

# Principal Selection Process 2018

## Meet the Parent and Community Nominees

### Parent Nominees

**David Bibo:** Thanks for considering me to represent you on Maury's principal selection committee. CAG has been an amazing leader, and she played a decisive role in Erin and I relocating to Maury's boundary. Our next principal has challenges ahead, including leading children, teachers, and staff through another year in Maury Village, into our new school building, and through continued evolutions in our community. The foundation is solid, and we need a strong leader with an eye for recruiting and retaining talented educators and staff to nurture our kids. I'll be a Maury parent through SY26-27(!) and aside from being the guy who unlocks and locks the Maury playground nights and weekends and empties the playground trash, by day I'm an exec at a big Federal agency and am involved frequently in executive recruitment and selection.

**Christine Clapp:** My 4th grader and 1st grader have been at Maury since PK-3; next year will mark our 8th year as part of the Maury community. If selected, I would approach the selection of a new school leader with a concern for: - Recognizing needs of parents, students, and teachers at all grade levels - PK3 through 5th grade. - Enhancing achievement of all students, with an emphasis on eliminating the achievement gap and supporting students with learning differences. - Balancing PARCC mastery with a well-rounded learning experience. - Addressing the need for robust outdoor play opportunities, both at the Village and the permanent building. - Positioning Maury as a foundational Eliot Hine feeder school that is invested in the long-term success of fellow feeder schools, Eliot Hine, and Eastern.

**Sarah Hais:** I have been a Maury parent for the past six years and plan to be for at least six more. I am the mother of four Maury students spanning grade levels from PK4 through third grade with children in both general education and special education. I have worked in education my entire career as an elementary teacher, instructional coach, and most recently a consultant for a private company that provides curriculum, assessment, and professional development. Through my work, I spend extensive time in schools and district offices across the country. I believe Maury is a unique and unmatched place. The leadership of Principal Albert-Garvey, the talented and dedicated staff and collaborative community have, in my mind, been the keys to Maury's success. I would like to sit on the principal selection committee and represent you in identifying the perfect leader to take Maury into its next phase. I believe I have a unique perspective given my knowledge of Maury's changes over the last decade and familiarity with factors contributing to its success. Additionally, my professional experience in education working with a variety of school leaders makes me uniquely qualified to assess the qualities that make an exceptional principal. Through my experience, I understand the leadership necessary to oversee the unique needs of early childhood, primary grades, upper grades and special education and beyond. I am excited for Maury's future! Thank you for considering me to represent you on the principal selection committee.

**Elsa Huxley:**

I'm Elsa Huxley, mother to Harold Huxley in first grade and Amelia Huxley who attended Maury from 2009-2016. I'm interested in joining the panel because I'm hoping our next principal will continue to keep Maury's doors open to families and friends, its culture empathetic, and its dedication to keeping our diverse population cohesive and strong together. I have 2 years of experience leading the fundraising committee and then 3 years of working on our PTA board as president and vice president and I've attended LSAT meetings for 2 years as a PTA representative when I was president.

**Kim Lewis:**

My name is Kimberly E Bowling-Lewis. I have been substitute teaching at Maury for 3 years. This is my 3rd year as a Maury Room Parent. I am the Troop Leader for the 3rd Grade Brownies. I am a former 2nd and 4th Grade DCPS teacher at Stanton and Hendley Elementary. I am currently a Parent of a 3rd Grade Maury student who started here in Pre-K. I have been a resident of this neighborhood for 18 years. I would be happy to serve because I value all of the opinions of my fellow Maury Community.

**Matthew O'Hara:**

Hi, I am Matthew O'Hara, the parent of 5th, 3rd and Pre-Kindergarten students at Maury. During my 8 years as a member of this school community, I am a substitute teacher and have served on the Modernization Committee, LSAT, and Diversity Committee. I also had the privilege of serving on Chancellor's Parent Cabinet. With a toddler at home, I've calculated about 10 more years at Maury. Beyond being a parent, I live near the school and care very much about the future of it as it is a vital part of our neighborhood community. I've lived on the hill for nearly 20 years. As a participant on the Search Committee, I bring a passion for supporting school leadership, and professional experience in operations, not-for-profit management, strategic planning and human resources. I'm a certified sign language interpreter and a DC court mediator. Being a mediator, I bring listening skills and a heart for effective group work. I have training and experience in DC's restorative justice practices, so I bring a background of working in groups towards a common goal(s) and positive outcomes.

**Besa Pinchotti:**

My name is Besa Pinchotti, mom to two Maury Cougars: a graduating 5th grader going to Eliot-Hine next year (Lira) and a 2nd grader (Zana). Maury has been home to our family for 8 years now. We love it so much, we couldn't say goodbye and decided to have another baby (Lorik) who will start at Maury as a 3-year-old in the fall. 8 more years! 8 more years! We are committed to the Maury community and consider our neighbors, teachers and staff as part of our extended family. I'd be honored to help select the next principal.

