

Rhoades Foundation Board of Directors Nomination Form



Candidate Name: Gaby Lehmann

of Children at Rhoades: 2

Children's Names and Grade:

Isabel Lehmann (5th Grade)

Thomas Lehmann (1st Grade)

Current or Prior Rhoades School Activities and Participation (i.e. – Room Parent, event volunteer work, etc.):

Our family moved to this area last summer, and after an extensive school search, we chose The Rhoades School for our children. We decided that I would focus on getting our family settled into our new home and our children settled into our new community during this first year. I let the teachers know at the beginning of the school year that I was available to help as needed. As such, I've helped with small projects like framing/matting artwork for display in the classroom. Now that our family has settled into our new home and community, I am ready to get involved in our school community at a higher level.

Special talents and interests you bring to the Board (i.e. – marketing financial, legal, etc.):

Prior to staying home with my children, I was a marketing manager working for a Consumer Packaged Goods manufacturer. My role included leading the team responsible for all online marketing on the company web sites and email communications to our database of 5 million consumers.

This experience proved very useful at our previous school, where I was a member of the school board (i.e., PTA) for three years. My first year, I was the Volunteer Coordinator, responsible for enlisting parent volunteers for all major school events. My second and third year, I served as the All-School Coordinator, responsible for leading the Classroom and Specialty Coordinators (i.e., Room

Parents). I also served as chairperson for the main fundraising event for the school during the 2014/2015 school year and as a room parent in the 2013/2014 school year. In each of these roles, I was required to clearly communicate objectives with volunteer teams, school administration and staff, and parents. My ability to work with many different types of personalities and to 'bridge the gap' in communication styles resulted in very successful outcomes.

Why are you interested in being a Foundation Board Member?

After 6 months at The Rhoades School, we are very happy with the school. Both my children are thriving in this environment. They are both being challenged academically. They have both been welcomed by their classmates with open arms. I have been highly impressed with every teacher I have met and had an opportunity to interact with. However, I do see some opportunity areas that I feel could be better addressed by being a Foundation Board Member.

I believe there is an opportunity for the school to better address the need for kindness and compassion towards others. This can be addressed through whole school events (i.e., Anti-Bullying campaign and kindness 'contracts'), speakers that address the students AND the parents, individual projects on a grade-by-grade basis. An open conversation with the Foundation and the administration on this topic could lead to an optimal plan for addressing this need.

Some other thoughts include implementing a "State of the School" meeting inviting the parents to meet with the administration to discuss how the school is doing in terms of enrollment, curriculum, and management versus previous years and where the administration sees it going in the coming years. And to expand the Service Learning offerings to include service to our school.