

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2025 2:15 PM
To: valposchoolboard; Samantha Camp; Emilie Hunt
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Valparaiso School Board Application 2025

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Valparaiso School Board Application 2025

Completed application may be Subjected to Public Disclosure and must be completed and turned in by noon April 14, 2025.

First Name	Ron
Last Name	Donahue
Address1	2700 Valparaiso St Unit 1711
City	Valparaiso
State	IN
Zip	46383
Phone Number	
Date of Birth	
Email Address	
Education	IUN: BA Biology Indiana Department Homeland Security: EMS Fitch & Associates: Emergency Management
Present Employer	inHealth Ambulance
Occupation	CEO
Other Public Office(s) Held	Currently None 2016: Indiana State Delegate 2016: Precinct Committeeman

Political Party Affiliation	Republican
Reason(s) for Applying	I have been a lifelong resident of Porter County. My wife and I have lived in Valparaiso for the past 20 years and have 3 children. We both are actively involved with a multitude of organizations in and around our region. We truly love our community and wish to be a part of the growth and positive development of Valparaiso. Next year our two oldest children will attend 9th and 10th grade at Valparaiso High School, while our youngest will be in 6th grade at Ben Franklin. All three of our kids have had a great experience in the Valparaiso School System and we believe this has set them on a great path for their future education. During these formative years, it is important for kids to not only learn facts and dates, but also have the opportunity to grow mentally, emotionally, and socially. I have been blessed to have had many unique experiences in my life, I hope to be selected to join the board and bring my skill set to the table.
Children Enrolled in VCS	Yes
If Yes (What grades and Which Schools)	2024/2025 School Year 5th Grade: Cooks Corner 8th Grade: Ben Franklin Middle School 9th Grade: Valparaiso High School
Board/Committee Experience	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	2023-Current: Indiana State Rural Health Association 2023-Current: Pastoral Council St. Paul Church Valpo 2022-Current: St Paul Church Children Liturgy 2022-Current: Valparaiso / National Soap Box Derby 2019-2022: United Way Porter County: B.O.D. 2016-2018: Valparaiso Rotary Board of Directors 2014-2017: Meals on Wheels: Board of Directors 2013-2017: Continuity of Care: President 2013-2015: VNA Porter County: Planned Giving 2012-2014: Calumet Humane Society: Vice President 2011-2015: Porter County Triad / Sheriff Department
Civic/Professional Organizations/Membership	Yes

If Yes (Please Explain)	St Paul Church, Valparaiso Valparaiso Soap Box Derby Organization VNA Porter County Meals On Wheels Memorial Opera House Volunteer Valparaiso Rotary Club Past Member Salvation Army Porter County Leadership Northwest Indiana "LNI" Habitat for Humanity (Wheelchair Ramp Building) Honor Flight Chicago
Experience With Detailed Financial Matters	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	I am the owner of inHealth Ambulance service. My responsibilities involve the oversight of all aspects of the business including financial. I am familiar with profit and loss statements, setting annual budgets, and overseeing the day to day operations of a large organization. In addition to my role at inHealth, all my board positions past and present have had fiduciary responsibilities. Many have annual budgets that exceed \$7 Million Dollars.
Prior Leadership Experience	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	Owner / CEO inHealth Ambulance 2017-Current Parrish Pastoral Council St. Paul Church 2023-Current Vice President Prompt Ambulance 2001 - 2017 Leadership Training: LNI Awards / Leadership Recognition Indiana Homeland Security Humanitarian Award - 2023 Porter County United Way Volunteer Of The Year - 2017 Society of Innovators Award (Ivy Tech) - 2015 Indiana Homeland Security PR Award - 2022 The Times Top 20 Under 40 - 2013
Other VCS or Community Involvement?	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	PTO Board Cooks Corner
Unique Skills You Possess that will Benefit School Board	I am blessed to have been involved in many different aspects of business and community service. Outlined below are several initiatives I have started and look forward to explaining more in person. 1. Creation of a non-profit organization to raise money for veterans.

2.Organized a community program to build wheelchair ramp for disabled seniors

3.Organized a continuing education program for healthcare providers with Purdue and Indiana University

4.Founded a hospital relocation service to assist hospital evacuations around the United States.

Educational Philosophy

My wife and I have three children in the Valparaiso school system. We have seen firsthand what an outstanding group of educators we have been blessed with in Valparaiso.

Our kids enjoy going to school each day. This strong foundation is a must for any community to thrive. During these formative years, it is important for kids to not only learn facts and dates, but also have the opportunity to grow mentally, emotionally, and socially.

