



BLOUNT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
Bound Together

Board of Trustees Information Sheet

Name:

Dawn Russell

Address:

4338 Lorena Lane, Maryville, TN 37804

Phone:

865 - 414 - 2319

Email:

reddawn.russell@gmail.com

Representative of:

☒ Blount County

☐ City of Maryville

☐ City of Alcoa

1) What motivates your interest in serving as a trustee?

Serving on the BCPL Board of Trustees is something every
citizen who cares about the services the library offers should consider. Supporting
and serving on the BOT is a way to give back to the community. I want to see our library
succeed and flourish.

2) Please provide details of any volunteer experiences or accomplishments you've had in the past or are currently involved in, including involvement with school groups, service clubs, or other boards/commissions.

I have served on multiple committees within church and
school affiliations including leadership teams during my career
as an educator. I have helped execute fundraising events, served in
community as well as state park clean-ups, directed and assisted in dramatic
arts groups within both church and school.

3) Please outline any qualifications such as work experience, education, personal attributes, and skills/training that you believe would contribute positively to the work of the library board.

I have been an educator for over 30 years and served as a school librarian for 2 of those years. I have experience working with diverse groups of people. I am excellent at organizing information and communication.

4) Please circle the area(s) in which your experience would be of benefit to the Board:

Finance

Construction

Strategic Planning

Technology

Law/Legal Issues

Government Relations

Human Resources

Creative Arts

Outreach/Advocacy

Business Development

Library Services

Marketing/Public Relations

Other

If you answered "other," please indicate your expertise or interests:

5) What do you see as the library's role in the community?

To be a center of life long learning, a space for community connections, and a provider of access - to technology, education, information, literature, and essential resources. The library ensures that everyone, no matter their income or background, has the tools they need to learn, connect, and thrive.

By submitting this Information Sheet, I affirm that the facts outlined in it are accurate and complete.

Dawn Russell 2-5-2025
Signature Date

Dawn Russell
Printed Name

Please attach your current Resume to this Information Sheet.

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Trustee for the Blount County Public Library Board.

Blount County does not discriminate based on race, color or national origin in federal or state-sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d).

DAWN RUSSELL

EDUCATOR

CONTACT

4338 Lorena Lane
Maryville, TN 37804

(865)414-2319

reddawn.russell@gmail.com

PROFILE

Veteran educator with 30+ years of experience and a proven track record of implementing innovative teaching methods and fostering a love for learning. Skilled in developing engaging lesson plans, collaborating with colleagues, and providing personalized guidance to students, resulting in increased student engagement, improved test scores, and enhanced confidence. Committed to creating a positive and inclusive learning environment, promoting critical thinking skills, and supporting students' social and emotional development.

EDUCATION

EDUCATION SPECIALIST IN
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
2011
LINCOLN MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY
Harrogate, TN

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
1996
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
Knoxville, TN

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
EDUCATION
1992
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
Knoxville, TN

EXPERIENCE

BLOUNT COUNTY SCHOOLS Maryville, TN

JUL. 2008 - PRESENT

CLASSROOM TEACHER AT PORTER ELEMENTARY

- Instruction in Transition First Grade and First Grade classes averaging 20 students
- Implement comprehensive curriculum to meet the needs of diverse learners and stimulate students' creative and critical thinking skills
- Analyze assessment data to inform instructional decisions
- Integrate technology into the learning process with gamification and digital assignments intended to develop students' cognitive abilities and keyboarding skills
- Consistently exceed academic testing goals and growth goals on district-wide assessments. Median percent progress toward annual growth for students last year was 124%.
- Proactively communicate with families through weekly newsletters and individual contacts to acknowledge superior work or areas of concern
- Pioneer in innovative departmental grades plan at the K-2 level that has resulted in improved student achievement and county-wide interest in the process
- Led supplemental tutoring for 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students in after school sessions and during summer school sessions
- Led multiple professional development sessions at both the school and district level
- Served as a Mentor Teacher for multiple new teachers
- Trained multiple student teachers through shadowing partnerships with ETSU, Maryville College, WGU, and Tusculum University
- Served as a TTL (Technology Teacher Leader) for the district for multiple years
- Served on Leadership Committee multiple years which included developing the annual School Improvement Plan

