



Dear HSEF Board Prospect,

Thank you for your interest in joining the Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation (HSEF) Board of Directors. We are currently recruiting highly motivated, dynamic individuals to join our team. HSEF strives for balanced board representation that mirrors our community's diversity. We have found the profile of successful Board Candidates includes a passion for public education, commitment to community service, and a willingness to leverage personal and professional networks to extend the mission of the foundation.

Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation has been Fishers preeminent education organization for the last decade. In fact, the foundation has invested nearly \$3 million in our students, teachers, schools, and district. The impact of our scholarships and grant funding has fueled academic innovation as well as filled gaps in basic need funding. The Caruthers Institute recently ranked HSEF 4th in the nation among other education foundations. This incredible success is a result of both the vision and the hard work of the Board of Directors.

The Board is primarily accountable for ensuring the organization is meeting **our mission of enhancing educational opportunities, inspiring excellence, and engaging the community to foster a legacy of achievement.** An essential component of this responsibility is to ensure the organization has the capacity and resources required to meet our strategic goals.

Enclosed is information designed to provide you an overview of board member expectations including a position description, commitment form, and application. Please feel free to contact any board member or our Executive Director, Justin Hirnisey, for more information. Again, thank you for your interest in HSEF and the community we serve. We truly believe that together we can fuel the future!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Hirnisey".

Justin Hirnisey
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert D. Emmerson".

Robert D. Emmerson
Past President of the Board



Board of Directors Position Description

PURPOSE:

To provide strategic vision, organizational oversight, and adequate resources to ensure the Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation achieves its mission to enhance educational opportunities, inspire excellence and engage the community to foster a legacy of achievement.

CHARGE OF THE BOARD:

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1. Develop and approve strategic plan, goals and objectives.
 2. Select, employ, periodically assess and, if necessary, dismiss the Executive Director.
 3. Ensure the organization has adequate resources, financial and other, to achieve goals.
 4. Adopt and monitor the agency's operating budget.
 5. Perform its legal responsibilities and protect the assets of the organization.
 6. Network and build relationships on behalf of the foundation.

SPECIFIC DUTIES OF A MEMBER OF THE BOARD:

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1. Attend an orientation and training session at the beginning of your tenure and as needed throughout term(s).
 2. Advanced preparation for board and committee meetings, including review of appropriate documents.
 3. Actively participate in a minimum of 70% of board meetings.
 4. Actively participate in two standing committees.
 5. Actively participate in Share Your Passion including financially supporting the Foundation at a self-determined level you consider generous as well as facilitating fundraising efforts.
 6. Participation in organizational initiatives and events including, but not limited to, fundraising and marketing events, ad hoc committees, and board trainings or retreats.
 7. Champion the foundation with your personal and professional network. Recruit community members to support the mission through board service, committee service, and participation in organizational initiatives.
 8. Consideration of leadership responsibilities including chair or officer roles.
 9. Remain informed of agency's programs, policies and services as well as community and stakeholder needs and atmosphere.
 10. Remain in good standing with the community we serve and reflect positively on the foundation.
 11. Actively avoid conflicts of interest. Disclose any potential conflicts in a timely fashion.

WHAT BOARD CAN EXPECT FROM STAFF:

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- Training, Orientation and Direction; Availability of an experienced Board Member to serve as mentor.
 - Current, accurate information.
 - Availability and Accountability.
 - Economical use of your time.
 - Calendar of events, meetings, etc.
 - Recognition, appreciation, and thanks.

TERM:

Three years, Renewable. Two term limit.

RESIGNATION:

In writing to the President, Board of Directors.



Mission Committees

Community Engagement – Responsible for elevating the Foundation’s presence in the community including public relations, branding, media outreach, newsletters, web presence and social media. Members should feel comfortable with public speaking, staffing community events/booths, networking, copywriting, graphic design, and/or interacting with diverse stakeholders. Monthly committee meetings plus external preparation.

Grants & Scholarships – Provides oversight for grant/scholarship review and allocation process. Typically meets quarterly with some pre-meeting preparation work including substantial reading of applications. Preference will be given to board members in their third and fourth year of board service.

Fund Development / Event Committees

Fund Development – Oversees fund development strategies. Generates annual prospect lists, cultivates individual and corporate gifts, monitors key metrics, and provides reports to the Board of Directors. Members should be comfortable making asks of various amounts to diverse stakeholders. Regular committee meetings plus external preparation.

Legacy Celebration – Organizes and executes largest annual fundraising event, including auction and event logistics (venue, entertainment, menu, A/V, signage, etc.). Committee typically meets from October – March.

Mudsock VIP – Organizes and executes annual football VIP event, including event tickets and supporting event logistics. Also coordinates activities in conjunction with the 50/50 Mudsock Raffle.

Administrative Appointments / Ad Hoc Committees

Board Development – The Past President will chair Board Development efforts, including recruiting, training, and retaining board members. S/He will also monitor the board matrix, manage the Share Your Passion process, and present the annual slate of officers. The Board Development Chair may rely on the Executive Committee and/or convene an ad hoc committee as needed.

Finance – The Board Treasurer serves as Chief Financial Officer for the organization, providing oversight of budget & finance issues including investments and responsible for preparing and distributing financial reports to the board. Additional responsibilities include ensuring the Foundation is current with required legal filings including, but not limited to, annual 990, tax preparations, business entity reports, and audit preparations. The Board Treasurer may rely on the Executive Committee and/or convene an ad hoc finance committee as needed.

Executive – Officers of the Board of Directors and standing committee chairs (as appointed), in accordance with bylaws.



Board Member Commitment Agreement

As a Board Member of the Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation (HSEF), I understand that my duties and responsibilities include the following:

1. I am fiscally responsible, with the other board members, for this organization. It is my duty to be active in not only in approving and managing the organizational budget, but also in fundraising to meet that budget.
2. I am legally responsible, along with the other board members, for this organization. I understand that I protect myself from liability by acting "in good faith" by attending meetings regularly and actively providing responsible oversight of the agency including familiarizing myself with bylaws and other agency documents and information.
3. I am morally responsible for the health and well-being of this organization. As a member of the board, I have pledged myself to help realize the mission, which is *to enhance educational opportunities, inspire excellence and engage the community to foster a legacy of achievement*.
4. I am asked to share information about HSEF programs through my network, including social media. I further agree to avoid posting anything that may harm the goodwill or reputation of HSEF and those we serve, along with any disparaging or discriminatory statements as well as confidential information about the organization.
5. I will give generously of my time, as well as make a significant donation through "Share Your Passion".
6. I understand that I will be expected to volunteer for HSEF fundraising events (Mudsock VIP in the first semester and Game Day in the second semester), as well as serve as a School Liaison. All board members who volunteer will receive an event ticket/credential.
7. I will attend a minimum of 8 of the 11 board meetings (70%+) throughout the year as well as be active in at least two (2) committees. I understand that commitment to this board will involve a good deal of time and will probably not involve less than four (4) hours per month and will vary based on my committee selection.
8. I will scrupulously avoid any conflict of interest between the interests of the Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation, and my personal, professional, and business interests. I will disclose any potential conflict of interest to the full board and understand that after disclosure I will be asked to leave the room for the discussion and will not be permitted to vote on the question.
9. I understand that in performing my duties as a volunteer that I may encounter information that is sensitive and confidential in nature. I agree to hold all such information in strict confidence and not disclose to any other party without the prior written consent of HSEF.
10. I find all the above reasonable for the operation of the Board of Directors and acceptable to me as a Board Member. I understand that if I fail to act in good faith with the above requirements that I must resign, or someone from the Board may ask me to resign.

Signature

Date



HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HSEF BOARD MEMBER					
Share Your Passion 2025-2026					
2024-2025 Board Member: Average \$5,160 / Median \$3,325					
MEMBER NAME					
Committees:					
Attendance:	School Liaison:		1.	2.	3.
Last update: 2/26/26					
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS					
	GIVE GOAL	GET GOAL	REALIZED GIVE	REALIZED GET	NOTES
GROW CLUB	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
SPONSORSHIPS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
MUDSOCK VIP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
GIVING TUESDAY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
LEGACY CELEBRATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
THANK AN EDUCATOR	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
PRAIRIE DASH 5K	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
MUDSOCK RAFFLE		\$ -		\$ -	Board members are not eligible to purchase tickets. They can only sell to others outside of their household.
OTHER	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TIME COMMITMENT					
	YES/NO	REALIZED	NOTES		
MUDSOCK*					
FISHERS EVENT CENTER*					
ALUMNI EVENT(S)					
THANK AN EDUCATOR					
PRAIRIE DASH 5K					
PUBLIC SPEAKING/COMMUNITY EVENTS					
GRANTS					
SCHOLARSHIPS					
<i>*If you commit to volunteering at Mudsock or Legacy Celebration, your ticket is free. You must still purchase a ticket for anyone attending with you.</i>					
BOARD DEVELOPMENT					
	GOAL	REALIZED	NOTES		
Board Member Recruitment					
Committee Member Recruitment					
BOARD MEMBER INFO:					
Address					
City					
Zip					
Preferred Phone					
Preferred Email					
Shirt Size					
Occupation					
Employer					
Spouse Name					
INSTRUCTIONS:					
ONLY FILL OUT PORTIONS OF THE FORM HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW.					
GIVE - provide total donations you or business you own will provide.					
GET - provide total donations you anticipate will solicit on behalf of HSEF that are new or repeat from last year.					
TIME COMMITMENT - Will you assist with the following events and/or find volunteers to assist? Yes or No only.					
BOARD DEVELOPMENT - individuals you identify and assist recruiting to join HSEF.					
NOTES - Provide any details to help us track this information such as names of individuals and/or businesses you will solicit.					
Board Members will receive updates prior to the December and June meetings.					



HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HSEF BOARD MEMBER APPLICATION

Name of Candidate: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Business/Position: _____

Prior Non-Profit experience: Board Service Sponsor Volunteer Other

Please Describe: _____

Affiliation with HSE Schools: _____

Expertise/Experience:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Banking / Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Entrepreneurial | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contractor/Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Connections | <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> School Based/PTO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educator | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Program Focus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faith Based | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/PR | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology |

Committee Preference (Choose 2 or More):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> Legacy Celebration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Mudsock VIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Development | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Greatest Need</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants & Scholarships | |

Demographics (optional):

Race/Ethnicity: _____

Gender: _____

Age: _____

**** Please submit this application plus a résumé and bio if available to jhirmisey@hse.k12.in.us ****

Nominating Member: _____ Nominating Date: _____