



## 2023 Board Candidate

Webber

### **Sedric Webber**

Vice President of Operations, YMCA of Greater Charleston  
North Charleston, South Carolina  
sedweb@aiinsure.com

### **Seat(s) Seeking:**

✓ 1 Unexpired Appointed Seat (expires February 2024)

### **Check all that apply:**

✓ Resident of South Carolina

### **College and Training:**

College of Charleston, B.S. Business Administration

### **Board Experience:**

N/A

### **Why do you want to serve on the Gates School Board of Directors?**

I love working with youth and love School Choice with the Charter School system.

### **How do you hope to advance the mission of the Gates School by serving on the board?**

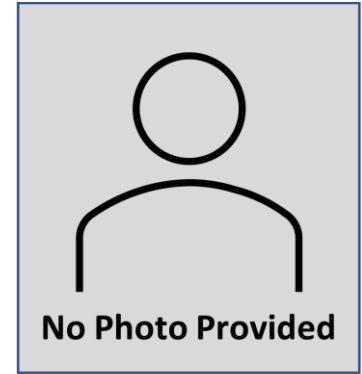
To help with exposing Gates School to the minority demographic.

### **What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?**

A strong calming voice and advocacy for Charter Schools

### **Please provide one example of something you feel the Gates School is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?**

Gates School is providing a service to the youth that the public school system overlooks. The most important issue for the school to focus on is to be financially sound to be effective.





## Jane Walsh

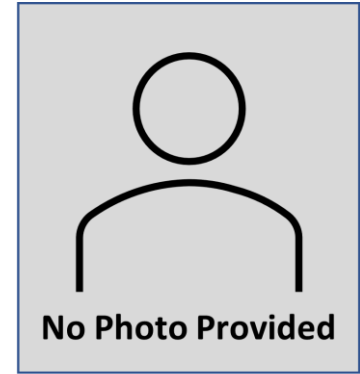
Vice President, Human Resources, Le Creuset  
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina  
Jane.g.walsh@gmail.com

### Seat(s) Seeking:

- ✓ 2 Appointed Parent Seats (expires February 2025)

### Check all that apply:

- ✓ Experience with Business
- ✓ Parent/Legal Guardian of Gates School Student(s)
- ✓ Resident of South Carolina



### College and Training:

Villanova University, BA, Human Services  
Georgian Court University, 2 Semesters of Special Education - Did not complete program  
Experience with industry at all levels of business maturity.

### Board Experience:

American Red Cross - Jersey Shore Chapter (Development Manager), Vibrant Emotional Health (VP HR)

### Why do you want to serve on the Gates School Board of Directors?

I grew up watching my brother struggle in school, even after he was diagnosed with dyslexia in 4th grade. My son was diagnosed in 2nd grade, and is in his second year at Gates, as a 5th grader. My daughter was recently diagnosed with dyslexia, and because of our experience at Gates, she knew about dyslexia, and wasn't scared with the diagnosis. I have seen the progression of the dyslexic learner, the lessening of the stigma, and the gifts that are unlocked with the right instruction. I have had the honor of being the voice of the parents in dealing with our charter sponsors. I am passionate for what Gates is doing for the communities in the Low Country. We moved from NJ in order for our son to attend Gates. The OG based learning environment has provided him with far more than special ed ever did, not only academically, but in all aspects of his personality. The biggest win is his increased self confidence! I believe all kids deserve to learn, but know that not all schools can teach every child. I've watched our school struggle to grow as a new business, and my professional experience can help build the foundation of a successful business and therefore set Gates up for success and longevity in serving the Low Country.

### How do you hope to advance the mission of the Gates School by serving on the board?

The Gates mission is exactly what has happened in my family. Dyslexia is not a disability, it is a different brain composition which requires a specific way of instruction. My goal is to provide business acumen to help secure the foundation and future of our school so that families continue to unlock the magic of the dyslexic brain for years to come.

### What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?

I have a vast background of professional and personal experiences that lend to my addition to the school. Professionally, I have been in Sales, Marketing and Human Resources for the last thirty years. I am currently the VP of HR for a multi-national organization. I have worked in Fortune 500 companies, and I have been the 3rd employee in a start up. Professionally, I know how to lead and grow a business.



