

December 18, 2012

Mr. Keith Sutton, Chairman
Wake County Board of Education

Dear Mr. Sutton and Members of the Board,

It is with great interest that I submit my name as a candidate for the District 1 seat on the Wake County Board of Education. As a resident of District 1 and Wake County for over 15 years, I am already an active member of the community. I serve as a volunteer with the American Red Cross, a member of a disaster relief first responder team and enjoy active membership in my church. With 19 years of service on a school board in Upstate New York, I have valuable skills, experiences and the commitment required for this position. My references will indicate that I am known as a consensus builder with leadership experience in every aspect of school board governance. In addition to having a vested overall interest in the quality of Wake County schools, I have two grandchildren in the district (one in elementary school, one in high school) and a son who serves as an administrator. Combined with my experiences at the local, regional and state levels, I can offer a broad understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our school system. As a team player, I can contribute positively by working with all members of the Board in seeking solutions together.

I am a firm believer in the power of establishing meaningful relationships within the community and on the Board in order to accomplish great things together. As a Board member, I would be visible in Eastern Wake's schools, town halls and community institutions. Having recently left my professional and successful career in sales, I have the time and dedication needed to address the concerns of this community with a collaborative and comprehensive approach. By working directly with staff, school advisory committees and local community leaders, I am committed to making informed decisions based on facts and common values. While I am representing District 1, I will advocate not only for the students of my district, but also for all students within the larger community of Wake County. It is in the best interest of us all to have thriving schools in every corner of the school system.

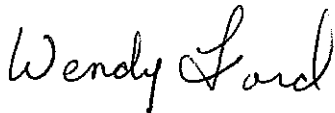
As a member of the Board, I will work tirelessly to support the mission and vision of providing a world-class education for *all* students so they may reach their full potential of becoming successful, productive citizens. I can contribute to advancing the Board's Strategic Plan in the following ways by:

- Capitalizing on nearly two decades of service on a school board to enhance the work of the Wake County School Board

- Advocating for *all* children in Wake County through a lens of fairness and equity
- Remaining mindful that high-quality, well-supported teachers and staff members have positive effects on school cultures and student achievement
- Working within budgetary constraints to provide the best access to instructional resources for students, including technology
- Building upon common values in maintaining meaningful and respectful relationships with community stakeholders to advance the education of all children
- Supporting a culture of high expectations among all Wake County residents and helping the Board meet these expectations
- Providing a fresh, objective approach to the issues facing our community's schools

I look forward to discussing this opportunity with you in greater detail. I have attached an outline of my relevant experience along with a published article summarizing my tenure as a school board member. Also attached please find testimonials and several letters of recommendation supporting my candidacy for Wake County School Board member. It is with great pleasure that I submit all of this for your consideration. I would be truly honored to work alongside you in service of the students and community of District 1 and Wake County Schools as a whole.

Sincerely,



Wendy Ford
4700 Studbury Hall Court
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Enclosures:

Resume – Board of Education Experiences

3 – Letters of Recommendation

Published Article from Partners Newspaper, April/May 1997

3 – Prior Testimonials/Recommendations

WENDY S. FORD

4700 Studbury Hall Court, Wake Forest, NC 27587
wford3@nc.rr.com Home: 919-562-8118 Mobil: 919-818-4904

I was a member of the Churchville-Chili School Board, located in Upstate NY, for nineteen years prior to accepting a transfer with my employer and moving to NC. I also served on the Monroe County School Boards Association and the Genesee Valley School Boards Association in varying capacities.

