



## Meet the Chandler Woods Charter Academy School Board

**President: Matt Jones** – A School Board member since 2018 and a Chandler Woods parent.



- Married for 26 years with 3 kids
- 23-year career at Amway Corporation in the IT division
- Very active in Men's Ministry Leadership and Small Group Leadership at Magnify Church

*I serve on the Chandler Woods School Board because my kids started attending the school in 2014, and it didn't take long to see that this school was special. I was looking for a way to get more involved at CW, and there happened to be an opportunity to join the school board. In 2018, I began serving on the board, and it has been a great way to get more insight about how the school operates and experience the tremendous dedication and effort of the staff and teachers for our students. It is a privilege to serve on this board.*

**Vice President: Jamie Crosby** – A School Board member since 2018 and a local business owner.



- Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Grinnell College (Iowa)
- Long-time employee and owner of Crosby & Henry Insurance
- Supporting literacy since 1993 through tutoring and serving on the Kent County Literacy Council (now Literacy Center of West Michigan)
- Active member of the Grand Rapids Rotary, volunteering to mentor/tutor at-risk high school youth and fund raising for Rotary charities

*I serve on the Chandler Woods School Board because I believe strongly in a good education, especially in building solid reading skills for all children. Character development also is critical for our youth. A fellow Rotarian invited me to learn more about CW. While learning about the school and its mission, I was impressed with the work being done to support kids. The school's mission and goals align with my beliefs. I hope that my participation on the board can help CW achieve its mission!*

**Secretary: Milinda (Mindy) Worley, M.A., L.L.P.C.** – A School Board member since 2021 and a Chandler Woods parent.



- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Cornerstone University
- Master of Arts in Counseling and School Counseling, Central Michigan University
- Assistant Director of Academic Partnerships, Cornerstone University
- Other career experience as Service and Career Development Specialist, Cornerstone University; Adjunct Professor of Psychology, Cornerstone University; Adolescent and Young Adult Counselor, The 3rd Chair

*I serve on the Chandler Woods School Board because I am passionate about children receiving a holistic, high-quality education to prepare them for their futures. Also a Chandler Woods parent, I know firsthand how incredible it is to be a part of such an amazing school community that was founded on parental partnership and moral development, and I want to do all I can to ensure we remain true to that identity. As a board member, I deeply value the opportunity to serve our wonderful faculty, staff, and students in this capacity.*

**Treasurer: Jared Bollaert** – A School Board member since 2021 and a local CPA.



- Hope College, Class of 2016
- West Michigan native
- Prior to COVID was a mentor for ABLE at Central High School and a youth group leader
- A partner at H&S Companies

*I serve on the Chandler Woods School Board because local schools are integral in their communities and play a pivotal role in the development of the next generation. To be able to support a school in my community, in any way, is an honor and something I take pride in.*



## **How are School Board members selected?**

Our School Board draws from local civic and community leaders. They volunteer their time and energy to ensure students at Chandler Woods Charter Academy receive the best education possible. The Chandler Woods School Board seeks individuals who want to shape a better tomorrow for our community's children, give back to the community, support parental choice, and improve public education.

The selection process is managed by Grand Valley State University (GVSU), the school's authorizer, and includes:

- An interview before the School Board.
- A motion by the School Board that the candidate provides a skillset that would benefit the instructional and fiscal healthiness of the school.
- A successful interview by a representative of the Charter Schools Office at GVSU.
- A complete criminal background check.
- A reference check.

Once these steps are satisfied, the candidate's application is placed on the agenda for final approval at the next GVSU Board of Trustees meeting.

## **What is the role of the School Board?**


The Chandler Woods School Board is driven by its mission: Developing the full potential of each child to prepare for life-long learning. They are responsible for ensuring the school's academic performance, legal compliance, and financial viability. The School Board are public officials responsible to taxpayers and accountable to the authorizer, Grand Valley State University. It is a governing board that through a Services Agreement delegates day-to-day operations to National Heritage Academies.

## **What is the role of the authorizer, Grand Valley State University?**

Grand Valley State University awards the charter contract and holds the School Board accountable for academic performance, legal and statutory compliance, and financial stability.

## **What is the role of National Heritage Academies?**

National Heritage Academies (NHA) has a Services Agreement with the School Board. This agreement outlines the terms, conditions, and expectations of the relationship



between the School Board and NHA. The School Board partners with NHA to operate the school.

**How is a charter school board different from a traditional district school board?**

Charter school board members are appointed by the Grand Valley State University Board of Trustees. The School Board is accountable to the taxpayers of Michigan and the authorizer for the school's academic performance, legal compliance, and financial viability. This is different from a traditional public school district, whose members are elected by constituents within a geographic boundary and are directly accountable to those constituents.

**How can a member of the public speak to the School Board?**

The best way to speak to the School Board is by attending a School Board meeting. The meeting calendar is posted at the school and on the school's website. Anyone wishing to reach the School Board via email can do so at [chandlerwoodsboard@gmail.com](mailto:chandlerwoodsboard@gmail.com).

The School Board's policy for Public Comment also is posted to the school's website. Members of the public are afforded two opportunities to provide comment – once on agenda items and once on non-agenda items. Individual School Board members do not respond to public comment during the meeting. The School Board responds to all questions and requests for feedback in writing after the meeting.