

Seminole County School Board Members



Tina Calderone, Chairman



Karen Almond, Vice Chairman



Diane Bauer, Member



Sylvia Pond, Member



Dede Schaffner, Member



Bill Vogel, Superintendent

KAREN ALMOND

Karen Almond was elected to serve her first term on the Seminole County School Board on August 24, 2010. Karen has been a Seminole County resident since 1970. She, her husband, Randy, and their three children attended Seminole County Public Schools. Karen is a graduate of Lyman High School...Class of '76.

In the late 70's, Karen was employed for seven years with the City of Casselberry in the Building and Licensing Department, as well as in Finance and Purchasing Department. Karen also worked as an Assistant to the Literacy Coach at Lyman High School for a short period of time.

With a heart for serving this community, Karen has been a community and education advocate for more than 21 years. She has dedicated thousands of volunteer hours within the school system, the City of Casselberry, Seminole County, and grassroots political campaigns - helping to elect others who serve and support the needs and best interests of our students and community. Karen has been a Seminole County Public Schools Dividend/Volunteer since 1989 with experience as a Take Stock in Students

Mentor, as a PTA President and a School Advisory Council Chairman. Karen also served on the District Governor's Jr. All Star Selection Committee, District School Improvement Review Committee; Dividend of the Year Selection Committee (2004 to present), SCPS Best Practices/Vision Quest Team.

Karen received the following recognitions and honors: 2001 - Casselberry Police Department Citizen of the Year. 2003 - Seminole County Public Schools Dividend/Volunteer of the year, with 6,000+ hours of service; 2004 - United Way Community Impact Leader of the Year nominee; 2004 Outstanding School Volunteer - Florida Dept. of Education and Nomination for Women of Distinction by Girl Scouts Citrus Council.

In addition to her volunteer activities with the school system, Karen has served on several committees and boards for the City of Casselberry. These commitments included the Occupational License Review Board, Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Advisory Committee, Citizen's Assessment Committee – Police Chief Selection 2001, Chairman Parks & Recreation Special Events Advisory Committee. She also served as a Seminole County Representative on the Metro Plan Orlando Citizens Advisory Council. Karen serves on Congressman John L. Mica's Seventh Congressional District Air Force Academy Selection Committee. Karen is an active Member of Rotary Club of Seminole County South. In 2009, the Rotary named Karen a Paul Harris Fellow for her humanitarian service.

Karen supports the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Florida, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Eat), the Down's Syndrome Association of Central Florida, SafeHouse of Seminole and F.I.T. (Families in Transition). Karen is an active member of St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church and the Council of Catholic Women.

Karen will continue to build and strengthen relationships within the community and school district...for the children.

Diane Bauer

Diane Bauer has been a resident of Florida since 1961 and a resident of Seminole County since 1973. She has been married to Frederick since 1968, and they have five children. All of her children have attended elementary, middle and high school in Seminole County and are graduates of Lake Howell High School. She has been an active member of Seminole County PTA since 1974. Diane and her family are members of Sts. Peter and Paul Church where she taught religious education classes for eight years.

First elected to the school board in 1998, Diane has served four years as Vice Chairman and was elected as Chairman in 2007. The beginning of this school year marked her thirty-seventh year as a public school activist. Prior to her service as a school board member, she served as President, Vice President, and Treasurer of PTA in addition to being elected as Chairman of School Advisory Councils at elementary, middle and high schools. She is a World Class Schools Graduate Champion and a graduate of Leadership Seminole, Class of 2000. She is a past director for Florida Hospital Altamonte and has served as a member of the Seminole County Community Alliance. As a member of the Community Alliance, she chaired the Committee for A Safe Haven for Newborns to comply with Florida's Abandon Baby Law. Her leadership on this committee resulted in Seminole County being the first county in the state to develop, print, and distribute posters (in two languages) indicating Safe Baby Stations where a newborn infant could be taken and left safely without fear of prosecution for the parent. Diane developed and implemented the process for the delayed broadcast of each of our school board meetings on SGTV along with securing a dedicated education channel for Seminole County Public Schools. This dedicated channel will enable us to meet future needs as the availability of distance learning becomes more and more important for our students.

To better promote interactive relationships between city and county officials and the school board, Diane served as the board representative to CALNO for nine years. The membership of CALNO represents every city along with the Seminole County Board of Commissioners. CALNO meets monthly to discuss

how the needs of Seminole County may best be met and to exchange current topics of interactive importance. The establishment and continued support of this coalition will be vital as we mutually address concurrency issues and the difficult economic times facing public education.

