

Emily O'Quin

625 Key Corner Street

Brownsville, TN 38012

(731)780-6576

Eoquin.eoq@gmail.com

June 15, 2026

Members of the Haywood County School Board

Haywood County Board of Education

900 East Main Street

Brownsville, TN 38012

RE: Letter of Interest for School Board Vacancy

Please accept this letter as my formal application for the interim appointment to the Haywood County School Board. As a resident and voter in District 4, I am deeply invested in educational success, accountability and well-being of the children in our community. I want to help ensure that all students are equipped with the academic and social skills needed to be successful.

As a small business owner in Haywood County for 27 years, I manage all aspects of business operations and am invested in our community through various boards. I was a founding member of Haywood Heritage Foundation and have collaborated with local leaders to preserve historical assets and promote cultural education. I have also helped organize events as well as helping with fundraisers to bring awareness to Brownsville. As an active member of Main Street, I participate in strategic planning and economic revitalization efforts to strengthen our local community.

Additionally, I have been a member of Brownsville Baptist Church for about 26 years, where I have actively served in both youth and children's ministries. I have also helped with Vacation Bible School at the Scott Street Community Center and volunteered with the ARISE2Read program in Haywood County Schools. Through that program, I worked weekly with assigned students, so I understand some of the needs and challenges we have here. I am passionate about helping children succeed and reach their full potential.

While our children do not attend school in Haywood County, I feel the system needs stronger policies regarding discipline and structure. I want to work with each of you to get a plan to strengthen behavior standards, restore strong discipline and ensure our classrooms are safe, focused environments where every student can succeed. I am deeply committed to the success of our youth. I want this to be a community where families want to be and where they want their children to attend school. I know we face challenges here, but with creativity and collaboration, we can find solutions.

I believe my background has prepared me to collaborate with fellow Board members to make informed, student-centered decisions. If appointed, my priority will be to advocate for our students and staff.

Thank you for your time, consideration and dedication to the families of Haywood County. I look forward to the opportunity to work with you all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily O'Quin", written in a cursive style.

Emily O'Quin

Emily O'Quin

625 Key Corner Street

Brownsville, TN 38012

(731) 780-6576

Eoquin.eoq@gmail.com

Business Owner- Twenty Five Main Salon

Successfully operated a local small business for 27 years, demonstrating long-term stability.

Haywood Heritage Foundation (2016 - March 2026)

Collaborate with county leaders to preserve historical assets and promote cultural education and community preservation initiatives.

Brownsville-Haywood County Main Steet (2024-current)

Participating in strategic planning and economic revitalization efforts to strengthen the local business district.

Literacy Volunteer/ ARISE2Read Program- Haywood County Schools (2018-2020)

Invested weekly hours inside local elementary schools to help children develop critical, grade-level reading skills.

Maggie Stewart
100 Summerhill Drive
Brownsville, TN 38012

June 22, 2026

Stephanie Beach
Haywood County Schools
900 E. Main Street
Brownsville, TN 38012

**RE: Letter of Interest for Appointment to the Haywood County Board of Education
Districts 4 & 10**

Dear Ms. Beach,

I am writing to express my interest in being considered for appointment to the Haywood County Board of Education representing Districts 4 & 10.

As a longtime resident of Haywood County and a well-known community leader, I have dedicated much of my life to serving others and investing in the future of our children and community. Having previously served eight years on the Haywood County Board of Education, I understand the responsibilities of educational governance and the importance of making thoughtful, student-centered decisions that benefit all stakeholders.

During my previous service, I gained valuable experience in policy development, strategic planning, fiscal oversight, and collaborative leadership. I have also completed all four levels of certification offered by the Tennessee School Boards Association, strengthening my understanding of effective governance, ethical leadership, and educational best practices.

As the owner and operator of **Maggie's Beauty Salon and Family Flower Shop**, I have developed strong skills in financial management, long-range planning, and responsible decision-making. In addition, my service as a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and as a co-founder of Cornerstone Praise Baptist Church has reinforced my commitment to servant leadership and community engagement.

