

Amy Cowden

Personnel Committee Nominee

What motivates you to want to become a Personnel Committee member?

To help make PACT a place where children can have come to have a great education with some of the best teachers in MN; to help maintain the policies and procedures properly and help make solid recommendations to our board that support our school's mission; and to make sure our teachers and staff are being properly taken care of financially.

What expertise and experience in human resources and work environments will you contribute to the Personnel Committee; and what level of education and professional training do you bring?

I do work in customer service and I have worked with people all my life and know that if we don't treat our teachers with respect, and dignity, and show them the same common courtesy that you expect in return how can our children become responsible, smart, self-sufficient individuals if we don't hire those same types of teachers.

In relation to personnel and work environment, what are 1-3 biggest areas of concern you see facing PACT Charter School today, and how will you help solve them?

PACT is big on favoritism to certain people, if you have a certain last name you pretty much get what you want instead of having to earn it. Hire more coaches, that are NOT related to teachers, or other members of the board or any part of PACT. PACT isn't helping our children to really come together as a school, as pupils to get to know one another. We need some kind of after school program that will help to bring kids in all grades together for activities, whether it's an art project, or volleyball game, or something different each day. Teachers are not very communicative. I believe for mid-term reports, parents should ACTUALLY get more than graded reports from their teachers in the semester we do not have conferences. I would like to find some way of having teachers communicating to each parent precisely how each student is doing throughout the entire year, not just ½ the year.

If elected, how do you plan to work collaboratively with Personnel members through the lens of what is best for all K-12 students?

I would actually like to go and talk to some of the students in EVERY classroom and get an idea of what the kids would like changed at PACT and from there, work with Student Council to help roll out changes to help student morale. We as adults may know what we want, but we are not the ones that will be there for the next 10 years.

What do you believe are PACT Charter School's greatest employee/work environment needs right now, and how will you help accomplish this?

I believe our environment needs more people who are ethically and morally solid to help build back the foundation of our school. I believe that morale is at it's all time low for staff, students and teachers. I hope to help by reaching out and be the voice on their behalf to our school board.

What is your connection to PACT Charter School?

My daughter graduated from PACT in 2013, and my son is currently attending PACT and is in 9th grade.