Through her work with state and local officials, Diane was instrumental in helping to expand the magnet program at Seminole High School. Her efforts on behalf of Seminole County Public Schools secured a state grant which funds our newest magnet program, EMT. The graduates of this program will help to meet the ever growing medical needs of the community we share. She has also served on the Steering Committee for SECME, an enrichment program promoting mathematics and science throughout our Seminole County Public Schools. Her service as the board representative to the Seminole County Public Schools Energy Task Force resulted in the saving of several million dollars previously earmarked for energy costs. On the state level, Diane served as a Director for FSBA (Florida School Board Association). Nationally, she served as a member of an Education Advisory Council advising U.S. Congressman Tom Feeney on issues directly effecting the education of our children. She currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for Healthy Start Coalition along with her committee assignments on the Gifted Advisory Committee and the Region 5 Task Force.

“Every child holds a key to our future and will meet, on our behalf, challenges not yet known to us. While we may not know what those challenges will be, we do know that education is the first step in meeting them. As we work together to meet the difficulties facing public education today, we make certain that we will continue to guide every child’s journey toward tomorrow.”

Tina Calderone, Ed.D.

Tina Calderone has been a lifelong public school advocate and was elected to the School Board on November 2, 2010. She and her husband have been residents of Seminole County since 1989 and both of their children have attended SCPS. Tina has earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Central Connecticut State University, and both her Masters in Educational Administration and Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Florida.

Tina has an extensive, diverse, and successful career that includes education, marketing, sales, public relations, fundraising and training. She has served as a college administrator at Stetson University and an adjunct faculty member at both Seminole State College and the University of Central Florida. She has additionally held management positions at two national corporations (The Kirchman Corporation and Newtrend) where she founded and led their training departments and later served as a Regional Vice President of Sales. She also has small business experience as the Business Manager for Calderone Dental and Community Relations Manager for Lake Mary Life, Oviedo Winter Springs Life and Wekiva Springs Life Magazines. She is most proud of her tenure as the Executive Director of The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools where she was able to work with a dedicated group of business leaders and community volunteers to raise over \$4 million for our students and teachers.

Tina is a proven community leader and volunteer as is evidenced by her membership in all of our Chambers of Commerce, past chair of 5 SCPS School Advisory Councils, PTA member, Dividend volunteer, Teach In participant, Junior Achievement volunteer, member of the first graduating class and past alumni president of Leadership Seminole, graduate of World Class Schools, member of the Orlando Magic Read to Achieve team, member of Sanlando United Methodist Church, and the allocations committee for United Arts. She has additionally served on the boards of the following organizations: Greater Seminole County Chamber of Commerce, Progress Energy-UCF Educational Leadership, Seminole County Library Advisory Board, America’s Charities, Central Florida Regional Hospital Women’s Advisory, Florida Hospital Altamonte Foundation, American Cancer Society, South Seminole Hospital Women’s Advisory, and School Readiness Coalition.

For her service to the community Tina has been recognized with the “Women Who Mean Business” award from *Orlando Business Journal*, “Women of Magic” from *The Orlando Sentinel* and *Magic 107.7*, “Salute to Professional Women in Education” and “Chamber Member of the Year” from The Greater

Seminole County Chamber of Commerce and “Woman of Distinction-Education” from Girls Scouts of Citrus Council.

Tina is honored to serve our entire community in this important role and is committed to passionately working to ensure the best education is offered to our students.

Sylvia Pond

Sylvia has over thirty years working with students, teachers, guidance counselors, administrators, and others in Seminole County.

Experience

Lyman High School, Seminole County, 29.5 years

Part-time, Seminole Community College, five years

Part-time, real estate; buying, selling, leasing, writing contracts—earned license

Pastor’s secretary, First Baptist Winter Park

Office work for law firm, Subin, Shams, Rosenbluth, and Moran

Business teacher, Lake Highland Preparatory School, one year

Engineering office, Kennedy Space Center, three years

Accounting Department, First National Bank of Merritt Island, one year

Education

Master’s Degree, Business Education, UCF

BA Degree, Business Education, UCF

AA, Brevard Community College

Diploma, Cocoa High School

Leadership

- Member of the Longwood Rotary
- Member of the Seminole and area Chambers including work on the Education Committee
- Member, PTA over 20 years
- Member, First Baptist Longwood (usher and Praise Team)
- Assist with various charity benefits

