BARTON COMMUNITY ENDORSEMENT
FOR PARENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Barton Leadership Council, consisting of parents and staff members, is the primary governing body for the school. The Council is responsible for setting school policy, keeping our work aligned with our progressive school mission, identifying yearly goal areas, monitoring school improvement plans, encouraging broad participation from all members of the school community, and guiding overall staffing and program decisions.

Parent representatives to the Leadership Council need to be endorsed by 50 or more votes from the adult members of the Barton School Community. Each adult in a family may vote for up to 10 candidates, but only one vote per individual candidate.

When making a decision about which candidate to endorse, please keep in mind that it is our desire to have parent representatives to the Council who reflect our diverse student body. Ideally, we seek a mix of sexes, races, and parents of younger and older children. When more perspectives are included in our decision-making, the better is our ability to make good decisions for all of our children.

PLEASE RETURN THE BALLOT TO YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER
NO LATER THAN Tuesday, May 28, 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult #1</th>
<th>Adult #2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laura Balfour*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Bennett*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Breen*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheila Eldred*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Harter*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kris Johnson*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Journey*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Kinneavy*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristi Smith Knutson*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Lahm*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nettie Magnuson*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Paulsen Mullin*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Richter*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lori Zook-Stanley*</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Incumbent

RETURN BY TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2013, TO YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER
YOUR VOTE COUNTS!
LAURA BALFOUR*
I am the mother of three children at Clara Barton: 5th grade, 8th grade and a Barton graduate. I myself attended Barton and graduated in 1989. I am proud of having gone to Clara Barton and attribute much of who I am to the open program and the faculty. Barton has been a part of my community for thirty years. My hope is that Barton will further represent diverse communities and diverse families, and will continue to be a school that is sensitive, welcoming, and flexible in meeting the needs of the Minneapolis school population. I am a social worker and have a passion to advocate, organize and communicate. I represent an ethnically diverse population.

JENNIFER BENNETT*
With a Barton graduate at Washburn and an 8th grader on his heels, I have an added perspective to what we do at Barton as it relates to kids’ experiences in Minneapolis high schools. Fortunately, I have a few more years left at Barton with Bella (grade 5). Over the years I’ve enjoyed being a part of the ROT team, working as a reading tutor, and volunteering for various projects, field trips and events. While I like this hands-on work at school, I’ve really enjoyed serving on the Leadership Council – learning more about the big picture aspects of what we can do together to make Barton a great school for all its kids socially, emotionally and academically. I also have an interest in public education beyond the walls of Barton, and serve on the League of Women Voters Minneapolis education committee, and have served as a delegate for endorsing school board candidates in the past several elections. It’s been an honor to serve on the Council, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue to support Barton and public education in this way.

ANDREA BREEN*
I would like to continue on the Council next year. I will have one child at Barton next year in 6th grade. I have had two older children go through Barton, both of whom are now in high school. I feel that I deeply understand the importance of maintaining and always strengthening our progressive open education. I am deeply committed to the “Open” philosophy at Barton and want to continue to find ways to deepen that philosophy in our school environment. I would like to help broaden the understanding of what “Open” means within our families and with Patrick as he digs deeper into what Barton is as a school. I have lots of experience working with the Council and feel I can contribute a helpful progressive education perspective.

SHEILA M. ELRED*
I would love to continue serving the Barton community as part of the Leadership Council. The more I learn about Open philosophy, the more passionate I become about it. I appreciate the opportunity to help foster the community's understanding and participation in an Open learning environment. I’ve also helped develop the Barton garden, and I volunteer in the classroom and represented Area C on the District Parent Advisory Council this year. My hopes for Barton include deepening each classroom’s Open attributes, and ensuring that the school is helping all students reach their potential. My kids will be in third and first grades next year.

KATHERINE HARTER*
Finishing my second year on the Barton Leadership Council, I am optimistic about the future of Barton Open School and hope to continue next year as a member of this group. My youngest child is a 5th grader here, and my oldest child, a Barton grad, is now finishing up her first year at Washburn. Experiencing my child’s transition from Barton to high school has given me more insight into how and why we do things the way we do at Barton, and solidified my support of Barton School and progressive education in general. It’s been exciting to have served on the Council during this year of welcoming Patrick into our community, and I look forward to embracing more positive changes like we’ve seen this year, as we hold firm to our open model.

KRIS JOHNSON*
I would like to continue to serve on the Leadership Council because I want to give back to this school which is such a positive, nurturing place for our kids: an incoming kindergartner, 4th grader and 5th grader. I work at the Nature Conservancy, trying to help preserve the environment on which we all depend, and I know that our children will need an excellent and well-rounded education to solve the huge challenges of the future. Barton’s open approach provides a wonderfully balanced education for the whole child, teaching important skills and knowledge but also ensuring that students grow as inquisitive, self-confident, compassionate people who appreciate the richness and
diversity of the world around them. But we have work to do to navigate continuing challenges and overcome persistent obstacles to educational success for all Barton students and we parents must keep working hard to help Barton thrive. I welcome the chance to continue to serve on the Leadership Council and support the work of this exceptional school in the years to come.