As a resident of District 10 and a grandparent of children attending Haywood County Schools, I have a personal investment in the success of our educational system and a deep appreciation for the role our schools play in shaping future generations.

I also recognize that Haywood County stands at an important crossroads. The arrival of Blue Oval City and the construction of a new high school present a unique opportunity to position our community for future growth and prosperity. These investments provide an opportunity to strengthen the connection between education, workforce development, and

economic opportunity while ensuring our students are prepared to succeed in an evolving economy.

If appointed, I will bring experience, integrity, collaboration, and a steadfast commitment to putting students first. I will work diligently with fellow board members, district leadership, educators, parents, and community stakeholders to ensure Haywood County Schools continue to provide exceptional educational opportunities for every student.

My previous board experience, community involvement, business leadership, and ongoing investment in Haywood County Schools uniquely position me to immediately contribute to the work of the Board of Education and continue serving the students of our community.

Thank you for your consideration. It would be an honor and a privilege to once again serve the citizens of Haywood County and help shape a bright future for generations to come.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maggie Stewart". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Maggie Stewart
731-780-1952

GAIL CHAPMAN

915 Forrest Street

Brownsville, TN. 38012

Ellagail@yahoo.com 731 780-3975

June 22, 2026

Haywood County Schools

900 East Main Street

Brownsville, TN. 38012

To Whom It May Concern:

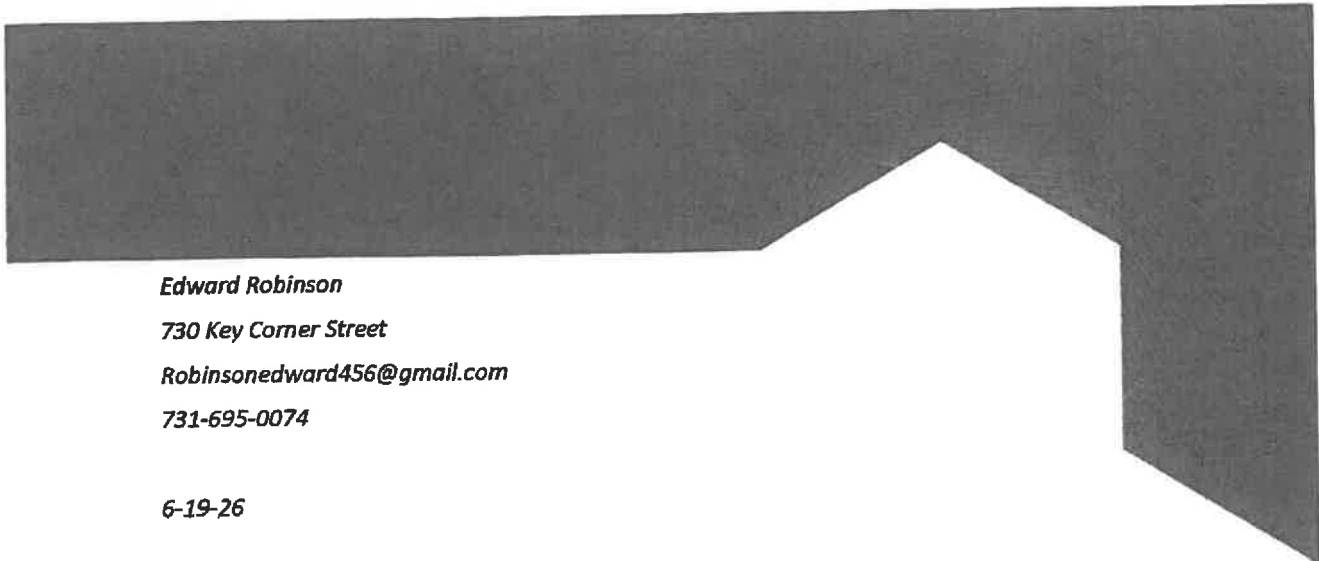
I am Gail Chapman, a retired educator for Haywood County Schools. I am submitting a letter of interest in being considered for appointment to the Haywood County Board of Education. For over twenty years I served HCS, and I would like to give back to the school system that both my husband and I worked in for many years.

