



2026 Election

Candidate Profile:

Kristie Camp

Retired English Teacher

Check all that apply:

- Experience with K-12 Education
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

University of SC Upstate Bachelor of Arts, English Language & Literature

M.Ed., Secondary ELA & PhD, Language & Literacy Converse University & University of South Carolina

High school teacher, department chair, and chair of various projects and committees for 26 years, as well as parent volunteer with various sports organizations

Board Experience:

President, Mu Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma International Society of Distinguished Women Educators

Why do you want to serve on the Cherokee Charter Academy Board of Directors?

I admire CCA's dedication to students' well-being and innovative approaches to learning, along with the professionalism and support among teachers, staff, and administration. I believe in CCA's mission to provide a unique and individualized path for their students. I respect CCA's faculty, and I would love to share my experiences as a high school teacher as the school welcomes more high school students each year. I have worked in many different roles to prepare high school students for college and careers, and these experiences might serve the board as they consider the needs of adolescents in their program.

How do you hope to advance the mission of Cherokee Charter Academy by serving on the board?

I hope to help the board make sound decisions that will not only provide rich and new learning opportunities for all students but also invest in the development of innovative and sustainable instructional, financial, and structural goals for CCA. My role as a board member begins with listening closely to the voices of parents, faculty, and administrators, as they have insight into the daily workings of the school and can articulate students' needs. I am also willing to engage community and business leaders to partner with CCA to offer unique and compelling learning opportunities for our students.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?

My greatest strength is my experience in the educational system. I have been a teacher at the high school and college level. I can help with multimedia promotion of CCA. I am a parent of two sons who were actively involved in their schools, community, and church; I also navigated the college entrance process with both of them. My professional research has centered on adolescent literacy, which is a crucial factor in educational

success. I support active learning, as well as providing opportunities for students to participate in the arts, athletics, academic competitions, field trips, internships, and career training.



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Candidate Profile:

Clay Scruggs

Business Development Manager, Cyberknit

Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Parent/Guardian of Cherokee Charter Academy Student(s)
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

Spartanburg Methodist College

Industry Associations

Board Experience:

Board and Planning Committee Member of Southern Textile Association

Why do you want to serve on the Cherokee Charter Academy Board of Directors?

I have a genuine interest in helping improve the education experience for kids and parents in our area.

How do you hope to advance the mission of Cherokee Charter Academy by serving on the board?

I hope to bring my business experience into the Charter Academy Board and help advance CCA as it continues to grow.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?

My greatest strengths are my personality, common sense and business savvy. All of these will be able to positively drive CCA forward as it continues to grow.



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Candidate Profile:

Townsend (Towns) Lenihan

Communications Specialist - Marketing & Tourism, City of Gaffney

Check all that apply:

- Experience with Business
- Experience with K-12 Education
- Resident of South Carolina

College and Training:

Western Carolina University Bachelor of Science in Business Administration - Marketing and Entrepreneurship
Masters of Innovation Leadership and Entrepreneurship Western Carolina University

Board Experience:

North Carolina Future Business Leaders of America - State Chapter President (2017-2018)

Why do you want to serve on the Cherokee Charter Academy Board of Directors?

Across my experience teaching business/robotics and implementing educational partnerships with the City of Gaffney's Marketing & Tourism Division, I've had the blessed opportunity to work with a variety of students on a multitude of innovative projects. While I've met fantastic students across all domains of education, Cherokee Charter Academy's students have been consistently curious, creative, collaborative, and exceptional. This stems from leadership who has set the tone that guides these students. I believe that God has created everyone with multiple purposes in life and it would be an honor to help these students discover and prepare to fulfill theirs.

How do you hope to advance the mission of Cherokee Charter Academy by serving on the board?

I hope that I can help Cherokee Charter Academy's leadership and teachers take advantage of the technological, entrepreneurial, and community engagement opportunities that exist so that our students can leverage new tools through which they can solve problems that are personal to them. STEAM Project-Based Learning, community partnerships, hands-on innovation, and personalized career exploration are all wonderful tools to lead students into becoming creative problem-solvers. However, each of these tools requires support and resources that will make their implementation sustainable for teachers and accessible for parents and loved ones at home to follow-up upon.

What do you see as your greatest strengths, and what positive additions can you bring to this board?

My greatest strength comes from my God and Savior, Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 12:9: "And He said unto me, 'My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.'") With my experience in a STEAM Project-Based Learning classroom and partnership with Cherokee Charter Academy's Community Innovation

Club to implement student-built VR Pop-Up Books for the Carolina Rising Museum and themed assets for Gaffney's Beltline Dog Park, I believe that I can bring an understanding and appreciation for how constructivism and student career exploration can be supported through STEAM technologies and community relationships.