

2018 School Council Candidate Statements
North Melbourne Primary School
Random Selection Order



Pam NEWTON

I'm mother to Ned and Sam (Gr 5) and to Kate (Gr 2). I came onto School Council in 2016 to support the team to advocate for more resources to accommodate our significant local population growth. I am renominating to continue to support School Council's ongoing strategic role ensuring our children receive quality education in spite of the growing student numbers.

Employment:

- 1997- 2017 Local Government Authorities (Melton, Darebin, Port Phillip)
- Manager Aged & Disability Services
 - Manager Children's Services
 - Manager Vibrant Creative City
 - Health Service Planning
 - Manager Health & Wellbeing
- 2010-current Private practice psychologist
- 2015 Operations Development Manager (Parkinson's Victoria)

Volunteering

- 2016-2018 NMPS SC – Finance committee; Building and Grounds, Fete Committee (2016)
- 2016-current Board member Safe Steps (Family Violence): Governance committee,
- 2014-2015 St Mary's Kindergarten - Enrolment officer and Treasurer
- 2010-2013 Westgate Multiple Birth Association - Treasurer; Newsletter editor; Grants officer

Qualifications

- BBSoc. Graduate Dip. in App. Psychology
- MBA (Exec)
- MAPS
- AHPRA

Hayley SANDPEARL (Grade 4 parent)

I have served on the NMPS council for two years and currently sit on Communication and Education Sub-committees. I work as a Senior School Teacher and offer knowledge of relevant creative and current education initiatives. Education continues to change regarding what our children learn and the ways in which they learn. I am a representative who can bridge educational and parenting worlds and offer particular insight and experience that is beneficial in negotiating the changes and challenges of 21st century learning. I have stood on arts and not-for-profit organisation boards in many capacities and am an efficient committee member and communicator. I was voted as President of NMPS Council last year and feel I have a great deal more to offer, so I am putting myself up for nomination in 2018 in hope I can continue on to finish the work that I have been undertaking.

Megan CUSACK

Megan Cusack is mum to Cooper (grade 4) and twins Archer and Ryder (grade 2), and is very passionate about her family and friends.

She is an active member of the North Melbourne community and over the last few years she has supported school fundraising initiatives, teacher thank you events and class excursions. Megan's recent contribution to School Council has been through P&F, Biz-E-Kidz and Communications sub-committees. Megan is also involved in RAID, a community group focussed on achieving integrated developments that are sympathetic with community values and needs.

With a background in communications and stakeholder management on some of Victoria's largest infrastructure projects, Megan has the ability to collaborate with stakeholders on complex issues to achieve solutions that are mutually beneficial and jointly celebrated.

Megan would like to offer her professional expertise and personal passion to enhance communication and explore opportunities to engage more broadly within the school community.

Niroshini KENNEDY

I'm the mother of Isaac(4C) and Zara(1C). I've lived in Parkville/North Melbourne for 18 years. I've volunteered locally with a Foodbank, and set up a Homework Club. I'm a paediatrician at the Royal Children's Hospital and Victorian Aboriginal Health Service. My work involves clinical duties as well as policy and advocacy for Aboriginal children, and children in foster care, at a state and national level. I am known for my tenacity, clarity and integrity. I'd like to bring these skills to the School Council. I'd like to see the school engage constructively with the school's parents/guardians, and to embrace our diversity. I'm Sri Lankan, speak Tamil, and am a migrant who attended 8 schools in 4 countries. I understand the different cultural expectations of education that many families have and would like to assist the school in engaging with these families in a meaningful and respectful manner.

Georgette ANTONAS

I have three boys who attend North Melbourne Primary School- in foundation, grade three and grade five. I have been very active in the school community, and have helped run the parents and friends committee. Over the years I have been a member of kindergarten committees, run school cake stalls and coordinated other fundraising activities.

I began my career as a solicitor in family law, and then practiced in the child welfare jurisdiction. I now work in the child youth and family policy area and specialise in child safeguarding. I am currently rolling out sector training across the state on organisational responses to child safety. I have advised a range of institutions, including schools and school regulatory bodies on child safety. I have a deep understanding of the factors giving rise to institutional child abuse and prevention and hope to bring this experience to the school council.