SCHOOL BOARD EXPERIENCES:

- **Churchville-Chili School Board** (elected - 3 year terms) 1978 – 1997
 - President - 1 Term (2 years)
 - Vice President - 2 Terms (4 years)
 - Attended 10 National School Board Association Conferences
 - Completed 2 National Superintendent Searches

District Committee Member:
Community Information Committee - Chairperson
Discipline Committee - Chairperson
Budget & Finance
Contract Negotiations
Labor Relations
Student Redistricting
Student Assessment - AIG & EC
Curriculum Development
Building & Grounds
- **Monroe County School Boards Association: Serves 21 School Districts; 30 Towns/Cities; 182 Schools; 118,400 Students**
 - Legislative Committee Member - 18 years; Reviewed legislation, developed position papers and stayed abreast of current issues while keeping members informed.
 - Scheduled trips to the Capital for meetings and presentations with our county delegation and NYS Legislature.
- **Genesee Valley School Board Association: Regional Association representing 38 Boards of Education, meeting and providing quality solutions to educational challenges and strategic long term planning.**
 - President - 2 Terms (6 years)
 - Vice President - 2 Terms (6 years)

CURRENT COMMUNITY INVOLVMENT:

- **Wake County School Volunteer**
- **American Red Cross – “Ready When The Time Comes”**
- **Disaster Relief First Responder**
- **Church Activities: AWANA, Choir, Child Care, Overseas Mission Medical Team**



Good Hope Baptist Church

6628 Good Hope Church Road
Cary, NC 27519

December 12, 2012

Chairman Keith Sutton
Members of the School Board
Wake County Schools

Dear Mr. Sutton and other board members,

I am delighted to write this letter of recommendation for Wendy Ford to serve on the Wake County Board of Education.

To say that Wendy is an “active” member of our church is a gross understatement. Wendy is involved in many areas of ministry through our church including our children’s ministry. Since joining Good Hope, Wendy has been a tireless worker and great encourager to those in ministry.

In addition to working in our church, Wendy has been a volunteer with North Carolina Baptists in disaster relief and recovery – most recently during the disaster in the northeast caused by Hurricane Sandy. When the call went out for volunteers to help, Wendy was first to go. She is consistent in her love and service of others.

Wendy is compassionate, considerate, and thoughtful toward others while at the same time being firm in her convictions. She loves people and is concerned for the well being of all. She has no agenda to push and no axe to grind. Her primary goal is simply helping others be the very best they can be.

Without hesitation or reservation, I recommend Wendy Ford for your consideration. In a day when the public seems more skeptical than ever toward those who would serve, I’m delighted to recommend someone like Wendy. She will help restore confidence in the board while serving her district and the students of Wake County with honor and dignity.

Thank you for this opportunity to share these thoughts.

Sincerely,

S. Keith Vaughan
Senior Pastor

December 13, 2012

Chairman Keith Sutton

Members of the Wake County School Board

Dear Chairman Sutton and Members:

I have been asked to prepare a letter of recommendation for Wendy Ford and I accepted that request gladly. Let me introduce myself and explain why Ms. Ford wanted my recommendation. My name is Roger Vallecorse and I am currently retired after a career in corporate America. I held three vice presidential positions in three fortune 500 companies as a Sr. Vice President of Human Resources. I believe my background will permit me to speak intelligently concerning Ms. Ford's management style and leadership qualities.

Although I have not served with Ms. Ford in any business situation, I have on numerous occasions since she has moved to Wake County, carefully analyzed her thinking process as she thinks through a situation, carefully and accurately articulating the problem and offering sound recommendations and viable solutions. As I study her as she thinks through a situation, she is careful and deliberate in her analysis. She then applies her communication skills to condense the problem into its simplest terms. During this time she is showing appropriate flexibility to reach a compromising and acceptable conclusion.

Concerning Ms. Ford's leadership style, I believe it is beyond reproach. She is unwilling to ask anyone to do anything she is unwilling or incapable of doing. That is a leadership style that has proven so vital when you measure success of a unit of endeavor whether in politics, business, or the military. Ms. Ford is a people person and that skill permits her to get things done through other people. Ms. Ford is a doer and she will leave her political views or personal bias at the front door as she concentrates on results.

In conclusion, if you are looking for someone who can achieve results and solve problems, I highly recommend for you to consider Ms. Ford. You will not be disappointed for she will bring to the table her vast experience as a former school board member, community leader and team player.

