



- **How long have you lived in Hudsonville?**
My wife Mary Lou and I, along with our five children, have lived in the Hudsonville district for over 30 years. Four of our five kids are graduates of HPS, and our youngest is a sophomore in high school.
- **What experiences do you have with local governance?**
My primary experience with local governance has been as a member of the Hudsonville Public School Board for 18 years. As a member of the HPS Board, I have interacted with other local government entities, including the Georgetown Township Commission and leadership of the City of Hudsonville. Being a member of the HPS Board has also allowed for opportunities to dialogue and engage with board members of other districts, community leaders, and state legislators.
- **What do you see as the primary work of the board?**
The role of the Board is to represent community members in matters involving the financial, administrative and academic performance of Hudsonville Public Schools. Board members provide this representation through the selection and evaluation of the district superintendent, approval of the district budget and expenditures, and the setting of policies that guide the operational, academic, disciplinary and financial performance of district.
- **Why are you running for the Board of Education? If elected, what will be your priorities?**
It is a privilege to serve on the Board of Education and to work with other individuals who are also passionate about achieving excellence in academic performance. As a growing district, we aspire to expand educational and extra-curricular offerings while providing our students and staff with opportunities to build strong relationships and connections. Working with district leaders to manage through the current COVID situation while expanding high quality in-person and virtual academic experiences for our students is a priority. In addition, working with the administrative team on executing the new building program is an important next step for our district.
- **What particular experiences or skills have prepared you to serve as a board member?**
Professionally, I am a mechanical engineer with 35 years of experience, many of which having been in positions of leadership. Through these leadership situations, I have learned the importance of listening to understand new, unique and challenging viewpoints. Listening, along with understanding, enables our Board to be a highly effective team, capable of working closely with district staff on important issues and topics as we continue the district journey to achieve our mission of “educating, challenging, and inspiring all learners to become contributing, responsible members of a global society”.
- **In what school district or community activities/organizations have you been involved?**
I have been involved with AYSO soccer, Scouting, Little League, and several church committees and groups, including the Finance, Social Justice and Religious Education Councils. In addition, I have volunteered for many school district activities related to the interests of our children, such as Marching Band.