LSC CANDIDATE STATEMENT

My name is Laurie Inman. I have had the pleasure of serving as a Parent Representative on Murray’s current LSC for the past two and a half years and am currently seeking re-election for this position. I have lived in the Hyde Park community for over 20 years. I have a son in 8th grade and have been a Murray parent for nine years. I have a bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry from the University of Illinois at Chicago and I currently work full-time as an Information Technology Program Director for a Fortune 500 professional services firm that specializes in real estate and investment management.

I have been involved at Murray as a parent volunteer ever since my son was first enrolled in Kindergarten. I have served as snack mom, assisted with Popcorn Fridays and STEM Nights, assisted with various school assemblies and set-ups for class project presentations, served as an in classroom parent volunteer assisting with various STEM related teaching work stations, served as a parent chaperone for numerous class field trips, served as a Science Fair judge for the past 4-5 years, assisted with grant writing, etc.

My goals as a parent representative for the LSC are as follows:

- Partner with the members of the LSC, school administration and parents to assist in any way that I can to help Murray set, meet and document the goals and objectives set forth in our current Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP).
- Continue to improve upon the communication between parents, teachers, and administration. I truly believe that Murray has the potential to be a great school. However, we will not reach our potential without clear consistent communication and collaboration between the parents, teachers and administration. Positive parental involvement is key to Murray’s success. Without involved parents at all grade levels Murray will never achieve the level of greatness it once had.
- Work on enhancing STEAM learning and Writing techniques for all grade levels through grants and partnerships with neighborhood programs geared toward introducing students to STEAM oriented careers and scholarship options as well as seeking out, reviewing and implementing programs that would assist with the enhancement of our students writing capabilities.
- Work on developing a Gifted or IB program offering for our advanced students. We lose some of our brightest students to programs offered at other institutions because parents feel we do not offer our students the academic rigor and support that they need to gain admittance to the top CPS high schools. I would like to partner and help work on a plan to aid with changing that.
- I believe that a strong LSC should consist of parent representation from ALL the grade levels. What I have noticed during my tenure at MLA is that parents become less involved with school related activities as their children become older. I would like to work to change that especially within our middle school (7th & 8th grades). It is my belief that parent representation for the 7th/8th grades is desperately needed on the LSC to prevent issues that specifically affect these grade levels from falling through the cracks.

I feel that as parents it is crucial that we get involved and lend our expertise to support the school’s administration and faculty that have our children’s future in their hands. If re-elected as a parent
representative I would be committed to working hard to continuously be an asset to MLA and its Local School Council.