



Julie Batey

- Age: 51
- Family: my husband's name is Bruce and we have two children, Tony, a junior at WHS and Sofie, an 8th grader at WMS
- Education: bachelor's in mass media communications; associate degree in community services, University of Akron
- Occupation: mom and Wadsworth Board of Education member
- Community Involvement: Wadsworth PTO United, Summer Backpack Connection Chair; WMS PTO, Past President; Wadsworth High School Alumni Association, Past Chair; Wadsworth Lions Club, Vice President; Medina Metropolitan Housing Authority Board of Commissioners member

1. Why have you decided to run for re-election?

During my first term as a Wadsworth City Schools Board of Education member, my top priority has been putting all students, teachers and supporting staff needs at the forefront of my mind when considering policy decisions that come before the Board. In order to better understand those needs, I have become an active member on several district committees and I have worked alongside outstanding students, teachers, counselors, administrators, and community members. This committee work has allowed me to listen, ask questions, and gain valuable insight from students and school employees on issues such as district policies, curriculum selections, societal pressures facing our children and guidance department, and district-wide instructional successes and challenges. We then worked together to enhance programs that were successful and create plans to solve issues facing our district. I've decided to run again for Wadsworth City School's Board of Education because I understand that providing a quality education to all of our students requires listening, being involved, collaborating, and working hard. I've demonstrated that I possess the ability to do all of these things over the past four years and I will continue to use these skills to provide the best possible educational experience for every Wadsworth student.

2. What is something you are especially proud of during your tenure on the board?

I'm very proud of the educational initiatives that have been implemented from the work being done in the district's Academic Council. As a member of the Academic Council, we explored and successfully implemented plans to enhance our Gifted Services and Special Education programs. We are currently evaluating our Response to Intervention (RTI) program. RTI is an approach our district uses for early identification and support of students with learning and behavior needs. It's vital that we review the RTI process and make adjustments where necessary so we can provide our students with learning and behavior needs with an appropriate and effective education plan. We will address the RTI process review the same way by listening to teachers as they share their RTI experiences, asking questions to gain better understanding of RTI practices, and ultimately making adjustments to improve our RTI procedures. The Academic Council was also the catalyst for the Shadow A Student and Teacher Day concept that will take place later this year. Other districts in the area had implemented the Shadow A Student Challenge and I shared the idea with my fellow Council members, thus leading to a recent Board discussion on what the day would look like. We felt it was important to experience what a student and teacher go through on a daily basis so we can make adjustments and better serve our students and teachers needs. I look forward to help in the planning and implementation of the shadowing event.

3. If re-elected what are some goals you have for the next four years?

The goals I have for the next four years focus on the district's fine arts course offerings and exploring the possibility of expanding or improving our fine arts facilities. Dr. Hill has started a curricular review committee that will focus on our fine arts offerings. Once the committee begins to meet, we will focus on reviewing the courses we currently offer and may remove and add courses that best meet the needs of our students. Also, in the next four years, I would like to have a collaborative discussion about the need for an additional performing arts center. Our current Performing Arts Center is constantly booked with numerous talent shows, plays, musicals, and concerts. OJ Work Auditorium is also booked quite frequently by community organizations that need a larger stage for their performances. I would like to investigate the option of a third facility.

If reelected, my goal will continue to be doing what's best for all of our students, teachers, and community members. I will continue to stay involved, listen to all sides, ask questions, and collaborate to work out a solution. I'm excited about the opportunity to continue to serve on the Wadsworth City Schools Board of Education.