Personally, there is not much that I am more passionate about than the dyslexic learner. I am committed to being on a life long journey to ensure that people with a dyslexic mind continue to receive the education they deserve. I am committed to continuing to learn what I don't know, share what I do, and help to continue to share the gift of the dyslexic brain.

In addition, I am a person of action. I am pragmatic, a critical thinker, a problem solver, and a go-getter. I am a leader and a team builder. Together, with the existing Board, I think I can provide a perspective and knowledge base to continue the growth trajectory of Gates.

**Please provide one example of something you feel the Gates School is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?**

There is so much that Gates is doing and has done well. While there is always room for growth and improvement, I think, often times, we don't give enough credit for what has been done well. The Gates Board and Administration has done a remarkable job shielding the staff and students to the challenges we've faced. The true definition of leadership is providing your team the ability to do their jobs without unnecessary burdens or blockers. Despite the challenges the Board and Administration has faced, the teachers have provided a remarkable education to our kids.

As a school, the most remarkable thing Gates has done is provide confidence to children who have lost it.

The most immediate need for Gates is stability, sustainability and scalability. Gates needs the ability to focus on ensuring the school has the ability to continue to grow.



## Jason Brisini

Teacher

Mount Pleasant, South Carolina

jbrisini7@gmail.com



### Seat(s) Seeking:

- ✓ 3 Elected Seats (expires February 2025)
- ✓ 1 Unexpired Appointed Seat (expires February 2024)

### Check all that apply:

- ✓ Experience with Business
- ✓ Experience with K-12 Education
- ✓ Resident of South Carolina

### College and Training:

College of Charleston, B.A. in History with a Minor in Secondary Education

University of South Carolina and The Citadel, EdD in Curriculum and Instruction, MA in Secondary Educational Leadership

I have been in education for 15 years as a high school teacher, instructional coach, and assistant principal. In addition, I have served as an adjunct professor at the College of Charleston and own a small business, Lowcountry Roots Woodworking.

### Board Experience:

N/A

### Why do you want to serve on the Gates School Board of Directors?

As an educator for 15 years, I have seen students with dyslexia fail to receive the services necessary for them to be successful in a classroom. I love the mission of the Gates School and would be beyond delighted to help carry out their mission to serve students.

### How do you hope to advance the mission of the Gates School by serving on the board?

I hope to bring my experience as a teacher, administrator, instructional coach, and professor to the Gates School in hopes to help staff, students, and families. My educational research focuses on real-world application and self-directed learnings, so I believe in providing students multiple ways of learning in the classroom. I love the Gates School approach and know that I will learn just as much as I contribute.

### What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?

My greatest strengths would be my knowledge of how the educational system works. Ten years ago, I helped start the Mt. Pleasant Task Force which saw the middle and high schools of the East Cooper area come together and serve underrepresented students in honors and AP courses. We found out that talented students are often left behind as early as elementary school for some small issue that is easily overcome. I hope to bring my knowledge from that experience and my entire career to the board!

### Please provide one example of something you feel the Gates School is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

The Gates School is doing a phenomenal job of providing students with dyslexia the education they deserve. I am most happy for the families of those students because I cannot imagine the frustration some of them must \



## 2023 Board Candidate

Brisini

feel with prior educational experiences that didn't fulfill the needs of their child. I would say the most important issue for the school to focus on is staying on top of any new pedagogical methods that could help students and also recruiting the best and brightest teachers available.



## Ashley Goverman

Charleston, South Carolina  
abgov87@gmail.com

### Seat(s) Seeking:

- ✓ 3 Elected Seats (expires February 2025)
- ✓ 2 Appointed Parent Seats (expires February 2025)

### Check all that apply:

- ✓ Experience with Business
- ✓ Parent/Legal Guardian of Gates School Student(s)
- ✓ Resident of South Carolina

### College and Training:

Howard Community College, A.A. Business Administration  
Completed board training provided by SCDE

### Board Experience:

PSE PTA Board Member: Sept 2018 - June 2021  
Gates Planning Committee/Gates Board Member/Secretary: Oct 2020 - Present

### Why do you want to serve on the Gates School Board of Directors?

From the moment I heard a school was coming to the Lowcountry that would focus on dyslexic thinkers, I knew I wanted to be involved in making it become a reality. I am incredibly passionate about wanting Gates to be successful and to give the students that have struggled with dyslexia in traditional schools, the opportunity to thrive among their peers and become confident readers.