Name Two People Who Would Provide a Recommendation as to Your Ability To Serve On The VCS School Board. Please Include Phone Numbers/Email Addresses

Aco Sikoski, Ivy Tech Valparaiso Campus Chancellor,
[REDACTED]
Celina Weatherwax: CEO MAAC Foundation, [REDACTED]
/[REDACTED]

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Saturday, April 12, 2025 8:26 PM
To: valposchoolboard; Samantha Camp; Emilie Hunt
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Valparaiso School Board Application 2025

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Valparaiso School Board Application 2025

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First Name	Brett
Last Name	Miller
Address1	409 Weston St.
City	Valparaiso
State	IN
Zip	46385
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Education	BA in Psychology with a Concentration in Mental Health
Present Employer	UHS - Universal Health Services
Occupation	Corporate Loss Control Manager
Other Public Office(s) Held	I have not previously or currently held a public office position.
Political Party Affiliation	Democrat

Reason(s) for Applying	I have been a Valparaiso resident for 19 years, have 1 daughter who has graduated from Valparaiso Community Schools (currently attending Valparaiso University), and 3 other children currently in Valparaiso Community Schools (All 3 currently attend Valparaiso High School). I have over 27 years of experience in Mental Health (Senior Leadership / Director roles for the past 13 years) the last position working as a Director of Risk Management and Performance Improvement (Mitigating Risk for 74 pre-adolescents and Adolescents to ensure they were safe in a locked secure Residential Treatment Facility). I also reviewed all of the facilities policies, procedures, and ensured the facility was survey ready (Indiana Department of Child Services, Joint Commission, and Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services). I was also the Corporate Compliance Officer for the facility ensuring the facility was complying legally with medical records and subpoena requests. I was the Interim Administrator / CEO for the facility and in December of 2022 accepted a position with UHS (Universal Health Services) Corporate as a Loss Control Manager overseeing 12 UHS facilities in multiple states. I feel my background in Mental Health (leadership and understanding of policies / Risk / Compliance) can add insight to the board as well as a father of 4 VCS students which is why I am applying for the vacancy on the School Board.
Children Enrolled in VCS	Yes
If Yes (What grades and Which Schools)	As previously mentioned above, I have 3 children that currently attend the High School. I have twins that are Seniors and a Freshmen. The twins will graduate in June and both will be attending Valparaiso University in the Fall (Olivia is pursuing a degree in Bioengineering and Chloe will be pursuing a degree in Environmental Science with a minor in Political Science.
Board/Committee Experience	No
If Yes (Please Explain)	I have never been on the School Board. I have experience overseeing committees (in previous roles of leadership while working in mental health for the past 13 years). As the Risk Manager and Performance Improvement Director, I ensured monthly meetings occurred with Senior Leadership and that the minutes were submitted within the appropriate time frame / parameters to my Corporate reports. In my current role with UHS Corporate I have been a part of the Acute Care Safety Committee (outside of my current

position) which focuses on Patient Safety Advisories that are submitted monthly via Loss Control to over 390+ UHS hospitals (Medical Surgical and Behavioral Health).

Civic/Professional
Organizations/Membership

Yes

If Yes (Please Explain)

I have previously been a volunteer coach for Girls on the Run (Northwest Indiana) and have been a part of Memorial Elementary Schools (first Valparaiso School - Elementary to allow this program in). My wife and I have been involved in coaching (oldest child to youngest child) while they all attended Memorial Elementary (3rd-5th grade program).

Experience With Detailed
Financial Matters

Yes

If Yes (Please Explain)

As a Senior Leader (Director) at a facility level, I have had access to review financial records / matters (The facility had a CFO for accounting purposes) but I also reviewed monthly financials for the facility (with CEO) and when I was the interim CEO oversaw the financial reports monthly (average daily census financial reports - payor mix / monthly budget reports / and overseeing expenses / signing off on expenses (Corporate / CFO Approval). In my current position I oversee Workers Compensation Financial claims (work with adjusters / examiners from a third party agency) for 12 UHS facilities (and complete monthly chargeback reports) for current and prior years claims (ensure the financials are accurate). I have facilities with budgets in excess of 1.5 million dollars yearly (just for workers compensation claims).