I began with Haywood County Schools in 1992 and taught adult education for two years. I moved to Haywood Junior High to teach a French enrichment class for one year. Then I went to Haywood High School where I taught French I, II, and III for eighteen years. My husband George taught math, coached football, and served as the Superintendent of Schools. So, our local school system was a special place for us, and many years were invested there to ensure that each student had an opportunity to succeed.

As a member of the HCS School Board I would try to serve all the stakeholders involved with an emphasis on serving our children and youth. I pledge to work with other board members and the administrative staff to help make decisions that will enhance and better our school system. I will not run for the school board election in November; I am simply willing and ready to step in for these next few months. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gail Chapman



Edward Robinson

730 Key Corner Street

Robinsonedward456@gmail.com

731-695-0074

6-19-26

Amie Marsh

Haywood County Schools

900 East Main Street

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my interest in the vacant position on the Board of Education. As a long-life supporter of public education and a proud member of the Haywood Community, I believe every child deserves the opportunity to succeed. Our schools play a vital role in shaping the future of Haywood County.

Throughout my career in law enforcement, I have worked closely with students, parents, teachers, and school staff. As a former SRO in our local school district, I have seen firsthand the challenges and opportunities facing our schools, from curriculum development to budget allocation and facility improvements. I am dedicated to ensuring that our schools remain safe, supportive, and focused on academic excellence so that every student receives a quality education that prepares them for the future.

My experience in leadership and community engagement has provided me with the necessary skills to collaborate effectively with fellow board members, administrators, teachers, parents, and students. I believe in transparent decision making and policies that prioritize student achievement.

I would be honored to contribute my time and expertise to the Board of Education and work alongside you to help shape a bright future for our students. Together, we can build stronger schools, stronger students, and a stronger community. Thank you for considering me for the vacant position and I look forward to the opportunity to discuss my qualifications further.

Sincerely,



SHALONDRIA SHAW | Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

SHALONDRIA SHAW

Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

Haywood County Board of Education – Districts 4 & 10

Investing Experience Back Into the Community That Invested in Me

SECTION I: PORTFOLIO INDEX

- **Section II – Letter of Interest**
- **Section III – Statement of Qualifications**
- **Section IV – Resume**
- **Section V – Educational Vision Statement**
- **Section VI – 90-Day Transition Plan**
- **Section VII – References**

SECTION II: LETTER OF INTEREST

Shalondria Shaw
209 Arrowwood Drive
Brownsville, TN 38012
731-432-2937
Shawss7715@gmail.com

June 19, 2026

Haywood County Schools
Attn: Stephanie Beach
900 East Main Street
Brownsville, TN 38012

RE: Letter of Interest – Haywood County Board of Education Vacancy (Districts 4 & 10)

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

I respectfully submit this letter to express my interest in being considered for appointment to the Haywood County Board of Education vacancy representing Districts 4 and 10.

As a lifelong resident of Haywood County, graduate of Haywood High School, certified educator, grandmother of two students currently enrolled in Haywood County Schools, tutor, and Youth Advisor at Family Life Fellowship Church, I have experienced our educational system from multiple perspectives. These experiences have reinforced my belief that every student deserves access to excellent instruction, meaningful opportunities, and a community that actively invests in their success.

Haywood County has invested in me throughout my life—from my time as a student to my professional career in education and state government. Serving on the Board of Education would allow me to return that investment by contributing my experience, perspective, and commitment to the continued advancement of our school system and community.

SHALONDRIA SHAW | Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

My professional career has been rooted in education, workforce development, public service, and community engagement. Most recently, I served as Tennessee's State Apprenticeship Director, where I collaborated with school districts, higher education institutions, employers, workforce agencies, and community organizations to expand educational and career pathways for Tennesseans. In this role, I oversaw over \$20 million in state and federal investments, ensuring strategic alignment, accountability, compliance, and responsible stewardship of public resources.