ANN JOURNEY*
My name is Ann Journey. I've served on the Leadership Council for three years and am Treasurer of the Barton Foundation. My husband and I have two sons at Barton: Anders (Room 106) and Magnus (Room 220). We've been Barton parents since 1998, when our oldest son, Eric, transferred into Kate Glasenapp's kindergarten class from Fulton School (now Lake Harriet Upper Campus). Our second son, Karl, matriculated to Room 114 two years later. Both moved on to the IB Program at Southwest. Eric graduated with Honors in 2011; Karl will follow in June. After nine years of open education, IB's cross-disciplinary demands were "no big deal." Indeed, familiarity has bred enthusiasm for the responsive classroom, a concept foreign to my husband and me when Eric started at Barton. Ray attended parochial schools in Kenosha, WI, and regales our sons with my-way-or-the-highway nun stories. My memories of the Washington, DC public schools are less light-hearted, tinged by my parents' struggle to hold a great K-6 school together through multiple rounds of resource diversion. The Barton community's robust response to similar stresses shows that we all know a good thing when we see it. As Treasurer, my goal is to put that "good thing" on the firmest possible financial footing, so Barton's incredibly talented faculty and staff will be able to work their instructional magic in full confidence that vital programs will be consistently funded.

KEVIN KINNEAVY*
With our two boys at Barton, the school has been a key part of our family's lives for the past nine years. Over this time, I've become increasingly involved in Barton's community by going on field trips, photographing class events, and helping in the classroom. For the past several years I've also been coordinating the work on the Barton school and foundation web sites, managing the directory database, tracking the Barton Fund donations, and helping with other projects. Last year I joined the Leadership Council to share the knowledge I've accumulated and would like to continue that for the remainder of our family's time at Barton.

KRISTI SMITH KNUTSON*
As a newcomer to the Council this year, it was inspiring to see such deep commitment to creating the best environment for all our kids through Responsive Classroom learning. This sense of integrity from staff and parents alike is one of the reasons I want to participate on the Council again. For years I worked in the non-profit sector, specifically in youth leadership education and empowerment. More recently my interests have grown around nutrition and how it affects neurological development and behavior. With the evolution of the school menu, our new school garden, our flat-out awesome ROT program, and partnerships with organizations like Midwest Food Connection, I think Barton can be at the forefront of using food as a powerful agent of change -- for our students and as a model for the larger community. My second and fourth graders have benefitted so much from the caring leadership and intentional learning at Barton. Next year I'll also have a kindergartener in the mix, and I'm as proud as ever that we're a Barton family. Thanks for considering me as a Council rep.

SARAH LAHM*
I have been a Leadership Council member since 2009, and I would love to continue serving the Barton community in this capacity. I have greatly enjoyed being part of the discussions and actions that come out of the Leadership Council meetings, and I have learned a lot about what makes Barton a strong school. I am very much interested in progressive education and hope to continue nurturing the vibrant spirit of critical thinking, independent learning, and life-long education that I see here at Barton. As the parent of a 6th grader, 2nd grader, and 2nd grader, I am excited to see how Barton will grow and change, yet remain true to its Open School foundation in the years ahead. Thank you.

NETTIE MAGNUSON*
The Barton Leadership Council continues to support Barton and its mission of progressive open education, fostering the whole child, fundraising and addressing equity and diversity issues. I continue to have this commitment and would love to serve on the council for one more year, as Selena will be in 8th grade next year. I believe Barton is a lively, progressive and comfortable learning environment because of the commitment and outstanding work of the teachers, leadership staff and parents. I am grateful to be able to observe the growth and
changes in these children who have the opportunity to learn with a holistic approach and come to be inspired by each other and the school community. My hope is that Barton continues to grow in its approach to support and engage all students.

**JULIA PAULSEN MULLIN***

I have three children at Barton this year in grades 7, 5 and 1, and a freshman at Washburn High School. I have really enjoyed serving on the Leadership Council over the years and would like to continue. Our experience in this year of transition was inspiring and challenging, and I look forward to continued change and progress. I believe strongly in Barton’s open philosophy and its active and creative atmosphere. As a member of the Council, I want to keep finding ways to reach out and hear from all members of the Barton community as we make decisions related to funding and programming at Barton. My goal is to work with Barton parents and staff to support and always improve the education Barton provides. I look forward to continued work on keeping and making Barton an exceptional place for our kids. Thank you.

**STEVE RICHTER***

Next year will be my last at Barton. I would love the opportunity to finish up the work I have been doing on the council for the last 12 years. I want to continue to support the students, the staff and Patrick in their efforts to make Barton a great school. I am currently working on organizing our various fundraising groups to help provide parents with clear messaging about our fundraising. I am also the Chairman of the Barton School Foundation and have been a past co-chair of the leadership council.

**LORI ZOOK-STANLEY***

With children going into 3rd & 7th grades, I continue to feel privileged to be a part of this extraordinary learning community called Barton Open School. I am thrilled that my children attend a school that values social and community learning alongside academics, that sees each child as a unique learner to be respected, and that challenges taken-for-granted ideas. It has been an honor to participate on the Leadership Council for the last six years, and this current year as the parent co-chair. I hope to continue serving on the Council in the coming year, bringing passion for our school and its practices; critical thinking and the ability to ask good questions; and the time and energy to get the work done. When I am not parenting or wearing numerous other hats, I work as a clinical social worker with a private psychotherapy practice.