School Committee Bios

Diane Baum.

Chair: Acton (until Aug 1) Term Expires: April 2021 Diane has been an Acton resident since 1999 and was first elected to School Committee in March 2015. She holds a B.A. from Scripps College, and a master's degree from Fitchburg State University (M. Ed.) and Harvard University (MTS). Diane has held many positions on School Committee including membership on the Policy and Budget Subcommittees and liaison to SEPAC, the Minuteman Tech Working Group, the Parent-Teacher Organization Roundtable and EDCO. She also served as the Chair of the 2017-18 Superintendent Search Committee. Diane works at The Children's Dyslexia Center-Boston North as an Orton-Gillingham trained Tutor and Teacher Trainer on behalf of children with dyslexia. She also volunteers with Communities for Restorative Justice.

Paul Murphy,

Member Acton Term Expires: April 2020



Paul has been a member of the Acton School Committee and Acton-Boxborough Regional School Committees since he was first elected to a 3-year term in April 2011. He also served on the interim regional school committee before being elected to a 3-year term on the ABRSC in 2014. Paul is this year's co-chair for Acton and serves as the liaison to the Acton Board of Selectmen as well as the liaison to the Acton and Boxborough Special Education Parent Advisory Committee. He has two children in the District, Peter and Jenna, both of whom are awesome kids (you should meet them). Paul is a registered professional chemical engineer and is self-employed as an environmental consultant.

Tessa McKinley,

Chair: Starting Aug 1 Term Expires: May 2020



Tessa grew up in Acton and graduated from AB. She went on to earn her bachelors' degree in sociology and education from Colby College. After working in a classroom for speech and language challenged children, Tessa earned her Master's in elementary education from Lesley University. She taught first grade for five years before having her children and becoming a full-time mother. She has been on the board of the Blanchard PTF since her eldest entered school. Her first role was the arts enrichment chair and then as corresponding secretary and most recently as president. Tessa also served on Blanchard's school council for 5 years. Her two daughters are both currently at Blanchard but her eldest is moving on to the junior high next year. This summer marks her family's 10th anniversary as residents of Boxborough.

Ginny Kremer, Member Acton

Term Expires: April 2022



Amy Krishnamurthy,

Member Acton

Term Expires: April 2020



Amy was elected to the School Committee in April 2014. She currently serves on the policy subcommittee, budget subcommittee, negotiations subcommittee, and building committee. Amy also serves on the board for the Acton-Boxborough Coalition for Healthy Youth (ABCHY). Amy is the mother of 4 boys in the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District. Her oldest is at the high school, and the other three are triplets at the junior high. Amy and her family moved to New England and Acton over 10 years ago. Before that time, they spend 10 years in the Silicon Valley, where Amy was a 4th and 5th grade teacher in the Palo Alto School District. Having grown up in Dallas, Texas, she is still learning to adjust to the harsh New England winters, but has managed to fall in love with the Red Sox and Patriots.

Maya Minkin, Member Acton

Term Expires: April 2020



John Petersen, Member Acton Term Expires: April 2022

John Petersen, Ph.D., and his wife, Cheryl, have lived in Acton for more than thirty years. Erika AB '15 and Jack AB '18, their children, have lived in Acton their whole lives and were educated in the Acton-Boxborough schools. John is a chemist by training and has worked in leadership roles spanning pharmaceutical research and operations. John majored in chemistry as an undergraduate at MIT and earned his Ph.D in chemistry from the University of California Berkeley.

John served as a volunteer and co-chair for AB Parent Involvement Project (ABPIP) STEM, an organization encouraging community involvement in STEM Education K-12. John continues to serve as part of the adult committee for Acton Scout Troops 12 and 32. John previously served on the AB school committee (2009-2012) prior to full (K-6) regionalization of ABRSD. During this service, he was the SC representative to the health insurance trust. John believes that school committee policies should recognize the differences between students and the diversity of their families. SC policies should provide teachers and administrators with the flexibility to create unique educational experiences responsive to individual student needs.

Angie Tso,

Member Acton

Term Expires: April 2021