One of the most meaningful accomplishments of my career was contributing to Tennessee becoming the first state in the nation to register K-12 teacher occupations through apprenticeship. As a certified educator, supporting nearly 900 aspiring teachers through this innovative pathway represented a full-circle moment in my work. I believe strongly that rural communities like Haywood County have a unique opportunity to cultivate, develop, and retain their own talent, and I remain committed to advancing initiatives that prepare students to learn, work, lead, and serve in the communities they call home.

My commitment to students extends beyond my professional role. I actively tutor local students and serve as a Youth Advisor at Family Life Fellowship Church, allowing me to remain closely connected to the needs, aspirations, and experiences of students and their families. I also maintain active involvement in civic, faith-based, educational, and nonprofit initiatives that strengthen opportunities across our community.

Haywood County Schools is currently navigating an important and defining period. As the district advances plans for a new high school, there is a critical opportunity to reinforce public confidence while strengthening relationships among students, families, educators, and the broader community. The decisions made during this time will shape educational outcomes, community growth, and workforce readiness for generations. I believe my experience in education, workforce development, partnership building, strategic planning, and fiscal oversight positions me to contribute meaningfully to this work.

My vision is for Haywood County Schools to be recognized as a district where students are academically prepared, educators are supported, families are

SHALONDRIA SHAW | Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

engaged, and graduates are equipped to lead and contribute in their communities.

I recognize that the role of a board member is to govern, establish policy, provide oversight, and support the Director of Schools while keeping students at the center of every decision. I value transparency, integrity, fiscal responsibility, and collaborative leadership. If appointed, I will bring a commitment to listening, thoughtful engagement, and consensus-building in service of student success.

After a career dedicated to expanding educational and workforce opportunities across Tennessee, I believe this season presents a meaningful opportunity to focus my service here at home. I have the experience, perspective, and availability to contribute effectively, and I would be honored to support Haywood County Schools during this pivotal chapter.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my qualifications further.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shalondria Shaw". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shalondria Shaw

SECTION III: STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

I respectfully submit this statement of qualifications in support of my interest in serving on the Haywood County Board of Education representing Districts 4 and 10.

I bring more than fifteen years of experience in education, public service, workforce development, and community engagement, along with a lifelong connection to Haywood County. As a graduate of Haywood High School, former educator within the district, grandmother of two current students, and active community member, I understand both the strengths and the opportunities within our school system from multiple perspectives.

My commitment to education began long before my professional career. My maternal grandmother served as a custodian in Haywood County Schools, and her dedication to the students and schools of this community inspired me to pursue a career in education. She taught me that every role in a school system matters and that every child deserves to be supported by a community that believes in them. That foundation continues to guide my work and my desire to serve.

My professional experience includes serving as Tennessee's State Apprenticeship Director, where I led statewide efforts to expand access to education and workforce opportunities. In that role, I provided oversight for more than 12,000 active apprentices, 500 registered programs, and over 800 employer partners. I managed approximately \$2.3 million in annual state funding over a 4.5-year period and stewarded \$8.2 million in combined investments in Fiscal Year 2025–2026. These responsibilities required strong fiscal stewardship, accountability, strategic planning, and alignment—skills that directly reflect the governance role of a board member.

Throughout my career, I have built strong partnerships with school districts, higher education institutions, employers, workforce agencies, and community organizations. These collaborations have strengthened talent pipelines and expanded opportunities for students. I understand the importance of aligning education with workforce needs, particularly in rural communities, and I am committed to supporting pathways that prepare students for college, careers, and lifelong success.

As a former K–12 educator and teacher-leader, I bring firsthand classroom experience and a deep appreciation for the role educators play in student achievement. I understand the importance of supporting teachers, maintaining safe and effective learning environments, and ensuring that decisions remain focused on student outcomes.

In addition to my professional experience, I remain actively engaged in the Haywood County community. I serve as a Youth Advisor and tutor and am actively involved in organizations that support families and students, including the United Way of West Tennessee as an Ambassador, the Brownsville-Haywood County Arts Council, and the Brownsville-Haywood County Chamber of Commerce. I am also a graduate of the LEAD

SHALONDRIA SHAW | Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

Tennessee Alliance Class 15. These experiences have strengthened my commitment to collaboration, civic engagement, and community partnership.