**Latasha Robinson:**

Greetings, My name is Latasha Robinson and I am honored to be a part of the Principal Selection Panel. My daughters and I have experienced nothing but great things during Principal Albert-Garvey's tenure. We have been a Maury Family for close to 20 years! Isn't that amazing? We have always felt as if Maury is our extended family. The teachers are wonderful as well as other supporting staff. My daughter Martia Robinson (18) started Maury as a kindergartner and from that day forward I knew that I made the best choice for my family. I also have Talayna Robinson (4th grade) and Mya Robinson (K) that are able to experience the best of elementary. Looking back at Martia's graduation, not only were the parents and teachers crying out of joy for the students but the students cried because of how close they felt as a community. Principal Albert Garvey came to the school and spearheaded a sense of inclusion, engagement and took action for what she wanted the school to be. I commend her for all of her work. Well done. The candidate for this position will have to demonstrate a great deal of dedication, gratitude, and admiration for his/her community. The candidate must make the teachers and staff members feel appreciated. Our community has a unique and strong culture that must remain the same. We are looking for a strong voice with will power and determination that will continue the legacy of Principal Albert -Garvey. Let's work together to select nothing but the best.

**Corrie Schoenberg:**

Hi, I'm Corrie Schoenberg. My husband (Matt Arnn) and I feel incredibly fortunate to have joined the Maury community this year. Our son Dashiell is in 1st grade (Ms. Fox's class), and our daughter Ani is in PK3 (Ms. Laura's class). I would like to be a part of the principal selection panel both because I'm personally invested in the outcome (given that my children have four and seven more years at Maury) and because I have some professional expertise in this area that might be helpful. I have spent most of my working life in education. I was part of a team that developed a principal pipeline program for Baltimore City Schools; I have recruited and selected teachers in New York, Nashville, Memphis, New Orleans, Indianapolis and St. Paul. The meat of my work now is to engage parents, students, teachers, and community members around what they want from their [Baltimore] schools and how those schools can work better for the students and families they serve - and to see the resulting policy recommendations through to action and implementation. The job of a principal is huge and varied and incredibly challenging, and the person who fills that role sets the tone for the school. Identifying the leader who will bring the Maury community through the next eight-plus years feels like important work that I would be honored to be a part of as a member of the panel.

**Claudia Sauls:**

I currently have two children at Maury (Anna 5th Grade and Luna K, and a son who graduated last year). We have been at Maury for the past five years. My children all receive special education services at Maury, so I have a lot of experience with what it takes to successfully include children like mine in the Maury community. I believe that a future principal, just like the current, play an important role in implementing special education services and choosing teachers who are capable of dealing with a diverse student body. I would love to provide input

from that perspective to ensure that Maury continues to be a welcoming environment for all students. I have previously served on a principal selection team at a different elementary school in DC.

**Kenyon Weaver:**

It would be a privilege to be able to serve, and I think I could be helpful in participating in the panel discussion to formulate questions that source from our survey, as well as follow-ons that pinpoint better the principal candidate who understands why Maury has long been so successful.

## **Community Nominees**

**George Blackmon:**

I have been a member of the Maury family for over 25 years. During that time, I have served in various committees within the PTA as well as a school volunteer and community person. I believe that my experience in working with and supporting the Maury community will be a complement to the panel. Having served on two prior occasions on a principal selection panel, I understand the importance of strong leadership at the principal position.

**Charles Moore:**

I am a Capitol Hill resident who has served on Maury's LSAT for the last two years. I'm also the Vice Chair of the board of Monument Academy Public Charter School, a weekday boarding school that serves students who have had or might have contact with the foster care system. Part of my graduate studies were at the Stanford Graduate School of Education, earning an MA focused on K-12 policy. Our 17-month-old daughter will attend Maury in a few years.

**Elizabeth Nelson:**

I would welcome the opportunity to serve as a community representative on the principal selection panel. I have a long commitment to Maury, having been a regular volunteer since 1988. Most likely both parents and staff are familiar with my activities but for those who are not... I present Junior Achievement (economic literacy program), serve as coach to the knitting club, assist Ms. Bomba in the art studio, work the bake sale, and try to make myself generally useful. I've worked with 5 Maury principals and served on the principal selection panel that chose Ms. Albert-Garvey. So, I have experience that will be useful in evaluating who would be a good fit as a school leader. Also, I've lived a block from the school and have been active in the community since 1985. I publish The Buzz newsletter, have worked with ANC 6A, I'm a member of Trees for Capitol Hill and write for The Hill Rag. So, I think I can fairly represent the interests of the community-at-large. I'm very grateful to be nominated. Thank you.

**Heather Shoell:**

I am a former Maury parent. I know Maury, its feeders, the community, and I've been on several principal selection panels (including Maury's).