

Board of Trustees Questionnaire

Name: Lou Bynum

Where do you live? 102 Wayman Church Rd Cuthberton NC 27850

What Church do you attend? _____

How long have you been a member of Halifax Academy? 7 yrs

What grade are your children in at Halifax Academy?

Name: Natalie Bynum Grade: 6th

Name: Evan Bynum Grade: 5th

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Why are you running for the Board of Trustees (BOT)?

I have been on the BOT for the last 5 years. In those 5 yrs, we have seen both the good and bad times (along with the unimaginable times - like COVID). Although we have not always agreed, we always found a way to compromise and work in the best interest of our students. I know that I can continue to be an integral part of the team so that our School can thrive.

What experience and skills do you have which makes you a good choice for the BOT?

I have served on the BOT for the past 5 yrs. (The last 3 as Chair of the Fundraising comm. (tee), on the Athletic Council for the last 4 yrs (this year as VP), and also on the sub list working in the elementary classes, M/S + H/S classes, and also in the Cafeteria.

Why did you choose Halifax Academy to educate your children?

We began our school search when we still lived in Bertie Co. Private school was the option that we decided on for our family. We toured several schools and they had their perks. However as soon as we walked on campus, Mr. Hurley greeted us like family. Once we walked into the elementary bldg, I knew that was where we belonged. We chose HA because of the family atmosphere. Our children have thrived as I knew they would thanks to our wonderful teachers.

What is Halifax Academy's strength?

Our staff is our #1 strength. We have top-notch teachers that take pride in their classes and their students. Starting from Kindergarten (and Pre-K) our teachers guide these kids and provide everything possible to ensure they excel. Small class sizes and the ability to help kids one-on-one allow special help if necessary.

What area does the BOT need to focus on to improve Halifax Academy?

Our Athletic Program is a major plus for our school when compared to others in the area. Existing structures need repair (bleachers, press box, ticket booth).

What, in your opinion, is the most important issue facing Halifax Academy currently, and how would you address the issue as a member BOT?

The safety of our children and staff is extremely important. I think we are addressing some issues but we need to implement a more efficient plan. Having a solid plan in place will help everyone feel safer, and it will help ensure that everyone does what they are supposed to do in the unfortunate event that school safety is compromised.

How would you, as a BOT member, maintain affordable tuition and modernize the existing structures?

Although we don't qualify for a lot of grants, we should explore to see what may be available. Fundraising is a key element to keeping tuition affordable. We have to not only seek out funds from our patrons but solicit donations from the outside community.

How can the Board of Trustees improve our fundraising efforts?

I would like to focus more on having another large event that would equal or surpass funds like the Viking Fest bloop in. Small fundraisers are great but a community event will not only bring funds but also show the community what we have to offer.

If you were asked to recruit new families to Halifax Academy what would you tell them?

We are a family. We want not only your kids to join us, but your whole family to join.