## 1. What makes you the best candidate for the position?

I have specific skills which are valuable to a school board. I have worked successfully as a litigation and research paralegal so I understand how to read policy, find information and write technical documents. I am a strategic thinker: my ideas for solving problems are both rational and analytical. I am skilled at comprehending my role as a team member and I am attracted by teams whose challenges intrigue me. I maintain a good rapport with school staff and administration. Over the past 14 years, I have chaired school committees, served as an officer on WHYS/PTO boards, and volunteered in classrooms. My recent education and work experiences are aligned with the mission of this school board. I have been a member of the school advisory committee for several years. It is through that role, coupled with working at Solutions Behavioral Healthcare, that I have gained hands-on experience and insight into how the school, community, and parents work together. I am a degreed child and family development specialist and an educator of parents. I am also a certified human development and family science professional. I can identify obstacles that children and parents face in the learning and development process, and I am confident that I can assist the Board in implementing and/or supporting policies which will mitigate some of those barriers.

2. What are the biggest challenges facing your school district and how would you address them?

One challenge of our district lies in deciding the fate of Central Intermediate School. The board, of course, will make the best decision on behalf of the students. I would address this challenge by weighing the costs of renovation vs. new construction. I would also request that steps be taken to prove that the existing school cannot be brought to current adequacy standards before any final decision is made.

Another great challenge for the Wadsworth school board is the rampant drug abuse problem in our county. The random drug testing being done by the high school is one step to lessening the abuse of drugs by students. I would address this challenge further by exploring regular parent education and awareness forums or discussions regarding warning signs of abuse, the "street knowledge" of students, and how parents can engage in preventative measures.

Class sizes at our elementary schools are an ongoing issue. I would address this challenge by reviewing the class-size reduction plan currently in place and working to support and/or modify it as needed.