

# Four write-in candidates seeking two Bedford board seats

There are two four-year seats open for the Bedford Public Schools Board of Education.

Dale Barton did not seek re-election and Kim Hooper resigned from the board, leaving the two seats up for election on Nov. 6. Since there were no filings for the seat, the winners probably will be determined by write-in votes.

According to the Monroe County clerk's office, four candidates have declared themselves as write-ins — D Ellsworth, Ronald Koch, Lisa McCaig and Troy Weyher. Only those who declare themselves to be write-in candidates are counted.

Each candidate was asked to submit profile information:

## D Ellsworth

**Age, date and place of birth:** 54; Jan. 13, 1958, Alliance, Ohio

**Address:** 1421 Winding Way, Temperance

**Spouse:** R Mark Ellsworth

**Children:** Alexander, Zachary, Austin Cole

**Occupation:** Band director; private music lesson and sectional teacher; swim instructor

**Education:** Master's degree in music education

**Campaign statement:** I chose to run as a

write-in candidate for the Bedford Board of Education because I believe in and love Bedford Public Schools. I am a retired Bedford band director and mentor and had the pleasure of teaching in our schools for 20 years. I feel I can add good insight about the schools and help keep our educational system the best in Monroe County. Bedford students must come first!

## Ronald Koch

**Age, date and place of birth:** 56; April 9, 1956, Bay City

**Address:** 1059 W. Temperance, Temperance

**Spouse:** Bernal Koch

**Children:** Christopher, Katie

**Occupation:** Retired schoolteacher

**Education:** Bachelor of science, Central Michigan University; master's in music education, University of Northern Colorado

**Campaign statement:** I have been involved with education for more than 32 years. I believe that I can offer an important perspective to the school board as we try to bring ourselves out of deficit, hire a new superintendent, improve morale and improve community trust, while maintaining a quality education for our children. Many of the issues facing our district have been instigated at the state level. I have the time and the

inclination to visit legislators and encourage their support for public education.

## Lisa McCaig

**Age, date and place of birth:** 42; Dec. 19, 1969, Toledo

**Address:** 6780 Lockmill, Temperance

**Spouse:** James McCaig

**Children:** Three children, ages 15, 12 and 11.

**Occupation:** Director process improvement, American Red Cross national headquarters

**Education:** 1988 graduate of Bedford Public Schools; bachelor's degree, Michigan State University, 1993

**Campaign statement:** I am a graduate of Bedford Public Schools and have three children in the system. I have a vested interest as a parent and community member to ensure Bedford maintains a strong school system. To support a stronger school system, I will leverage the position to create community advocacy groups to assist the board and administration in evaluating ideas, initiatives and projects. In addition, I will utilize my project management background to develop standard processes to implement approved projects. This process model will identify stakeholders, project risks and benefits and ensure processes are in place to measure success and effectively

communicate outcomes.

## Troy Weyher

**Age, date and place of birth:** 47; Aug. 22, 1965, Dundee

**Address:** 7262 Gordon Dr., Temperance

**Spouse:** Laurie

**Children:** Robin, Samantha and Katharine

**Occupation:** Purchasing manager, Owens Corning

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in finance, University of Toledo; master's degree, University of Pittsburgh

**Campaign statement:** As a member of this community for the past 10 years, I think the current board has done an admirable job with the challenges they have faced. Unfortunately, those challenges will only get more difficult. I can provide solid business experience, promote a culture of teamwork, and enthusiasm to deal with these challenges. Our first goal needs to be providing academic excellence for the students and the community. I am confident I can and will serve our community to the best of my ability by bringing new ideas and sound decision making to the board.