

## **Parent/Guardian Candidates**

### **Seanica Serfontein**

5 years ago our family moved to this school area. Having personally attended schools both in the USA and abroad, I feel privileged that all 3 our children have had the opportunity to attend Shakerag. Whilst our eldest now attends a private middle school, our two youngest are currently in 3rd and 4th grade at Shakerag. I believe that a successful school, whilst keeping pace with technological advancement, and equipping the children to become globally competitive, must challenge, support and nurture each and every child to develop as a well-rounded individual to their own unique potential. These goals can only be achieved when teachers, school administrators, parents and the community consistently work together in a strong partnership. For this reason, I have been actively involved and volunteered at the school at every chance I have had. These have included several PTA positions and most recently serving two years as Co-President of the PTA. This has allowed me much opportunity to observe the workings at Shakerag, and to compare these to the various school systems that I have been exposed to. My educational background and work experience in industrial psychology and human resources has developed in me a passion for strategic planning, organizational performance management and continuous improvement. I therefore would like to make a positive contribution to the School Governance Council, and assist in serving the needs of each student that is entrusted to the school's care.

### **Lynette Baker**

My husband and I have lived in the Shakerag community for over 10 years. We have two daughters who both attend Shakerag Elementary and I enjoy giving back to the school where they both continue to flourish. I have been a member of the governance council for the last year, and I understand the processes and procedures that we have begun to put into place. I am a member of the budget committee, and it is important to me to continue with the plans to make Shakerag a top Cohort 1 Elementary school. We have built a council based on communication, transparency, and hard work, and I am excited to continue to volunteer to achieve our long term goals. I have been able to visit other schools who have governance councils and are strong Cohort 1 schools. This has helped to bring vision and strategic planning to Shakerag, and with my career background in business, I understand financial planning, strategic decisions, and balancing short term and long term goals. I look forward to continuing what we have started and would be excited to be a member of the governance council for the next two years.

### **Yoon Joo Kang**

I came to US when I was 13 years old from Korea. I attended middle school through graduate school in US. I have both bachelor and master's degree in music. I have two boys, 6 and 4 years old. The reason that I wish to be in the School Governance Council is that I would like to learn more about the school system. To learn more about our children's education and life in school. Also, I would like to help our children, the teachers, and the school in anyway that I can. By understanding the school system better myself, hopefully, I can help other Korean parents who didn't attend the school in US. to understand and get more involve in the school.

### **Brian Olivo**

My name is Brian Olivo and I have been a resident of the Shakerag community for the past 11 years. I am the proud father of a third grade son and a first grade daughter at Shakerag Elementary. Originally from the northeast, I attended Penn State University where I obtained my Bachelor of Arts Degree before migrating down to Atlanta in 2004. When choosing a place to buy a home and start a family, my wife Stephanie and I chose the Shakerag community because of the standard of excellence that has been established in the local schools. I believe that to achieve the level of success that Shakerag Elementary has sustained over the years, it is critical to have a high level of parental involvement and input with both academic affairs as well as extracurricular activities. The sense of family and community that you feel when you walk the halls of Shakerag is a testament to the high level of commitment that both the faculty and parents have in the school. Being a part of the Student Governance Council will further allow me to be part of the Shakerag team. I am confident that my thirteen years of sales management experience will allow me to be successful in the role of Student Governance Council Representative. I thank you for your consideration and I look forward to working for you and taking Shakerag Elementary to the next level in the years to come.