



*"Where children come first!"*

## **Progeny Academy**

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### **PUBLIC NOTICE FOR NOMINATION OF PACS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION**

**TO:** PACS Community  
**FROM:** PACS' Board of Directors Election Committee  
**SUBJECT:** Election for Board of Directors  
**DATE:** April 28, 2026

Each year new members must be elected to the PACS Board of Directors. That election will be held on **May 28, 2026** at the Annual Meeting of the PACS Board of Directors.

This election guide is designed to let you know

- what the steps are and how the election process works;
- why the Board is important; and
- The 2026 nominees for Seats

This election is very important to the school, and it is very important that parents and staff consider the strategic needs of the school. By selecting thoughtful and committed board members, we in the school community can ensure that PACS continues on a successful path.

#### **The Nomination and Election Process**

The people who will vote for Board members are called electors. The Election Committee will send a letter to all electors requesting you to suggest candidates who might be interested in serving on the Board to help the Board perform its duties to the school. You may suggest yourself if you are willing to serve and believe you can contribute to the Board function.

The Election Committee will then contact the people whose names have been submitted and ask them to complete an Application to confirm they are willing and able to serve. The Election Committee will interview all those who complete the Application. The Board of Directors will recommend candidates for a position to be voted on. The Election Committee will send a Voting Guide to each person eligible to vote, with the names and information about the candidates.

On election day, **May 28, 2026**, each elector will have the opportunity to vote for the candidate(s) which they think will best help the school.

Voting will take place at the front main office desk of Progeny Academy. An online Ballot will also be made available and sent out to eligible voters

#### **What Does the Board of Directors Do?**

The Board of Directors' legal duty is to set the direction of the school and to map out the strategies that will carry PACS into its successful future. The Board oversees the school administration in its execution of the school's vision and mission; to be sure we fulfill our primary purpose which is to

increase academic achievement for our children.

The Board is composed of Parent Members, Community Members and Teacher Members. Individual members of the Board of Directors must think of themselves as stewards of the school – responsible for the long-term viability of PACS and the evaluation of the current performance of administration, staff and students. Whether a parent, teacher, or community member, directors do not represent particular constituencies, but rather focus on the interests and welfare of the whole school.

Sincerely,

Progeny Academy Election Committee

### Nominees

The following individuals are running for seats for the 2026 Election:



**Mr. Thomas Schmidt**  
Teacher Seat  
Currently Appointed Board  
Treasurer

Mr. Schmidt joined the PACS staff in the fall of 2024 and currently serves middle school students and is the grade 6 Advisory Teacher. Mr. Schmidt graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire in 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Teaching. After working as a Special Education Paraprofessional in several districts in Wisconsin, he began teaching in Richfield, MN before accepting his current position. When school is not in session, Mr. Schmidt works as a Personal Care Assistant in St. Croix County, WI. Mr. Schmidt strives to inspire curiosity in his students, and to equitably advocate for community members of all backgrounds.



**Ms. Sandra Gordon-Mai Smith**  
Teacher Seat  
Currently Appointed Board  
Member

Ms. Johnson serves as certified nursing assistant in the Twin Cities. Ms. Johnson has several years of experience in the United States and internationally in the health care industry. She also has one student currently attending Progeny Academy. Ms. Johnson joined the PACS school community in 2024 has a passion to serve her community and is excited to be serving and sharing her experiences with the school and its stakeholders.



**Mr. Ambrose Russell**  
Running for Community Member  
Seat

Mr. Russell is the founder and Executive Director of Inner Hero, a community based program that brings together youth and law enforcement in the Twin Cities. Mr. Russell brings experience in youth mentorship, leadership and community building and is excited to share his skills and experience to the PACS community.