Name: Robin Nelson
Board member since: 2003-2016 and 2018
Family: Husband - Russell Peterson, three children, one grandchild
Occupation: CEO, Boys & Girls Club/Fargo Youth Commission

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

I am the CEO of the Boys & Girls Club / Fargo Youth Commission nonprofit partnership that serves children ages 5-17 with high quality out-of-school programming. I was raised in Fargo Public Schools as were my children. I am married to musician and Concordia professor Russell Peterson. Our two sons are graduates of Fargo North and our daughter attends Fargo South. Our oldest son and his wife are graduates of UND and have a sweet little girl; our youngest son attends NDSU and is earning his master’s degree in architecture; and, our daughter is very involved in music, drama and service clubs at Fargo South.

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

There is nothing more important to me than contributing to the future success of children. I was initially appointed to serve on the board after a board member tragically lost his life. I have been elected to four terms since.

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

Our community’s biggest K-12 education issues are:
1). Providing all students the world-class education they deserve,
2). Safety, and
3). Adequate funding balanced with careful budgeting.

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

I am proud that our community recognizes the value that a top-notch education system brings to our society, democracy and economy; our educators’ work ethic and compassion for their students are second to none.