I understand that the role of a board member is to govern, establish policy, ensure fiscal responsibility, and support the Director of Schools while maintaining a clear distinction from daily operations. I am committed to serving with integrity, professionalism, and a student-centered focus.

Haywood County Schools is at a pivotal moment, particularly with the development of a new high school and the opportunity to strengthen educational pathways for future generations. I believe my experience in strategic planning, partnership development, and workforce alignment positions me to contribute meaningfully during this important time.

If appointed, I will bring a commitment to listening, thoughtful decision-making, and collaboration. I will work to ensure that every decision reflects what is best for students while strengthening trust between the school system and the community.

It would be an honor to serve Haywood County in this capacity and to help build a strong, sustainable future for our students and community.

SECTION IV: RESUME

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Education and workforce development leader with over 15 years of experience spanning K–12 education, state government, and community engagement. Proven record of scaling statewide initiatives, strengthening educator pipelines, and managing public investments with accountability and integrity.

Former Tennessee State Apprenticeship Director with leadership oversight of 12,000+ active apprentices, 500+ registered programs, and 800+ employer partners statewide. Recognized for advancing innovative education-to-workforce strategies, including contributing to Tennessee becoming the first state to register K–12 teacher occupations through apprenticeship.

Committed to advancing student success, supporting educators, and aligning education systems with workforce and community needs.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Strategic Planning & Governance
- Fiscal Stewardship & Public Accountability
- Education & Workforce Alignment
- Partnership Development
- Community & Stakeholder Engagement
- Program & Policy Development
- Talent Pipeline Strategy
- Data-Informed Decision Making
- Risk Management & Compliance
- Leadership & Organizational Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development

State Apprenticeship Director | Nov. 2023 – April 2026

Deputy State Apprenticeship Director | May 2023 – Nov. 2023

West TN Regional Apprenticeship Director | Aug. 2021 – May 2023

- Provided leadership and oversight of 12,000+ active apprentices, 500+ registered programs, and 800+ employer partners across Tennessee
- Managed approximately \$2.3M in state funding annually over a 4.5-year tenure, ensuring strong fiscal accountability and compliance
- Oversaw \$8.2M in combined state and federal investments for FY 2025–2026, aligning funding with strategic workforce priorities
- Supported the development of nearly 900 teacher apprentices, strengthening educator pipelines statewide
- Contributed to Tennessee becoming the first state in the nation to register K–12 teacher apprenticeship occupations
- Built and sustained cross-sector partnerships among school districts, higher education institutions, employers, and workforce agencies
- Applied labor market data and performance metrics to guide program expansion and long-term talent pipeline development
- Advised state and local stakeholders on workforce strategy, program design, and scalable education-to-career pathways

City of Brownsville, Tennessee

Community Development & Engagement Liaison | Feb. 2018 – July 2021

- Strengthened partnerships between local government, businesses, and community organizations
- Supported initiatives focused on economic development, civic engagement, and quality of life
- Advanced collaborative efforts benefiting youth, families, and underserved populations

SHALONDRIA SHAW | Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

Haywood County School System, Brownsville, TN

K-12 Educator | Jan. 2008 – Jan. 2018

- Delivered standards-based instruction supporting student achievement and growth
- Built strong relationships with students, families, and school leadership
- Contributed to school improvement efforts and student development initiatives

EDUCATION

Master of Education (M.Ed.), Educational Leadership

Trévecca Nazarene University

Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education

University of Memphis

High School Diploma

Haywood High School, Brownsville, TN

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & LEADERSHIP

- National Association of State and Territorial Apprenticeship Directors (NASTAD)
- Southeastern Employment & Training Association (SETA)
- Graduate, LEAD Tennessee Alliance 15
- Graduate, UT Martin WestStar Regional Leadership Program
- Graduate, Haywood County Leadership Program

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Youth Advisor, Family Life Fellowship Church
- Tutor, Haywood County Students
- Active in civic, faith-based, and nonprofit initiatives supporting youth and families

SECTION V: EDUCATIONAL VISION STATEMENT

Students First

“How does this decision improve outcomes for students?”

