

2019 Melrose High School Board Candidates

Cecilia Shlegel

Hi my name is Cecilia Shlegel, I am new to Melrose and am looking forward to becoming involved in the Melrose community. I have been actively involved and advocating for public education since my daughter started preschool in 2010. At my last school I was an engaged member of the P&C supporting most P&C activities and school run events, and taking on various P&C roles, most recently, two years in the role of P&C president. For the last six years I was also the school's representative on the ACT P&C Council; the body that supports and represents all ACT P&Cs, the last five of those years on the council's executive. In that capacity I advocated for the interests of my school and all ACT schools with the Minister, the Education and Training directorate, and through the popular media. Currently I am also the P&C Council's representative on the Australian Council of State School Organisations which is the national body that engages the Federal government on behalf of state and territory member organisations. This has given me in-depth and broad context knowledge of a wide range of issues that our school is facing as well as experience in governance, policy setting, and budget submissions in an educational setting. My experience demonstrates my passion and commitment to improving our school for the benefit of our children. With this experience I believe I am well placed to be an effective member of the Melrose school board.

Sally Bower

I'm Sally, my son Nick just started in year 7 and I would like to be a member of the School Board to support him and all of the kids at Melrose, the teachers and staff. I have been an active member of the Torrens Primary School on the Board and the P&C for many years and am keen to support Melrose to have a safe and supportive learning environment for our kids. I am a collaborative and approachable person and if elected encourage members of the community to feel they can talk to me and know that I will represent them. Thank you.

Jane Steinback

I have a long history with Melrose high and currently have my 3rd and final child in year 7. I have been a member of school boards at Calwell Primary, Isabella Plains Early Childhood School and Gowrie Primary. The insight into how each school runs is a valuable chance to see the inner workings of the school and have an opportunity to help the school develop the plans, for the future. Influencing where the school spends its budget and helping to make sure that students and staff are at the forefront of the boards policies and procedures is my focus. I like looking at the bigger picture of the school to facilitate its continued improvement.

Clint McAlister

I am the father of Alice, in Year 7. We are new to Melrose and I'm keen to bring to the table my skills, experience and viewpoints on matters that impact our children.

I want my girls to enjoy a safe, tolerant and positive environment, and to have opportunities that develop their individual talents and strengths.

I'm a branch manager with Evoenergy, based in Tuggeranong, and in the past, was involved with the board of Mountain Bike Australia. My wife and I look forward to being part of the Melrose community.

Fiona Loaney

My name is Fiona and I'm a parent of a current year nine student and a previous year ten student (class of 2018). I'm nominating as a parent representative for the Melrose High School Board as I'm passionate about the wellbeing of our students, school and community. I've worked in a variety of roles within the not-for-profit, private and public sectors which has enabled me to build capabilities and experience that I can bring to the

Melrose High School Board. I currently work at Relationships Australia managing a number of programs including the ACT Gambling Counselling and Support Service, Coronial Counselling and Employee Assistance Program services. My varied work background includes marketing, contract and program management, stakeholder engagement and business development roles. I bring an empathetic awareness and understanding of school and community needs from over 15 years experience in local community committees including Parent Representative on the Duffy Primary School Board, Duffy P&C Treasurer and Duffy Primary School uniform shop manager. As well as my previous school board experience I am a board member for the National Association for Gambling Studies, a national not-for-profit organisation, where I have been reviewing our governance processes and setting strategic direction for the next three years. I would be delighted to represent the parent cohort on the Melrose High School Board.

Rodger Gorey

About myself:

- I am a 48 year Male who lives close by the school and have strong ties with the local residents of Torrens and Pearce.
- I consider myself an approachable and thoughtful person who considers what is best for the person, the neighbourhood and the community in everyday activity.
- I am a registered nurse of 20+ years working as the Simulation Lead for Medical education at Canberra Hospital.

Interest in the position:

- My genuine interest in this position is to directly support the future directions of the School in a manner that makes each year of education better than the previous for all students.
- I feel that my held work experience blends in nicely to support the general activities of the position, including; curriculum design, caring, listening, advocacy and inclusion.

Many thanks for the opportunity to be engaged with the school and parents.

Stuart McKellar

I have four boys, ages thirteen to nineteen, with the youngest two at Melrose in Years eight and ten. I've been with the board for the last two years, and would like to continue to represent the Melrose parents and carers in the promoting the concerns of us parents and progress school policy and strategic improvements. The continued parent engagement with our schools executive provides an opportunity to contribute to ongoing improvements of student outcomes, and I'd like to be a part of improving that, while representing the views of the students parents to the school executive team. I would like to help maintain the schools core business, to see the facilities cared for and used well, and have as many students and their families benefit from tours and exchanges and teaching that challenge them with different cultures and values, and for them to learn that others cultures are different, yet equally as valid as their own. The schools main resource is the staff, who need our respect and support to do their work, and for us to recognise them and their often extraordinary efforts. I will support them at every opportunity, and if elected to your school board, I would help you show your appreciation to them too. I am interested to meet other people who want to be actively involved in the school, and contribute more to the outcomes for the children.

I'd very much like to help parents to know how best to engage with our teachers and the school admin, to represent their students long-term interests, and know how to help us as a school community move forward. I would love to represent the parents and supporters to the Melrose School Board.

Adam Smith