

BOARD MEMBER LIST



EXPLORE ACADEMY -LIVONIA

Email: LIV-board@explore.academy

	Name	Position	End Date
	Eric McCloud West Bloomfield, MI 48323 Dr. Eric McCloud is a diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) researcher, strategist, and facilitator. He holds nearly a decade of experience in leading diversity training and workshops, developing organizational diversity strategies, and implementing unique initiatives to address systemic inequalities in the educational, nonprofit and for-profit sectors. Eric holds a Doctorate in Education (Ed.D) with a concentration in metropolitan education from the University of Michigan - Dearborn. His academic research explores topics related to andragogy, ecological systems theory, and critical race theory.	President	1/14/2026
	Lauren Christilaw Royal Oak, MI 48073 Lauren Christilaw started her career in the field of Applied Behavior Analysis providing services to children and adults with autism spectrum disorder and Traumatic Brain Injuries. From there, Lauren completed her bachelor's degree from Wayne State University with an emphasis in Psychology and moved on to hold a position as a Support Intensity Scale assessment coordinator for Macomb-Oakland Regional Center. Lauren has been an advocate for adults and children with disabilities to promote full inclusion in everyday life, and currently works for The Arc of Macomb County as a development specialist. Lauren has recently completed an MS in Nonprofit Administration and Development from LSU Shreveport. In her spare time, Lauren enjoys traveling, hiking, and spending time with her husband, son, and two dogs.	Vice President	1/14/2026
	Shanina Draughn Detroit, MI 48221 Ms. Draughn has over fifteen years of experience developing and implementing creative, diverse, and positive programs in educational and community settings. She holds a Master's Degree in Human Services, specializing in Counseling Studies and Educational Leadership. Her commitment to the field has led to exceptional results as she has trained, supervised, and evaluated over 100 teachers and school leaders on best practices in education. Specifically, Ms. Draughn focuses on academic and emotional development of both students and families. Having served as a Lead Dean of Operations and Culture for multiple campuses and as a Middle School Principal, she believes that students and staff must embrace an opportunity to grow together and overcome challenges to gain success. Through research-based practices, Ms. Draughn has partnered with several schools to decrease suspension and referral rates by 40% throughout the school year. One of her core beliefs is that every teacher and every school leader can become a Bold Educator. She is a devoted wife and mother, loves to spend time with family, and enjoys traveling to various places. Shanina Draughn	Treasurer	1/14/2027

	is committed to serving as a change agent for each and every scholar. Mrs. Shanina Draughn has over fifteen years of experience developing and implementing creative, diverse, and positive programs in educational and community settings. Through research-based practices, Shanina has partnered with several schools to decrease suspension and referrals rates by 40% throughout the school year. A core belief Shanina holds is that every teacher and every school leader can become a Bold Educator.		
	Jessica Gates Southfield, MI 48076 Since graduating from Hampton University in 2008, Jessica Gates has been committed to serving students in various capacities of their educational journey. While working with Title I schools in Hampton, VA, Jessica realized she was in the right field, for the long haul. Whether it be in front of the classroom teaching history, or engaging parents in school activism, Jessica has always believed that every child should have access to a quality education, regardless of their zip code. In 2017, Jessica graduated with a MSW from the University of Connecticut, with an emphasis in Community Organizing. It was in Connecticut, where she began working for equitable outcomes for school-aged children. Being able to engage parents and youth to participate in legislative actions, has been a mutually empowering experience that Jessica looks forward to continuing professionally and recreationally. Currently, Jessica assesses and coordinates adjudicated youth in Wayne County, to Community Mental Health resources, in hopes of reducing recidivism.	Secretary	1/14/2024
VACANT			

For additional information regarding the school and the board, please feel free to submit a public records request to the above email.