Dede Schaffner

Dede Schaffner, Chairman of the School Board, is a respected advocate of public education and founder/architect of Seminole County Public Schools' nationally recognized Dividends School Volunteer Program. Ms. Schaffner began her career at the grassroots level as a parent, starting the Dividends Program as a volunteer herself with just 16 other volunteers to broaden the classroom resources for Seminole County students. Under her direction, Dividends grew to more than 18,000 volunteers and provided more than \$200 million in donated services to Seminole County Public Schools. Currently the program has almost 24,000 volunteers who provide over \$8 M worth of services to our Seminole County public schools. The program has won four national awards and four Walt Disney World Community Service Awards. Under her direction, The Foundation won Walt Disney's most prestigious award that included a \$50,000 check for scholarships for at-risk students. Dede's concern about high school dropouts prompted her to start the Compact Program with mentors for at-risk students. Hundreds of high school students have earned a high school diploma who potentially would have dropped out of school. She was also the founder of the Back to School Fair which provides backpacks with school supplies for children unable to start school each year with needed school supplies. She co-founded Arts Alive in Seminole!, an event that highlights the visual and performing arts in our Seminole County Public Schools. Proceeds from this event support cultural arts activities for all public school children in the district and support individual school's fine arts programs. Dede's concern for at-risk youth led her to be the champion for the Midway Safe Harbor, a gymnasium facility that was built with the cooperation of business, government and private donors to provide a safe harbor and recreation/education facility in the Midway area.

Dede has a B.S. in Elementary Education and a M.E. in Administration and Supervision from the University of Central Florida. Since her election to the School Board, Dede has become active with the Florida School Boards Association serving on the State Board of Directors. She has served as chairman of Seminole Community College's Board of Trustees where she is serving her third term as an appointee of the Governor. She also serves on the Foundation for Seminole Community College where she and her late husband, Bill, started the first Dream Auction to raise scholarship dollars for community college students. She is an active member of the Rotary Club of Seminole County South where she has served as president, Paul Harris Fellow, Chair of the Rotary Rising Achievers Recognition Committee, and Scholarship Committee. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Seminole County Regional Chamber of Commerce, Seminole County Youth Commission, United Arts, Seminole County Boys and Girls Clubs, Business Advisory Board and The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools. She also serves on the Executive Committee for Leadership Seminole, and is a graduate of that program. Dede has also received numerous awards at the local, state and national level. She has served as a consultant in 14 different states promoting community involvement in public education. Florida Trend Magazine cited her as one of two "People to Watch" for her activities involving the business community in public education. She was the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award and the 2009 Pathfinder Award, both from Seminole State College as well as the Southeast Region Outstanding Trustee Award for her service as a Trustee for Seminole State College. Dede also received the 2009 Distinguished Service Award offered by the Florida Association of Community Colleges. She was the recipient of the 2009 Seminole County Golden Eagle Award, was honored by the Seminole County Regional Chamber in a Salute to Seminole's Professional Women, and received the Leadership Legend Award in 2006 as well as the 2003 Success in Seminole Award. Dede is currently serving her third term on the Seminole County School Board.

Bill Vogel, Superintendent

Bill Vogel, a lifelong educator, is the School Superintendent in Seminole County, Florida, one of the nation's highest performing school districts. During the past 14 years, Dr. Vogel has served as a school superintendent in two Florida counties. He is committed to educating youth to ensure that they acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes to successfully compete in the 21st century global workforce. Dr. Vogel earned his Bachelor's, Master's, Specialist and Doctorate degrees from Rollins College and Florida Atlantic University.

An early implementer of Florida's A+ Educational Accountability plan, Dr. Vogel believes that quality education is the key to the economic well-being and future of Florida. He has served on numerous state level advisory boards, including the High School Reform Task Force, Accountability Advisory Committee, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee and as Chairperson of the International Advisory Board of the Florida Center for Research in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

Dr. Vogel has been selected as Florida's Superintendent of the Year, received the Florida Association of School Administrator's Lamp of Knowledge Award, is a FADSS Board Member and most recently was selected as the Florida Alliance for the Arts Education Superintendent of the year. He is a member of the Rotary Club, Metro Orlando Economic Development Council, the Chamber of Commerce, and an ex officio member of the Florida Council of 100.

Working collaboratively with a visionary School Board and a team of outstanding leaders, Dr. Vogel believes in creating a school system, as opposed to a system of individual schools. In today's ever-changing economic and educational environment, he leads an organization that is change-adept, not change inept, and is committed to building a school district that is a part of the community. Establishing and nurturing internal and external relationships, Dr. Vogel realizes the potential when people come together to accomplish that which hasn't been accomplished before. Supporting public education's mission to prepare students to become productive, educated citizens who lead this great state, he takes every opportunity to learn from others and to advance this cause. Florida's future depends on it.