

Jennifer Grant
Express News Q&A

Website: www.votejennifergrant.com

E-mail: votejennifergrant@gmail.com

1. How long have you been a resident of the district? What is your educational and work background?

I am a nearly life-long resident of Menomonee Falls. I attended the Menomonee Falls public schools from elementary school (Valley View) through high school. I am a proud graduate of MFHS. My husband, Patrick, and I specifically chose to raise our 4 children in Menomonee Falls. I love this community. I received a Bachelor of Business Administration from St. Norbert College. I majored in Accounting and minored in Economics. I am a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), a former Human Resources/Benefits Professional (CEBS), and a healthcare compliance professional (CHPC, CHC). I bring important perspective and expertise to the Board that no other Board member or candidate offers.

2. Have you previously served in elected office or been involved in local community groups or organizations?

I have a longstanding record of commitment and service to Menomonee Falls. I love this community. I am completing my first 3-year term on the school board where I have served as the Treasurer as well as the Chairperson of both the Finance & Auxiliary Services Committee and the Personnel Committee. I have represented Menomonee Falls residents on the Waukesha County Board of Supervisors for over 10 years. I also served a term on the Plan Commission. Each of my 4 children have participated in club and school sports and district extracurricular activities. I have actively supported those organizations through volunteerism, fundraisers, etc. (Milwaukee Sport Club, Falls Angels, Menomonee Falls Little League, FBLA, band/orchestra, soccer, track, cross country).

3. What are the two to four key issues facing the district in the years ahead and how would you approach those issues?

The primary goal of education is to provide students with foundational knowledge while promoting a love for lifelong learning. One way to measure foundational knowledge is student test scores. Proficiency scores for students in our district require attention and the district has already implemented a robust plan for improvement, including new ELA curricula.

The safety of our students and staff is also of utmost priority. In the last 12 months, we have invested more than \$278,000 in security enhancements in our schools, with more investment still to come. No matter how many drills and safeguards we already have in place, we can always do more. Students learn and teachers teach best in a safe environment. Security and safety will always be a priority for me.

Our district has a robust financial planning process. We are fiscally sound in both the short- and long-term. The Board approved the adoption of Fund 46 (Long-Term Capital Improvement Trust

Jennifer Grant
Express News Q&A

Fund) and an updated 10-year Capital Plan. In addition, the district is also considering the potential for debt defeasance – methodically and systematically paying down debt early to save future interest expense. These are exciting initiatives that will continue to drive our district’s success. Despite our proactive budgeting and planning, we can never take our eye off the long-term fiscal picture as things can change very quickly when so much of our funding relies upon decisions at the state and federal levels.

4. What else do you want the voters to know about either yourself, your campaign, or the school district?

I am proud of all that has been accomplished in this district during my first 3-year term on the school board. Taxpayers have seen a decrease in the mill rate each year while still providing students with necessary educational resources. Non-referendum debt will be completely retired providing an additional \$500,000 annually to be directed at student learning where it matters most. Significant safety enhancements have been added in all the school buildings. The district has focused on long-term fiscal planning by implementing a 10-year capital plan and a long-term capital improvement trust fund. We are in an excellent financial position for both the short- and long-term. Additional teachers were added this school year and there are plans to add even more teachers and student-facing staff in the coming school year. I will continue to champion common sense and decency in our curriculum and school libraries. I want all students to achieve their highest potential. As a life-long Menomonee Falls resident and committed servant leader, there can be no doubt that I am invested in this community, our families, our staff, and our children!