



At-Large
School Board Member Application

Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 21, 2026

Name Jimmy Belew

Home Address [REDACTED]

**You must be registered to vote in Albemarle County. You can determine this by checking your voter card or by calling the Voter Registration Office at 434.972.4173.*

Phone [REDACTED]

Cell Phone [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Do you currently have children/grandchildren in ACPS?



YES



NO

If no, have you had children/grandchildren in ACPS?



YES



NO

How long have you resided in Albemarle County 25 Years

Have you previously served on the Albemarle County School Board or an Albemarle County Public Schools Committee or Council?

If so, please explain your previous committee/council work.

See attached .

Please indicate why you are interested in serving on the School Board.

See attached.

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Albemarle County
School Board Office

By: [Signature]

Please indicate where appropriate, areas in which you have experience or knowledge:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ School Construction | ☐ Research |
| ☐ Education/Curriculum | ☒ Strategic Planning |
| ☐ Databases | ☒ Finance/Budget |
| ☒ Community Engagement | ☒ Nonprofit and Human Services |
| ☐ Public Administration | ☒ County Government |
| ☐ Policy Development | ☐ Statistics/Demographics |
| ☐ Governance | ☒ Other |

Please further describe the experience, education, and leadership skills you would bring to the School Board.

See attached .

Indicate if you are attaching additional information pertinent to this application.

- ☒ Attachments are provided
☐ No attachments were necessary

Signature  Date 8/10/2026

Please be advised that, upon submission, this application and any supporting documents become public records and may be disclosed or published by Albemarle County Public Schools.

Applications may be submitted by email or delivered/mailed to:

M. Christine Thompson, Clerk of the Board
Albemarle County School Board
401 McIntire Road, Room 345
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Phone: 434-296-5820

cthompson@k12albemarle.org

Have you previously served on the Albemarle County School Board or an Albemarle County Public Schools Committee or Council? If so, please explain your previous committee/council work.

No. I have not previously served on the Albemarle County School Board, but I have served on several Albemarle County Public Schools hiring committees.

Although I have not held a formal position, I have been an active and engaged participant in the work of our school division. Recently, I have regularly attended School Board meetings, provided public comment, met with school administrators and elected officials, and extensively reviewed Board policies, budgets, and state and federal education laws. Through advocating for my children and other families, I have gained firsthand experience with many aspects of the school system, particularly in special education, student services, school safety, and parent engagement.

My involvement has given me a strong understanding of the challenges facing our schools and the importance of transparent leadership, accountability, and collaboration. While I may not have served on a formal committee, I believe my sustained involvement, commitment to the community, and willingness to engage constructively have prepared me to serve effectively as a member of the School Board.

Please indicate why you are interested in serving on the School Board.

I am interested in serving on the School Board because I believe every child deserves a safe, supportive, and high-quality education, and every parent deserves to have their voice heard. Through my own family's experiences with Albemarle County Public Schools, I have seen both the strengths of our school system and the areas where meaningful improvement is needed. Those experiences have strengthened my commitment to ensuring that every student is treated fairly, receives the services they are entitled to, and is able to learn in an environment where they feel safe and respected.

As a parent, business owner, and active member of our community, I understand the importance of accountability, transparency, and responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars. I believe School Board members should be accessible, willing to listen to all perspectives, and focused on making decisions based on what is best for students rather than politics or bureaucracy.

If selected, I would work to strengthen special education services, improve communication and trust between families and the school division, promote student safety, support our teachers and staff, and ensure every decision is made with students' long-term success at the center. I believe our community deserves a School Board that is transparent, responsive, and committed to restoring confidence in our public schools.

Ultimately, I am seeking to serve because I care deeply about our children, our schools, and our community. I want to help build a school system where every student has the opportunity to succeed, every parent feels respected, and every educator has the support they need to help students thrive.

Please further describe the experience, education, and leadership skills you would bring to the School Board.

As a business owner, parent, and dedicated community advocate, I bring a rare combination of real-world leadership, financial accountability, and deep personal investment in the success of our public schools. I am confident that I am uniquely qualified—and the strongest candidate—to serve on the School Board because I understand how to lead, how to listen, and how to deliver results.

Owning and operating a successful business has required me to manage complex budgets, make high-stakes decisions, solve problems under pressure, and remain fully accountable to employees, clients, and the broader community. These responsibilities have shaped my approach to leadership: be transparent, be fiscally responsible, and always prioritize long-term impact over short-term convenience. I would bring that same disciplined, results-oriented mindset to every decision made on the School Board.

Over the past several years, I have become one of the most engaged community members in Albemarle County Public Schools. I have consistently attended School Board meetings, closely followed policy decisions, and studied local, state, and federal education law. I have developed a strong working knowledge of special education, including IDEA and Section 504, and have successfully advocated for students and families navigating these systems. Through direct collaboration with educators, administrators, and state agencies, I have gained firsthand insight into both the strengths of our schools and the areas where meaningful improvement is needed.

What sets me apart is not only my experience, but my commitment to action. I do not simply observe issues—I work to solve them. I have built relationships across the education system, asked difficult but necessary questions, and consistently focused on ensuring students receive the services and support they are entitled to. This has given me a deep, practical understanding of how policy decisions affect classrooms, teachers, and families in real time.

I believe the School Board needs leaders who are independent thinkers, strong communicators, and unafraid to make difficult but necessary decisions. I am all of these things. I listen carefully, evaluate facts objectively, and prioritize what is best for students above all else. I am prepared to challenge assumptions when needed, collaborate respectfully with all stakeholders, and work tirelessly to improve outcomes for every child in our schools.

I would bring unmatched dedication, a proven record of leadership, and a deep commitment to public service. My goal is not only to serve, but to strengthen the School Board by restoring trust, improving transparency, supporting educators, and ensuring responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars. Above all, I am committed to ensuring that every student in Albemarle County has access to a safe, supportive, and high-quality education where they can thrive—and I am the best person to help make that happen.