I would also highly recommend Ms. Ford as a keen management leader and a person motivated by solving problems that involve dealing effectively with people issues.

Sincerely,


Roger Vallecorse

316 Plank Bridge Way

Morrisville, NC 27560

919-336-3135 or 570-351-1827(c)

December 17, 2012

Dear Members of the Wake County Board of Education:

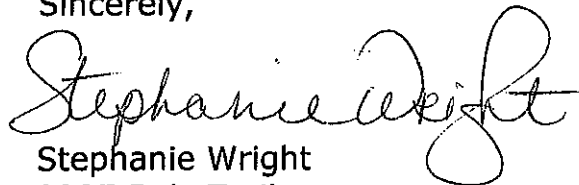
I would like to take this opportunity to offer a recommendation for Wendy Ford for the Wake County Public School Board District 1 seat. As a teacher in Wake County I have known Wendy for several years and feel that she is a deserving candidate for this position.

Wendy demonstrates a willingness to help in our schools and has participated in events such as school carnivals, Expos and classroom events. She volunteers in my classroom and has helped with countless special projects. Wendy shows incredible initiative and a strong dedication to the students of Wake County. I believe her previous experience as a school board member and other roles in public service make her a perfect fit to help lead Wake County Public Schools.

Wendy leads by example and I feel that her enthusiasm and dedication are both inspiring and motivating. Not only has she been an active volunteer in our area, she has also given of her time and energy as a medical volunteer in Haiti as part of the relief effort, providing vaccinations, urgent care services, and emotional support to those that are in desperate need, many being young children. In addition, Wendy recently traveled to the Northeast to help with the recovery following Hurricane Sandy within days of the disaster.

I believe that Wendy exhibits the character and dedication that would make her a wonderful candidate for the Wake County Public School Board. I know that she would help advance your mission of ensuring that all students in Wake County get the best education possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Wright". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and contact information.

Stephanie Wright
2805 Bolo Trail
Raleigh, NC 27615
919-332-2121

Long-standing board member will not seek reelection

Wendy Ford has been a member of the Churchville-Chili School Board for nineteen years and has lived in Chili all her life, but she's about to make a big change.

Ford has accepted a transfer with her company, Moore Document Solutions, to Raleigh, North Carolina, where she'll help Duke University Medical and Wake Forrester Medical use computers to improve information processing.

She began the new position in February and has been commuting between Raleigh and Rochester since, taking care of her new duties there and building a home, while working on selling her home here and completing her term on the school board.

"I want to fulfill my commitment to the district," she said. "Plus we're working on the budget. I want to see that through."

"Ford was already very involved in the parent association at the Chestnut Ridge School and chairperson of the district's Community Information Committee (CIC) when Jack Bates, then principal of CRS, recommended her to Burt Silburman, then superintendent, as a candidate for the board.

"I had three children and eventually all three would be in the system," recalled Ford. "I wanted to give something to the community." So she became one of eight candidates seeking three seats on the board.

Ford ran unopposed for her last two terms. Before that, there were always more candidates than there were seats, but each time Ford was reelected. She served two terms as vice president of the board and was president in 1988-89, when the district was completing a \$9.8 million major building and renovation project "I thoroughly enjoyed (serving on the board)," she said. "I met a number of great people — parents, administrators and staff — and I served on every committee."

She was a long-standing member of a couple of those committees —

discipline and negotiations — and a long-time representative from the board on the CIC. Up until her last term, she was also very active in the Monroe County School Boards Association, especially on their legislative committee, and served two terms as vice president and two terms as president of the Genesee Valley School Boards Association.

"I never dreamed I'd be (on the board) this long," said Ford. But there always seemed to be unfinished business or something new and exciting coming along that made her want to stay.

There's still unfinished business on the board. Growth and space continue to be the district's biggest challenges, according to Ford. "With the influx of population moving to this area, the district will be hard pressed to keep up with the number of children coming to our schools. I eventually see another elementary school down the road."

