



# Board of Education Member Profile

**David Paulson**

**Name:** David Paulson

**Board member since:** 2014

**Family/Children:** Wife, Deanna, six children and ten grandchildren

**Occupation:** Retired Teacher; Sales Management

## 1. Tell us a little bit about yourself and your background.

*I have a bachelor's degree from Valley City State University, where I majored in chemistry and biology. I retired from teaching in 2011 after spending 37 years in the classroom. I also have worked for the ND Health Department as an environmental scientist and for NDEA as a UniServ Director and Director of Advocacy Programs. I am currently working for Scheels, where I function as the collectible firearms manager in the Fargo location. I am married to Deanna and we have six children and ten grandchildren.*

## 2. What was the reason you ran for a Board position?

*My grandkids are one of the reasons I sought election to the Board. The need for a quality education is more important than ever and I want to see Fargo continue to offer quality education and expand the opportunities for our students in the future. Two key ingredients to that are addressing the graduation rate and offering opportunities to students who are not college bound; these may be one-in-the-same. In our burgeoning ND economy, there are tremendous opportunities in fields that do not require a four-year degree but do require additional training. Fargo needs to pursue partnerships with business leaders to give all our students the potential for success.*

## 3. What do you see as big challenges for the District going forward? Challenges for K-12 education in North Dakota?

*The future holds many challenges, and the Fargo School Board is going to need to garner the confidence of its citizens to ensure our schools can provide for the needs of our most important resource, our kids. Our staff and patrons must also be assured that Fargo is a safe place to work and send their children. The Board will be working diligently on this.*

## 4. Something you're proud of as a representative of the Fargo Public Schools:

*I am particularly proud of the nearly four decades I have been involved in education. During that time, I have developed lifelong friendships with many teachers, administrators, and School Board members who have all shared a common goal – the desire to provide the best possible education for all the students in our schools. Nothing will ever dim the commitment I have spent much of my life establishing. As a teacher,*



## David Paulson, cont.

*I am honored and humbled every time one of my former students comes up to me and introduces themselves with an anecdote from the time they spent in my classroom. Our time on Earth is short, and whenever we can leave a lasting positive impression on another human being, we have helped to leave things a little better than we found them. That desire has been ingrained in me from childhood, starting with the greatest man I will ever know, my dad.*

