

**Attention 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents: Get ready to vote for School Council!**

At the upcoming back to school night you'll be asked to vote for a representative for school council. Please take a moment now to review the brief biographical information provided by each of the candidates.

The Education Reform Act of 1993 established School Councils to increase collaboration among all school and community stakeholders to strengthen teaching and learning for all students. The parent/community representatives will meet regularly with the principal and selected teachers to formulate a plan for improving our school.

The candidates for 9<sup>th</sup> grade representative this year are:

**Anjali Arora**

Anjali Arora has been resident of Hopkinton since 2002. She has a daughter, Saranga, entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade and a son, Avi, entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade. She works full time as Vice President of Software Engineering at CA Inc. She has been volunteering at Hopkinton Public Schools for the past 7 years in various activities. Anjali has taught Junior Achievement classes at Elmwood and Hopkins for five years out of the seven teaching various grade levels. She is interested in giving back more to the community and using her experience in the industry for the good of her town and kids.

**Caroline Bolick**

I appreciate the opportunity to be considered for the volunteer position of 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Representative for the school council at Hopkinton High School. For the 2009/2010 school year, I will have a 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grader at the high school and I am very interested in becoming more involved in Hopkinton school initiatives.

My 11<sup>th</sup> grade daughter, Kimberly, has been involved in athletics at HHS as well as peer tutoring and the Unite program. Through her extracurricular activities and academic studies, I have become familiar with many of the programs offered in the school system. With my son Timmy entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade this Fall, he is likely to participate in many of the same activities, and being a member of the School Council I would hope to have an opportunity to leverage these past experiences (good and bad) to improve the overall experiences of this year's Freshmen class as they move through four years of Hopkinton High School.

In the past I have been an elementary school class parent. Some of my current volunteer commitments include Meals on Wheels, Hopkinton Senior Center, Boston Marathon, and was on the committee that organized and ran a major Southern Massachusetts sailing regatta in the summer. My previous work experience as a Customer Support Software Representative has provided me with a level of professionalism when dealing with people in challenging and exciting situations.

One of the primary reasons our family moved to Hopkinton in 1999 was for the school system, so I am very enthusiastic about the chance to help make a difference in our children's scholastic lives.

Thank you for your time and consideration for this position.

**Suzanne Hermalyn Harris**

Hi everyone....I am very excited to be considered for 9<sup>th</sup> grade school council representative...so thanks for this opportunity. Having had a very positive experience working with Hopkins School as 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade school council representative, I would be honored to represent all of our children in the same capacity as 9<sup>th</sup> grade rep. I've also had the great experience of working with a few different HPTA administrations both as VP at Elmwood School, and as one of the corporate development volunteers, in addition to board member responsibilities for many years. Raising

corporate funds to build our playground at EMC Park was also a labor of love, and am proud to say that my efforts bought 2 major pieces of equipment. Last year I spent time helping our religious school research and consider different curricula. I love being able to contribute to our town's education successes and hope to do so again in the High School.

Personally, I live on Blueberry Lane with my husband Andy, son Daniel now in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, daughter Natalie now in 6<sup>th</sup> grade (can't believe it!), and our 2 crazy Wheaten Terriers...yes I am the woman you may have seen with 2 dogs walking HER! Professionally, I spent the past 25 years (no there is no gentler way to say that number ;0), working for various media companies...first in sales and business development, and later managing the branded content group for a major global media brand. I am currently enjoying some professional down time, but do represent one NY-based media company and occasionally take on marketing consulting projects. However I do expect to spend much time during this upcoming year figuring out strategies to get 2 kids on that super early bus...so am all ears for suggestions! THANKS!