Prior Leadership
Experience

Yes

If Yes (Please Explain)

For the past 18 years (November of 2005 until January of 2023) I was employed at the Midwest Center for Youth and Families in Kouts, Indiana that specializes in Residential Mental Health treatment (pre-adolescents and adolescents that have a history of suicide attempts, self harm, anxiety, trauma, depression, etc.). Over the last 13 years at a facility level, I was a Senior Leader / Director (Director of Intake / Admissions, Director of Utilization Review, Director of Performance Improvement, Risk Manager, Compliance Officer, HIPAA Privacy Officer, and Interim CEO). In December of 2022, I applied and was hired to work for the facilities parent company as a Corporate employee. The last two positions I held in then facility focus on having a strong

	moral and ethical compass, which I truly believe I possess. I am a firm believer in policy (however, policy can always be amended / updated / revised to meet the changing times). I have spent countless hours with Licensing / Accrediting bodies to ensure the facility I was employed with adhered to the State of Indiana (Department of Child Services / Indiana Department of Education / Indiana Department of Public Health), Federal Government, and Mental Health Accrediting bodies. The last 3 surveys under my guidance with the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) were perfect surveys and the facility Joint Commission Survey (was the best within UHS as a whole - 1 standard cited).
Other VCS or Community Involvement?	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	Since January of 2023, I have helped my wife with painting and building sets for the Memorial Opera House in Valparaiso. Prior to this my wife and I have been an active members in the Jessee-Pifer Neighborhood (including walking to raise money for the park so that it could remain a Valparaiso Park, overseeing the neighborhood garage sale, and until last year the annual easter egg hunt as well as the block party).
Unique Skills You Possess that will Benefit School Board	I believe the one unique skill I possess that will benefit the school board is my background and understanding of mental health. I have spent the past 27 years of my career seeing patients from all over the country including Valparaiso and neighboring communities. I have lived through mitigating a pandemic in a mental health residential treatment facility (and as the Risk Manager was proactive preparing for Covid versus being reactive).
Educational Philosophy	I am a firm believer in there is no such thing as a stupid question. We can only learn from our mistakes and failure. To FAIL is the First Attempt In Learning. Everyone makes mistakes, it is how we learn and grow from our mistakes. As a professional, father, and a human being. I have failed and have had to learn from those mistakes. Some harder than others, but for the most part a learning experience.
Name Two People Who Would Provide a Recommendation as to Your Ability To Serve On The VCS School Board.	Julie Smoot mobile - [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Elizabeth Rochon

Please Include Phone
Numbers/Email Addresses

mobile -

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, April 13, 2025 12:04 AM
To: valposchoolboard; Samantha Camp; Emilie Hunt
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Valparaíso School Board Application 2025

Valparaíso School Board Application 2025

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First Name	Curtiss
Last Name	Strietelmeier
Address1	4505 Stafordshire Lane
City	Valparaíso
State	Indiana
Zip	46383-1254
Phone Number	
Date of Birth	
Email Address	
Education	Education Leadership, PhD, Purdue University, West Lafayette Educational Technology, MS, Purdue University, West Lafayette Elementary Education, BS, Purdue University, West Lafayette
Present Employer	CDW
Occupation	Manager, Public Sector Funding
Other Public Office(s) Held	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Political Party Affiliation	Democrat

Reason(s) for Applying	My deep commitment to the success of Valparaiso Community Schools is both professional and personal, fueled by my extensive experience in education and my investment as a parent with two children currently enrolled in the district – one in middle school and one in high school. Having served as an elementary teacher, I understand the foundational needs of our youngest learners and the dedication required from our educators. My experience as a Director of Technology provided me with insights into leveraging innovative tools to enhance learning outcomes and operational efficiency across the district. Furthermore, my tenure as a school district superintendent has equipped me with a comprehensive understanding of district-wide leadership, policy development, and responsible fiscal management. Beyond my direct administrative experience, my work assisting school districts nationally in identifying and securing grant opportunities has given me a broad perspective on successful initiatives and funding strategies that can benefit our schools. As a parent, I have a vested interest in ensuring a high-quality and supportive learning environment for all students, including my own children. I am eager to bring my unique blend of professional expertise and parental perspective to the school board, working collaboratively with the community to ensure our schools are innovative, well-resourced, and focused on providing the best possible education for every child in our district.
Children Enrolled in VCS	Yes
If Yes (What grades and Which Schools)	Junior, Valparaiso High School 8th, Thomas Jefferson Middle School
Board/Committee Experience	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	Porter County American Rescue Plan Infrastructure and Facilities Subcommittee, Trinity Lutheran Church, Church Council
Civic/Professional Organizations/Membership	No
If Yes (Please Explain)	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Experience With Detailed Financial Matters	Yes

