



The Fort Wayne Education Association (FWEA) is supporting Jennifer Matthias in the Fort Wayne Community School's 2nd District school board contest because she is truly the ideal candidate for this position. She has a long history of advocating for public education—for students, parents, and teachers in FWCS, for the district itself, and for public education overall. She is a graduate of FWCS, and her children attend FWCS schools. She has been an active presence in our community for many years with a long history of attending school board meetings and addressing the board regarding issues of concern. She has created parent groups, sponsored websites, volunteered in buildings, coached student athletes, and ridden a bus to Indianapolis to rally with teachers on Red for Ed day. When FWCS was considering eliminating honors classes in our high schools, Jennifer led the charge to retain those valuable courses. She has sought out state legislators to express her concerns about issues important to public schools. She did all those things before she ever considered running for a seat on the school board; she did those things because she genuinely cares about the issues. Her decision to run for school board came from her genuine desire to support Fort Wayne Community Schools and make a positive difference in the district and the community—her contributions as an active parent have been substantial, but having a seat on the school board will literally give her a place at the table where policies are crafted and decisions are made that impact every aspect of local public education.

Jennifer Matthias has always been a parent who has supported her children's teachers, and she has from time-to-time clashed with district leadership in support of issues important to teachers. In an interview with FWEA, she said, "I have and will continue to reach out to the teachers in our district so that I understand where help is needed and offer my support in any way possible. I want to know the problems the teachers are facing, the struggles they are having and their opinions on how to resolve issues. I believe that teachers who feel valued and trusted to do their job are far more likely to go above and beyond for our students. We must start by listening and then provide our teachers with the tools and support they need in order to retain amazing teachers and achieve the highest level of academic success from our students." This isn't just campaign rhetoric; Jennifer Matthias has a long history that provides evidence of her priorities, values, and work ethic. She has consistently demonstrated her respect for teachers, and her voice on the school board will be a passionate voice for the teachers in our district.

Sandra Vohs

FWEA President