



**Rio Magisterial District
School Board Member Application**

*Applications must be received in the office no later than 5 p.m., on
Tuesday, January 7, 2025*

Name Sarah Jenkins

Home Address [REDACTED]

**You must be registered to vote in the Rio Magisterial District. You can determine this by checking
your voter card or by calling the Voter Registration Office at 434-972-4173.*

Phone [REDACTED] Cell Phone same

Email [REDACTED]

Do you currently have children/grandchildren in ACPS? Yes No

If no, have you had children/grandchildren in ACPS? Yes No

How long have you resided in Albemarle County? 6 years

Have you ever been appointed to an Albemarle County School Board/Albemarle County
Public Schools Committee/Council?
If so, please explain your previous committee/council work.

I have not previously served on a county committee/council/board.

Please indicate why you are interested in serving on the School Board.

see attached document

Please indicate where appropriate, areas of your experience and knowledge:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <u> </u> School Construction | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u> </u> Research |
| <u> </u> General Construction | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u> </u> Education/Curriculum |
| <u> </u> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u> </u> Databases |
| <u> </u> Architectural Expertise | <u> </u> | <u> </u> Budget Analysis |
| <u> </u> County Planning | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u> </u> Nonprofit and Human Services |
| <u> </u> Land Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u> </u> Public Administration |
| <u> </u> Statistics/Demographics | <u> </u> | <u> </u> Federal Government/Military |
| <u> </u> Finance | <u> </u> | <u> </u> Other |
| <u> </u> County Government | | |

Please further explain your experience(s) as indicated in the list above, including any leadership skills, education and experiences.

see attached document

Indicate if you are attaching additional information pertinent to this application.

Attachments are provided

No attachments were necessary

Signature_



Date 1/4/25

Be advised that upon submission, this application and supporting documents becomes a public document and may be published by Albemarle County Public Schools.

Return application to:

Christine Thompson, Clerk of the Board
Albemarle County School Board
401 McIntire Road, Room 345
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Phone: 434-972-4055

Email: cthompson@k12albemarle.org

Albemarle County Public Schools
Rio Magisterial District School Board Member Application Questions



Please indicate why you are interested in serving on the School Board.

Although I don't have any children of my own, I am a staunch supporter of public education for the good of our community, country, and the world. I have many friends and loved ones who are current or former ACPS employees and/or parents of ACPS students. Through my work with the Young Women Leaders Program (YWLP) I became involved with ACPS middle schools and have always stayed abreast of local current events, in particular as they relate to public education. I care deeply about our public school district being one where every single student can thrive. I believe that quality public education is a human right and that we have a responsibility as a community to care for each other and our families. I was so saddened to hear about the sudden passing of Chuck Pace, I didn't know him personally but from what I've read it sounds like he was a really special person. I know that his absence leaves big shoes to fill, and I would be honored to serve in his stead and would endeavor to do so in a way that honors his memory and his values.

Please further explain your experience(s) as indicated in the list above, including any leadership skills, education and experiences.

I have lived and worked in the Charlottesville/Albemarle area for nearly nine years. In my previous role as the YWLP coordinator I ran a mentoring program in partnership with four ACPS middle schools. I built and maintained relationships with school officials, and I am sensitive to how those relationships can sometimes feel more extractive than additive. I always strove to foster mutually beneficial relationships with school partners where we both felt that we were getting our needs met. Although the majority of my research and experience has been in higher education, I have always been passionate about supporting K-12 public education.

I have served on the board of directors for the Sexual Assault Resource Agency for the past five years. I've held several leadership roles and have supported the agency through some major organizational shifts. I am detail-oriented and well organized. I enjoy working in collaboration with others and believe that collaborative environments produce the best solutions. I recently completed my doctorate while working full-time and am comfortable balancing and prioritizing competing deadlines. I am trained in conducting both qualitative and quantitative research and would love to use those skills for the betterment of our school system.

CAREER SUMMARY

Education & Learning Specialist • Program Manager • Student Engagement

- *As an educator and program manager with over a decade of experience in higher education, I'm skilled in managing complex projects with moving pieces and multiple stakeholders.*
- *I am dedicated to making education accessible and equitable for all and bridging the gap between academia and the community.*
- *I am an experienced qualitative researcher with a focus on diverse student engagement in higher education.*

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Student Engagement
- Program Management
- Qualitative Research
- Team Leadership
- Learning & Curriculum
- Event Planning
- Emotional Intelligence
- Relationship Management
- Conflict Resolution
- Problem Solving
- Learning Management Systems

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

College of Arts and Sciences, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

2024-Present

Pre-Major Academic Advisor

I play a crucial role in supporting and guiding students in their academic journey. Through collaboration I help students develop personalized educational plans, while navigating course selections, degree requirements, and career goals. I also facilitate workshops and informational sessions to enhance students' understanding of academic policies and resources.

- *I empower students to achieve their full potential* and foster a positive learning environment utilizing strong communication skills, empathy, and institutional knowledge.
- *I collaborate with diverse teams* to contribute to initiatives that enhance student experience and promote success.

Maxine Platzer Lynn Women's Center, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

2016 – 2024

Education & Outreach Specialist

I manage the Young Women Leaders Program (YWLP), a community mentoring program that matches middle school students with undergraduate students. I implement all aspects of the program including training and supporting mentors throughout their participation. I am also the course instructor for EDHS 3891: Fostering Leadership for Women and Girls.

- *I collaborate with varied stakeholders to address the needs of community partners* and manage the engagement and learning goals of approximately 50-70 program participants annually.
- *I have redesigned the program structure and materials to make it more inclusive*, emphasize emotional intelligence, streamline processes, and empower participants to take on leadership roles.

Program Coordinator

I planned, implemented, and supervised an array of dynamic programming and events at the Women's Center. Responsibilities included booking guest speakers, student staff and volunteer recruitment and supervision, and contributing to budgetary decisions.

- *I crafted programming with a strategic focus on critical discussions around diversity.* Events covered thought-provoking topics such as African American mother-daughter health dialogues, feminist identity politics, and queer narratives in literature and cinema.
- *I led comprehensive outreach efforts across the campus and the community,* delivering social justice-focused workshops and facilitating discussions to promote inclusivity and awareness.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), Higher Education

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Dissertation: "Diverse Students' Experiences in a Campus Women's Center: Re-imagining Culturally Responsive Student Engagement"

Master of Education (M.Ed.), Critical Studies in Educational Foundations

Ohio University, Athens, OH

Capstone: "Education as the Practice of Freedom—Not Finance: Strategies in Feminist Pedagogy for Reclaiming Higher Education from the Neoliberal Corporatized University Model"

Master of Arts (M.A.), Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL

Thesis: "Hegemonic 'Realness'? An Intersectional Feminist Analysis of RuPaul's Drag Race"

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Women and Gender Studies

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

SERVICE

FAU Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Industry Advisory Board	2024-Present
Sexual Assault Resource Agency (SARA) Board of Directors	2019-Present
UVA Diversity Council—LGBTQA Committee	2018-Present
Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar (HOBY) Volunteer	2002-Present
LGBTQA Safe Zone Trainer	2013-2016