If Yes (Please Explain)	Superintendent of Schools, District budget development Director of Technology, Department budget development Manager of Public Sector of Funding, Work with school districts nationally on grant funding
Prior Leadership Experience	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	Superintendent of Schools, 6 Years Director of Technology, 10 Years Manager of Public Sector Funding, 2 Years
Other VCS or Community Involvement?	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	High School Math Book Review Committee Valparaiso Hoops Basketball Coach Valparaiso Parks, Coach
Unique Skills You Possess that will Benefit School Board	Experience building and executing school district budgets A practical understanding of school curriculum and programming A history as a classroom teacher A deep understanding of funding sources available to schools Experience working on the development and implementation of school district policy and procedure A history of partnering with state legislators to make changes in school law
Educational Philosophy	My educational philosophy has remained consistent from my early days as a teacher to my current role. It is rooted in the belief that, given the right opportunities and support, all children can learn. As a teacher, I focused on creating a supportive classroom environment that catered to the diverse needs of my students. In my role as Director of Technology, I provided teachers and students with the tools necessary to innovate and explore new learning methods beyond the traditional classroom setting. As a Superintendent, I prioritized creating a dynamic learning environment by introducing new classes and extracurricular activities that fostered holistic development. Applying for a position on the school board, I am committed to promoting inclusive education, encouraging collaboration among educators, and continuously seeking ways to improve our educational system to benefit all students.

Name Two People Who
Would Provide a
Recommendation as to
Your Ability To Serve On
The VCS School Board.
Please Include Phone
Numbers/Email Addresses

Linda Boxum, [REDACTED]
Emily Yiannias, [REDACTED]

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First Name	Erika
Last Name	Watkins
Address1	4501 Kilchurn Circle
City	Valparaiso
State	IN
Zip	46383
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Education	B.S. Early Childhood Education Morris Brown College Elementary Education, MEd Indiana University Northwest Early Childhood Education, MEd Ball State University
Present Employer	Lisa's Safe Haven Child Care, LLC
Occupation	Chief Operating Officer

Other Public Office(s) Held	There have been no other public offices held.
Political Party Affiliation	Democrat
Reason(s) for Applying	This position allows you to serve the students of Valparaiso Community Schools. I am passionate about every child having the necessary tools to succeed. I'd love to continue being a voice for students, teachers and parents. I bring dedication, experience, and I have a heart of service. I believe in creating strong partnerships between the community and the school.
Children Enrolled in VCS	No
If Yes (What grades and Which Schools)	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Board/Committee Experience	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	VCS School Board Member 2021-2025 New Mission of Jesus Christ, Trustee President International Awareness and Involvement, Co-Chair Growing Prosperous Kids, Board Member Safe Haven Ministries, Board Member Arts and Letters, Fundraising, Social Action, Membership, Emergency Response Team, Committee Member
Civic/Professional Organizations/Membership	<i>Field not completed.</i>
If Yes (Please Explain)	National Association for the Education of Young Children National Association for Family Child Care National Association for the Advancement of Color People AAUW National Council of Negro Women
Experience With Detailed Financial Matters	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	Served as a Financial Secretary Create, monitor, analyze, and adjust budgets As a current board member, I've reviewed and voted on budgets, presented during meetings. Worked directly with a CPA and Accountant on grant submissions, and work assignments

	Written grants and presented budgets to supporting the grant submission.
Prior Leadership Experience	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	Served as Class President from 1987-1993 Served as President of the Ministerial Staff Organized and orchestrated several public events Girl Scout Troop Leader Led academic coaches and assisted created SMART goals to enable success in the classroom.
Other VCS or Community Involvement?	Yes
If Yes (Please Explain)	I support several community events (the annual Popcorn Festival, Memorial Opera House, Rotary and Kiwanis events, give donations, assisted with the building of the recent Valplayso playground, assisted with the winter warming shelter, attend school events to engage with students, families and teachers. Participates in the annual homecoming parade, along with the Battle of the Books, In Tune Community members. During the first week of school, I greet staff and students upon arrival, donated to causes throughout the city and I support local shops and restaurants by choosing to shop and dine locally.
Unique Skills You Possess that will Benefit School Board	My background in early childhood and elementary experience gives insight into the foundational stages of development. This is a great asset that can support the addition of prekindergarten to VCS. Serving as a COO, I understand the importance of budgeting, staffing, and compliance.
Educational Philosophy	My educational philosophy is rooted in the belief that home and school should not exist separately but in strong partnership of each other. When families and educators a connect and work together, a unified support system is created that nurtures the whole child. The value of this relationship ensures that each child is valued individually meeting their needs giving them the opportunity to succeed academically, socially, emotionally, and differently. Every child has the ability to succeed given there is support in the home, from the school that will allow them to thrive.
Name Two People Who Would Provide a Recommendation as to	Anne Gabbert [REDACTED] e. [REDACTED]

Your Ability To Serve On
The VCS School Board.
Please Include Phone
Numbers/Email Addresses

Cherish Edwards [REDACTED] e.

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