First Name	Last Name
Carolyn	Кгорр

## **Applicant Interest**

I am the mother of 4 children, 3 of which are enrolled in OCDSB schools and one child who has recently graduated from the OCDSB and is pursuing post-secondary education. I myself am a proud product of the OCDSB's commitment to public education having attended and graduated from Hillcrest High School.

I am currently in my fourth year as the Co-Chair for Pleasant Park Public School Parent Council and have been involved at Parent Council for 2 other schools in years past: Vincent Massey Public School and Hillcrest High School. As a concerned parent, I have attended PIC (Parent Involvement Committee) meetings as well as Board-wide budget and public meetings. It is through these experiences that I am aware of the challenges and successes that the OCDSB and its schools face on an annual basis.

I have been President and Treasurer of a local not-for-profit Co-Operative Nursery School for almost 10 years as my children each reached pre-school age. This experience allowed me to understand the inner workings of Ministry of Education and Ministry of Children and Community and Social Services Regulations and policies and how a school and Board must work to comply with them.

I am currently a member of the Executive Committee for the Board of Directors not-forprofit organization called Màmawi Together. It helps bring awareness and education about Reconciliation between Indigenous and no-Indigenous Canadians with a special focus on youth. I have been in this position since its inception two years ago but have been affiliated with the work of the group for over nine years. This organization grew out of initiatives started within OCDSB schools. I have worked for many years with the OCDSB FNMI representatives.

I have shown a firm commitment to volunteer organizations and feel that a strong Parent Council or Board in the education sector provides the backbone to allow our children and students to learn and succeed. A strong Parent Council can provide extra resources that school budgets and school boards cannot provide. I am very aware of what a school budget can and cannot provide. I am also aware of what a school board budget looks like, where funding is allocated and where there are shortfalls.

I have proven experience of being fiscally prudent while endeavouring to try to find alternative solutions to problems (money or otherwise). I am a proponent of trying to find win-win results while recognizing that hard decisions do and will have to be made for the greater good.

My experiences in and around OCDSB schools and Ministry of Education policies and Regulations makes me an excellent candidate as Trustee for Zone 10. I know how important it is to represent and safeguard the public's trust and will work hard to ensure that trust is maintained. I believe you must bring parents, students, community members and partners together to have a fulsome debate on any education issue. I am at ease listening to all sides of a debate and making a final decision. I believe in the values of equity within schools and at the Board level and beyond.

I look forward to being part of a team with the current Board and proving myself to the residents of Zone 10.