REFERENCES

Judy Pearson

Principal, Porter Elementary School
(865) 983-4071

Heather Richardson

Teacher, Porter Elementary School
(865) 315-4585

SKILLS

LESSON
DEVELOPMENT

COLLABORATION

ANALYZING
DATA

COMMUNICATION

SKILL
ANALYSIS

LEADERSHIP

ORGANIZATION

MENTORING

TIME
MANAGEMENT

PATIENCE

CERTIFICATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING
LICENSE WITH ELEMENTARY K-8
ENDORSEMENT (402)

HIGHLY QUALIFIED STATUS:
GRADE SPAN K-6 IN ALL SUBJECT
AREAS

SEESAW PIONEER TEACHER

NEARPOD CERTIFIED EDUCATOR

GOOGLE CERTIFIED TEACHER

TEACHER TECHNOLOGY LEADER

CPR CERTIFICATION

MATH PACING GUIDE
COLLABORATOR FOR BCS

ELA CURRICULUM MAPPING
COLLABORATOR FOR MCS

Leadership Experiences

- Leadership Team at PES
- Grade level Lead Teacher at PES
- Technology Teacher Leader BCS
- Led PD inservice workshops at district and school level for both BCS and MCS
- Textbook adoption committees for both BCS and MCS
- School Leadership Training for School Improvement Coach CES
- Curriculum Mapping Committee for MCS
- Faculty Advisory Committee CES
- Chairperson on Leadership Team for School Improvement Plan CES

EXPERIENCE

MORGAN COUNTY SCHOOLS Wartburg, TN

JUL 1996 - 2008

CLASSROOM TEACHER AT CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

- Instructed and responsible for all classroom duties in First Grade classroom averaging 20 students
- Maintained the same standard of communication, collaboration, innovation, assessment analysis, and engaging student learning environment continued at BCS
- Trained student teachers in shadowing partnerships with Roane State and TTU
- Piloted Wilson Reading Systems at CES to help struggling readers

SEPT 1994 - 1996

LIBRARIAN AT CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

- Implemented the school's first electronic, computerized catalog system and materials check out
- Selection of new materials acquisition, maintaining accurate data and knowledge base of the library's materials
- Instruction of primary, intermediate, and middle school students on skills from library organization to basic reference to writing a research paper

ANDERSON COUNTY SCHOOLS CLINTON, TN

AUG 1993 - 1994

GIFTED AND RESOURCE TEACHER AT ANDERSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

- Instructed social studies and math classes in the resource department
- Responsible for developing lesson plans and my own curriculum based on state standards
- Facilitated Distance Learning classes in Latin and German for the gifted program

KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS KNOXVILLE, TN

JUL. 1993 - 1994

CLASSROOM INTERN TEACHER AT POND GAP ELEMENTARY

- Serving with a Mentor Teacher to experience classroom management, lesson development and instruction in both a kindergarten and split 4th/5th grade class
- Responsible for all classroom teacher duties, management, assessment, planning and instruction for the 2nd semester
- Led a weekly extra-curricular activity during school-wide creative arts program

HONORS

- Math Teacher of the Year PES 2022-23
- BCS Math Teacher of the Year Finalist 2022-23
- Math Teacher of the Year PES 2021-22
- BSC Math Teacher of the Year Finalist 2021-22
- Technology Teacher of the Year PES 2019-20
- WIVK Teacher of the Month 2014
- Teacher of the Year PES 2011-12 nomination
- Teacher of the Year CES 2002-03
- Teacher of the Year CES 2000-01 nomination