and Juris Doctor, all from UW-Madison. She later went on to earn an MA in Women's and Gender Studies in 2016 from UW-Milwaukee. Mary Lynne is retired from the active practice of law, but continues to provide pro bono legal services to low-income clients and coordinates the Sheboygan County Bar's Legal Aid Clinic at the Salvation Army.

Mary Lynne has served on the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Wisconsin and currently is a member of the board of directors of Wisconsin Humanities and Common Cause in Wisconsin. Mary Lynne has also served on the boards of the WI Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters; Planned Parenthood of WI; Sheboygan Common Council; Police and Fire Commission, and Civil Service Commission. Mary Lynne previously served on the SASD Board of Education (1996-2002). She was co-founder of Sheboygan Co. Head Start and has served on the boards of the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra, Mead Public Library Board of Trustees, moderator, First Congregational Church, and other non-profit boards over the years.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

A strong, vibrant, inclusive public school system is the very foundation of our democracy. Without well-funded and well-regarded public schools, we truly cannot maintain and support our children, our families, and our democratic way of living. Our school board is here to advocate, encourage, and strengthen this wonderful school district.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

I continue to be incredibly impressed by the quality and tenacity of staff members, and awed by the persistence, energy, enthusiasm, and intelligence of our students. Forward!



**Joined
Board of Education:
2022**

**Term Expires:
2028**

**Committee
Assignments:
Finance and Budget
Human Resources**



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —

Leah Hibl

Leah is a hometown girl who attended Longfellow Elementary School, Farnsworth Middle School and graduated from South High School. She left Sheboygan for a brief period during COVID and returned after realizing that Sheboygan truly is “Someplace Better.” She has a BA in Human Social Services from Wisconsin Lutheran College and an MA in Community Counseling from Lakeland University.

Leah is currently an Intensive Outpatient Psychotherapist at Aurora Behavioral Health Center in Sheboygan. She has specialized in providing mental health services to children and adolescents for over a decade. She takes making the world a better place very seriously, and dedicates her free time to the causes nearest to her heart. She is a member of 9to5 Wisconsin and volunteers on behalf of political candidates that share the vision of a more just world. She also takes pride in being an active member of Ebenezer UCC in Sheboygan. Leah currently serves on the NamiWalks planning committee, as well as the WISE committee at Ebenezer UCC as an adjunct to her work in behavioral health.

Leah strives to learn, love, and leave the world a better place every day. As such, she enjoys reading, traveling, walks with her husband, Brian and their labradoodle, Daisy, and being a tireless social activist and advocate.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

Being able to listen to others, understand their needs and take action to make sure those needs are met comes naturally to me. Being able to do that on behalf of a district I know and love so much is an incredible privilege.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

The Sheboygan Area School District truly supports the needs of students. With 26 schools, a plethora of extracurricular activities and the ability for high school students to explore career and college options, it's clear to see that this is a district that values opportunity and success for all learners!



Joined
Board of Education:
2024

Term Expires:
2027

Committee
Assignments:

Curriculum and Instruction
Human Resources

WASB Legislative Delegate



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —

Peter Madden

Peter has lived in Sheboygan since 1978. He has a long history in the Sheboygan Area School District, with his wife a teacher and both of their daughters having attended K-12 in SASD schools. He has a BS in Natural Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Peter is currently retired after holding Environmental positions with several companies in the area, including Donohue and Associates, Kohler Co., Superior Services, Cardinal Environmental, and Plastics Engineering Company.

Peter has been a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee of Sheboygan County for several years, and serves the Sheboygan City Clerks office as a Chief Inspector for elections. He has held several positions with the Federation of Environmental Technologists, a state-wide non-profit providing training to environmental professionals.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

As a resident of Sheboygan, the positive impact of the school district on the community was immediately apparent. When our daughters entered school, my wife and I got to know the teachers and staff at each of their schools, and appreciated their care and professionalism. I served on the Parent Advisory Committee for Farnsworth, the Board for the Etude High School, and the South High Booster Club. I was appointed by the School Board to serve during the 2016-17 school year to complete the term of a former board member. Through all these experiences, the quality and dedication of District personnel left me with the opinion that supporting SASD by once again becoming a board member was the best place to give back to this community.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

I am most proud of the variety of choices offered to students and their families.



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —



**Joined
Board of Education:
2024**

**Term Expires:
2027**

**Committee
Assignments:**
Facilities/Rec/Theatre
Finance and Budget

CESA 7 Delegate

Hazardous Review Board

WASB Legislative
Delegate (Alternate)

Allie Tasche

Allie moved to Sheboygan in 1994 and attended Grant, Urban, and North High School. After graduation, she lived in Milwaukee and Lake Mills before returning to Sheboygan with her husband and children in 2019.

As a student of SASD, Allie was active in many clubs and activities, including choir, theater, student council, forensics, newspaper, environmental club, and DREAM. She discovered her passion for special education as a participant of North High's Youth Tutoring Youth (YTY) program. Allie's spouse also graduated from SASD, and their two children are current students in the district. Allie and her family enjoy hiking, camping, creative arts, and spending quality time with family and friends.

Allie earned her Bachelors degree in Exceptional Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and her Masters degree in Leadership and Organizational Development from Lakeland University.

Allie serves as Vice President of National Programs for Autism Society of America. Previously, she served public education for over a decade as a Learning Strategist (Special Education Teacher), Autism Specialist and Inclusion Coach in Oconomowoc Area School District, and as a Special Education Program Support Teacher for Sheboygan Area School District.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

I believe that strong and inclusive schools are the foundation for a healthy society. With experience as a student, parent, and educator in SASD, I am eager to contribute to the continued growth of our schools in service to all students in our community.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

Our students, families, and staff create vibrant school communities that build and strengthen our local community as a whole. I am proud of SASD's commitment to serving the whole-child through an informed and integrated approach to social, emotional, and academic learning.



**Joined
Board of Education:
2024**

**Term Expires:
2028**

**Committee
Assignments:**
Curriculum and Instruction
Facilities/Rec/Theatre

Human Growth and
Development



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —

Denise Wittstock

Denise has lived in Sheboygan for most of her life. She attended St. Cyril and Methodius, Farnsworth Middle School, and was a member of the first graduating class as a South High Redwing in 1994. Her husband is also a South High graduate, and their three children currently attend elementary school in the SASD.

Denise enjoys reading, trying new foods, and spending time with her family.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in History and Spanish from UW-Whitewater and a Master's in Nonprofit Studies from Arizona State University.

Denise is the CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters WI Shoreline. Previously, she served as the Manager of Volunteer Services and Animal Assisted Therapy at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

In addition to serving on the SASD Board, Denise is the Vice President of the Board of Directors for Lakeshore Community Health Care. She is a former Big Sister and volunteers at her children's elementary school.

What motivates you to serve on the Board of Education for the Sheboygan Area School District?

Having the opportunity to impact change and improvements for the SASD through my experience as a graduate, mother and youth development nonprofit leader.

What are you most proud of in the Sheboygan Area School District?

I love the community partnerships, innovation, and forward thinking over the past 20-30 years!



**Joined
Board of Education:**
2025

Term Expires:
2028

**Committee
Assignments:**
Curriculum and Instruction
Facilities/Rec/Theatre

Sheboygan Public
Education Foundation



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —