

Teacher Candidate - 1 open seat

Andrea:

My name is Andrea Peterson. This is my second year at NES as the Woodland teacher and my 21st year of teaching! I graduated from St. Cloud State in 2004 with my bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. I also have my Master of Arts in Literacy Education from Hamline University. I have taught almost every grade from preschool all the way up to 8th grade, but have found that 4th and 5th grade are my favorite grades to teach.

My husband, Kristian, and I live in Northfield with our two children, June (11) and Walter (14). We are currently in the phase of life where much of our time is spent watching June do gymnastics, and Walter play baseball, basketball, and run cross country. It is a busy time, but I love it! I also enjoy reading, taking my dog for walks, traveling, and sitting on my front porch with a cup of coffee in the summer.

I am excited about the opportunity to contribute my knowledge and experience to the Nerstrand Elementary School Board of Directors. I would be dedicated to working alongside fellow board members to achieve our shared goals and contribute to the continued success and growth of the school.

Community Member - 1 open seat

Terri:

My name is Terri Neumann. My family is three generations strong , Nerstrand Alumni! My Grandfather also served on the board many, many years ago. I am a Licensed Dental Assistant and work in Northfield. In my spare time, I like to cook, play piano, go camping and enjoy time with family and friends. Nerstrand school has so many wonderful things that make it special. Discovery Day, Color Fun Run, Prairie Appreciation Day, just to name a few. The teachers and staff at Nerstrand School are so caring and wonderful. I have enjoyed and look forward to representing the Nerstrand Community again on the NES Board.

Parent Member - 1 open seat

Carissa (incumbent):

Howdy! I'm Carissa. A little bit about me: I grew up in Cannon City. Both my parents were elementary teachers, and my grandparents owned Nauman's

Store. I married Nerstrand alumni Doug Erickson 10 years ago at the Valley Grove Church. I love country living, being outside, learning new things, volunteering, traveling, and getting into people's hair at Cannon Hair Co. in Northfield. :)

I have three kids. I'm proud to say they are the fourth generation of Ericksons to attend Nerstrand School. The eldest completed fifth grade last year, and my youngest two will be in first and third grade during the 2025-26 school year.

I want this school's long-standing history of educational excellence to continue for generations to come.

I love our Little School in the Big Woods!

CaseyLea:

My name is CaseyLea Clayton and I am the mom of a NES first grader. I grew up in Minneapolis. After high school I tried out a few paths, until I landed an opportunity apprenticing with a dog trainer. I have a passion for animals and thoroughly enjoyed my 7+ years in the dog boarding and training industry. In 2020, my family and I relocated to FBO, prompting a career shift as I established Consider It Clean, a residential and commercial cleaning business. "Consider It Clean's mission is to serve our community with integrity, and low-tox, eco-conscious cleaning solutions. We blend care for people with environmental stewardship in every clean."

I'm a curious, and lifelong learner. Some of my favorite things to do are spend time in nature hiking, foraging, camping, kayaking, hang out with my family and animals (currently 5 dogs), travel, read books and listen to podcasts, and DIY projects.

I am adaptable, driven, and equipped with a variety of skills that could benefit the NES school board. Over the years of integrating into the small local communities, I have adopted a fondness for the relationships and community support I didn't even know I was missing. Finding our home at NES has been a perfect fit for our family, and my husband Casey and I enjoy finding opportunities to support the school and the classroom whenever possible. I look forward to serving on the NES Board .

Kameron:

My name is Kameron Gustafson. I am an Executive Marketing Assistant for Midwest Veterinary Supply, a nationwide distributor in the animal health industry. My husband, Matt, and I are Faribault natives where we reside with our three children. Our youngest will be starting kindergarten at

Nerstrand this fall, our middle child is currently enrolled, and our oldest attends Faribault High School. My family and I have enjoyed getting to know Nerstrand staff, other parents, and some of the other students. I look forward to learning how to become more involved in future events and how to further support Nerstrand school.

Katie:

I am Katie Covert. We have a kindergartner currently at Nerstrand Elementary, a 4-year-old, and a two-year-old. I married into a 6th generation farm just southwest of Nerstrand. While I have lived on the farm for 10 years, I grew up in Wayzata, graduated from Colgate University in Upstate NY and worked in fashion in New York and Minneapolis before settling into country life. I work part-time in accounting for Wenger Corporation in Owatonna, and am home full-time with our kids. We love exploring and going on new adventures in the region.