### How do you hope to advance the mission of the Gates School by serving on the board?

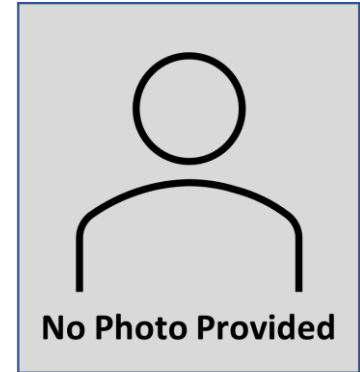
South Carolina has three schools specifically gears towards dyslexia of the approximately ten nationwide. Gates, along with the others, focus on the science of reading and could become a beacon for the proper instruction to teach students to read. Given the dismal reading scores (even prior to COVID) in the state and nationwide, it is clear a change needs to be made. Often teachers are forced to use failed curriculum purchased by their district and doesn't show evidence of truly working for students.

### What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?

My greatest strength is that I'm a "worker bee." I volunteer for a variety of projects and am versatile. (Example: Learning WordPress to ensure our website is up to date.) I am extremely passionate about the mission of Gates to serve dyslexic learners. I don't only want my child to succeed, but I want a major shift in literacy instruction overall across the state and country.

### Please provide one example of something you feel the Gates School is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?

Last year, Gates did an incredible job really focusing on the needs of dyslexic learners with the OG approach. Unfortunately, I think so much time and focus has been shifted to becoming compliant with Special Education, that the core OG instruction has suffered. Along with OG, fundraising is an immediate need to help cover the rising SPED cost.





## 2023 Board Candidate

Herold

### **Rosie Herold**

Teacher Librarian, None  
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina  
rosie.herold@gmail.com

### **Seat(s) Seeking:**

✓ 3 Elected Seats (expires February 2025)

### **Check all that apply:**

- ✓ Experience with K-12 Education
- ✓ Resident of South Carolina

### **College and Training:**

Mary Washington University,, BA,  
Catholic University, MLIS

### **Board Experience:**

N/A

### **Why do you want to serve on the Gates School Board of Directors?**

I believe in the mission of Gates school, and would like to help further the school success so that many more dyslexic learners will be able to attend.

### **How do you hope to advance the mission of the Gates School by serving on the board?**

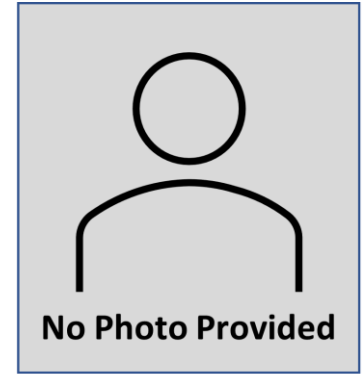
I feel that my education and training as a teacher allows me a unique perspective to aid in the mission of Gates.

### **What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?**

I have worked in both traditional, Montessori, and charter schools in multiple states. I can lend an eye to the inner workings of a school to aid the board in the direction that best serves the students.

### **Please provide one example of something you feel the Gates School is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?**

The map score of each child is a testament to the teachers unbending dedication to the Orton Gillingham method.





## 2023 Board Candidate

McFerran

### **Robert McFerran**

MOUNT PLEASANT, South Carolina  
rmacfee09@gmail.com

### **Seat(s) Seeking:**

- ✓ 3 Elected Seats (expires February 2025)
- ✓ 1 Unexpired Appointed Seat (expires February 2024)

### **Check all that apply:**

- ✓ Experience with Business
- ✓ Experience with K-12 Education
- ✓ Resident of South Carolina

### **College and Training:**

Ohio University, BFA  
University of Akron, N/A

### **Board Experience:**

Current Gates Board Member

### **Why do you want to serve on the Gates School Board of Directors?**

I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as a member of the board & meeting a lot of our students and staff.

### **How do you hope to advance the mission of the Gates School by serving on the board?**

By continuing to support Gates and getting more children interested in attending.

### **What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?**

My background in Education and Business.

### **Please provide one example of something you feel the Gates School is doing well. Also, what do you consider to be the most important issue for the school to focus on in the immediate future?**

I've sat in on classes and can definitely see how happy and excited our students are to be attending Gates, and can observe how much they are improving!