My Vision

I believe Haywood County Schools should be a district where every student is prepared, supported, and empowered to succeed in school and in life.

Students should graduate ready to **learn, work, lead, and serve**—with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to pursue college, careers, and meaningful opportunities.

Students Deserve

- **Excellent teachers** who are supported and valued
- **Safe and welcoming schools** where every student can thrive
- **Exposure to opportunities** beyond the classroom
- **Leadership development experiences** that build confidence and character
- **Clear career pathways** connected to real-world opportunities
- **Access to college and postsecondary options**
- **Strong relationships** with educators, mentors, and community members

Strong Schools Require

- A **student-centered focus** in every decision
- **Collaboration** among schools, families, and the community
- Support and retention of **high-quality educators**
- **Strategic partnerships** with business, industry, and higher education
- **Responsible stewardship** of public resources
- A commitment to **long-term planning and continuous improvement**

Looking Forward

As Haywood County Schools continues to grow—especially with the development of a new high school—I see an opportunity to strengthen opportunities for future generations.

I envision a district where:

SHALONDRIA SHAW | Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

- Students are **prepared and confident** in their future
- Families are **engaged and trusting**
- Educators are **supported and empowered**
- The community is **united around student success**

Commitment

I am committed to supporting a school system that not only educates—but **inspires, prepares, and empowers every student** to reach their full potential.

SECTION VI: 90-DAY TRANSITION PLAN

Listening, Learning, and Leading

Guiding Principles

- **Students First** – Every action and decision should improve student outcomes
- **Governance Focus** – Serve through policy, oversight, and strategic leadership—not daily operations
- **Transparency & Compliance** – Adhere to all applicable laws, including **Tennessee Open Meetings (Sunshine) requirements**, by avoiding deliberation or decision-making outside properly noticed public meetings
- **Collaboration & Respect** – Engage stakeholders with integrity and professionalism

Days 1–30: Listen & Learn

Listen

- Meet individually with the Director of Schools to understand district priorities
- Participate in appropriate, **independent onboarding conversations** with the Board Chair and members (avoiding group deliberations outside public meetings)
- Attend school, community, and district events to observe and connect

Learn

- Review key materials:
 - Strategic Plan
 - Budget and financial reports
 - Board policies
 - Audit reports
 - New high school project updates

Days 31–60: Engage

- Visit schools individually (or in compliance with board protocols)
- Listen to students, families, educators, and staff
- Engage community stakeholders, including:
 - Faith-based leaders

SHALONDRIA SHAW | Board of Education Appointment Portfolio

- Business and workforce partners
- Higher education institutions

All engagement conducted as information-gathering—not deliberation or decision-making outside public board meetings

Days 61–90: Lead

- Contribute during official board meetings and work sessions
- Support district priorities through **policy-focused governance**
- Advocate for:
 - Strong educator pipelines
 - Workforce and career pathway opportunities
 - Expanded student access and achievement
- Begin contributing to long-term strategic discussions aligned with district goals

Commitment

I will serve with a commitment to **transparency, legal compliance, and ethical leadership**, ensuring that all decisions are made appropriately within public meetings and in the best interest of students.

SECTION VII: REFERENCES

Available upon request

Derrick Lamont Boyd
904 Meadow Street
Brownsville, TN 38012

June 22, 2026

Letter of Intent - School Board Candidacy, District

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to formally announce my candidacy for District seat on the Haywood County School Board in the upcoming election.

I have lived in Brownsville for 50 years and am deeply invested in the success of our public schools. As a resident and parent/volunteer, I have a wife of 29 years, Tennille Boyd, and two sons, Dedric Boyd and Demarius Boyd. I've seen firsthand both the strengths of our district and the challenges we face. I'm running because I believe every student in Haywood County deserves a safe learning environment and a path of opportunity.

If elected, I will focus on:
Supporting educators
Student outcomes/careers
Community partnership

Thank you for your service to the community and for the consideration of my candidacy.

Sincerely,
Derrick Boyd