Having her own house on the market brought home in a personal way just how attractive the Churchville-Chili District is to home buyers. "They specifically sought out Churchville-Chili," said Ford. "Several said they had heard nothing but good things about the district."

It's a reputation which helps keep property values high, but also presents a dilemma. "It will continue to be a challenge to find that happy medium between keeping taxes down and accommodating more and more children," said Ford. "The community will have to look for ways to attract business to increase the tax base."

She'll be missed, but we wish her well and thank her for 19 years of dedicated service.

Mary Alice Price

But this time, Ford will leave the unfinished business to others — her successor and the rest of the board and administration. The opportunity



Wendy Ford will give up her spot at the board table to take a new job in Raleigh, N.C.

in Raleigh, "land of warmth and sunshine," was too attractive to pass up. "This is a big step, but I'm looking forward to it," she said. "It's a great opportunity to work in a couple of the largest hospitals in the country." And the weather doesn't hurt. "Raleigh is beautiful," said Ford. "The weather is nice nine months of the year. It's a great place to retire, when I'm ready for it."

She may even return to breeding Arabian show horses, a hobby she enjoyed here until her three sons grew up and, as she jokes, she "lost her cheap labor." Ford has even been encouraged, already, to consider serving on the school board in Wake Forrester, where she's building a new home.

It's a possibility, she says, but right now she has a term to finish here first.

"She'll be missed," said Superintendent Mary Alice Price, "but we wish her well and thank her for 19 years of dedicated service."



Churchville-Chili Central School District

David P. Ryan
Superintendent

July 19, 1995

Dear Madam/Sir:

I have known Wendy Ford for over fifteen years in her capacity as a member of the Churchville-Chili School board. She also served as board president and vice president. Her service to the community has been long and distinguished. In these days where education has fallen in disfavor, her longevity without remuneration is remarkable.

In her capacity as board president she led the district toward the achievement of its twin goals of increasing the number of students in our regents program and increasing the number of students passing the Regents' examination.

Her insight into complex issues was evident in many of the discussions at board meetings. She handled irate parents with complaints with calmness and poise. There is no doubt that Mrs. Ford is a perceptive, straightforward, clear thinking individual who has the will and temperament to be successful in any of her selected endeavors.

I highly recommend her for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David P. Ryan".

David P. Ryan

pl



Churchville-Chili Central School District

Mary Alice Price
Superintendent

Peter Post
Business Manager

September 5, 1997

Wendy Ford
8517 Hampton Chase Court
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Dear Wendy,

Things have been so hectic with me, house - job - kids etc., plus the fact I missed you at the board meetings last May and June, that I never got the chance to properly thank you for your years of support of me as the districts' Business Manager. I always appreciated your ability to cut thru the rhetoric, recognize the real issue or concern and direct it to the appropriate person. I also want to say I'll personally miss you and your good humor and probably I should thank you on behalf of the local deer population now that you are living in North Carolina.

Perhaps our paths will cross again but just in case we don't thanks for everything and the kids of Churchville-Chili Central School over the last 20 years will never know, but I know, how much good you've done for them. Thanks again and best wishes to you in your new home.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Post".

Peter Post
Business Manager and Friend

PP/mc

RIT

Rochester Institute of Technology

College of Business
Office of the Dean
Max Lowenthal Building
107 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, New York 14623-5608
716-475-6037 Fax 716-475-7055

September 14, 1994

Wendy Ford
27 Silverknoll Drive
Chili, NY 14624

Dear Wendy,

Congratulations on your re-election to the Chili School Board. We read about your re-election in the May 25th issue of Gates-Chili News.

The faculty and staff of the college are proud of your achievement. We are always pleased to learn of significant events in the lives of graduates of the College of Business at RIT. We wish you continued success.

Sincerely,



Richard N. Rosett, Ph.D.
Dean

RNR/ntw