



Board of Education Member Profile

Dr. Tracie Newman

Name: Dr. Tracie Newman

Board member since: 2020

Family: Husband, David Newman and three children, Liam, Autumn, and Luke

Occupation: Pediatrician at Sanford Health, City Health Officer at Fargo Cass Public Health

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

I am a former teacher, now pediatrician, and staunch advocate of public education and public health. We are a civic minded family and enjoy volunteering in the community. I was an active board member of the Centennial Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization, where I served as president. I have served as the treasurer of the North Dakota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, on the Board of Directors for the ND Elite Cheer, as well as on various committees within the FPS district.

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

As a mom, pediatrician, and public health educator, I have dedicated my life to be a voice for kids. My priority is putting children first. I do not have a single-issue focus or political agenda; rather I am interested in the success of students in our district. I am a long-time advocate for public education and public health at the local, state, and federal levels. Personally, my three children have been the beneficiaries of countless positive life experiences through the Fargo Public Schools. I am interested in serving on the school board to continue these efforts and strive to enhance them.

3. What do you see as big challenges for the District going forward?

How and when to safely reopen our schools in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Schools should be considered essential services. We must balance the safety and well-being of our community with the potential effects of educational loss, mental health struggles, special needs, decreased socialization, nutrition services, and athletics that schools provide to our youth. Also, balancing our building populations to ensure equal and equitable education to all students in our district.

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Board of Education Member Profile, continued

What do you see as challenges for K-12 education in North Dakota?

Student achievement with the potential for intermittent school closures. I would like to see our district continue to provide quality in-person education (when safely able) with a parallel and equally excellent on-line or digital format.

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

The quality education provided to students of all abilities and the vast array of activities where students can become involved. Fargo Public Schools has a welcoming and outstanding school culture.

