Board of Directors Candidate Profiles – 2021 Election

Responses to candidate questionnaires
Responses are unedited, presented as received up to the allowable word count

Silvia D. Scaife
Candidate for Board Director

1. Describe the leadership experiences you have had. Include significant accomplishments at the local, state, and or/national levels.

I take a great deal of pride and honor in the many and varied roles in which I am involved. Each experience strengthened me in some capacity. They are/were:

   a. Alabama Teacher of the Year Finalist (Top 4) 2006
   b. System-Wide Teacher of the Year for Elementary and Middle Schools (2011)
   c. Secretary for ASPA (Alabama Scholastic Press Association)
   d. Auburn City Schools Action Plan Committee
   e. Auburn City Schools Strategic Planning Committee
   f. Auburn University National Advisory Council (NAC)

2. Share other information about yourself (education, personal and/or professional experiences, publications, awards, personal strengths, etc.) that you think would make you a qualified candidate and benefit the EdTA Board of Directors.

My parents were married for 63 years until my father’s recent death due to COVID-19. I am the 7th child of 10. My parents had high expectations for us and instilled in us to finish what you start and reach goals that you have set. For me, that has not changed over time.

I am married and the mother of four. I have taught in the public school system for more than 23 years covering elementary, middle, and high school grade levels. Many of my degrees were earned as I managed the ever-evolving duties of being a dedicated wife, supportive mother of four, energetic full-time employee, and an active member in my community.
Being a member in my large family, you were expected to listen to others, speak with true and genuine intent, know and understand that there's order to those things which are progressive.

3. The EdTA Governing Board establishes policy guiding the Executive Director, staff and members to develop programs which advance our mission. Explain how you could help the Board forward EdTA’s mission and strategic priorities.

Being an "innovative connector", I can advance EdTA's mission because I already practice and promote its mission. Below are comments made on my behalf as one who encompasses the ideals of honoring, supporting, and influencing:

" Dr. Scaife builds relationships by challenging students to push themselves outside of their comfort zone. She shows you the power you have within yourself. "

" Dr. Scaife creates opportunities for students to grow by connecting them with other clubs and community organizations; it's another facet of her leadership skills.

" She is able to challenge and enrich all levels of students through whatever she does.

" Have you ever had lunch with Scaife? It's an adventure! "

" I find reasons to go to her room because I know I am always going to learn something ... and a lot of what I learn are things a genuine teacher models in her everyday life. "

4. Why are you interested in serving and please describe your aspirations?

Why I am interested in serving is most likely similar to why others are interested ... I have a love for the arts. What sets me a part is how I demonstrate my love for what I believe in. I give of myself: my time, my talents, my energy! Once I commit to a task, I like to see it through to the finish and always believing that I should strive to leave it better than I found it!
EDUCATION

Administrative Educational Leadership
Auburn University, Auburn, AL

PhD in Curriculum and Teaching
Auburn University, Auburn, AL
Dissertation Title: "How and In What Ways Does Homogeneous Small Group Instruction in Reading Influence Struggling Middle School Readers and Their Attitudes Toward Reading"
Committee: Theresa McCormick, Chippewa Thomas, David Shannon

Educational Specialist Degree
Auburn University, Auburn, AL

Masters in Elementary Education
Troy State University, Phenix City, AL

Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
Auburn University, Auburn, AL

Bachelor of Arts in Communication
Auburn University, Auburn, AL

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS


RESEARCH INTERESTS

School Partnerships, Student Engagement, Mentoring, Collaboration
TEACHING and MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Ninth – Twelfth Grade Television Production Instructor, Auburn High School, Auburn, AL  
July 2018-Present

Seventh Grade Theatre & Broadcast Teacher, East Samford School, Auburn, AL  
July 2017-May 2018

Sixth Grade Language Arts Teacher, J. F. Drake Middle School, Auburn, AL  
July 2008-May 2017

Third Grade Teacher, Wrights Mill Road Elementary School, Auburn, AL  
July 1997-May 2008

First Grade Teacher, Wrights Mill Road Elementary School, Auburn, AL  
July 1996-August 1997

- Create instructional resources for use in the classroom
- Plan, prepared and delivered instructional activities
- Create positive educational climate for students to learn in
- Meet course and school-wide student performance goals
- Participate in ongoing training sessions
- Create lesson plans and modify accordingly throughout the year
- Maintain grade books
- Grade papers and perform other administrative duties as needed
- Write grant proposals to gain funding for student engagement opportunities
- Create projects designed to enhance student and teacher learning
- Read and stay abreast of current topics/trends in education
- Create lesson plans
- Utilize various curriculum resources
- Integrate competencies, goals, and objectives into lesson plans
- Utilize curricula that reflect the diverse educational, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds of the students served
- Develop incentives to keep participants in class
- Develop professional relationships with other agencies and programs
- Utilize public library resources
- Work with program coordinators to ensure initiatives are being met
- Tutor students on an individual basis
- Establish and communicate clear objectives for all learning activities
- Prepare and distribute required reports
- Observe and evaluate student’s performance
- Manage student behavior in the classroom by invoking approved disciplinary procedures so that all students are provided an equitable learning environment
ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE & INFORMATION

Program Creator/Coordinator Positions

J. F. Drake **Financial Literacy Coordinator** (June 2010-April 2016)

J. F. Drake Middle School **Theatre Department** (July 2007-May 2016)

J. F. Drake Middle School **Ambassador/Broadcast Team Program** (June 2009-May 2016)

East Samford School **Ambassador/Broadcast Team Program** (June 2017-May 2018)

- Created, planned, and coordinated all aspects of each performance and the program's activities
- Delegated tasks to colleagues and interns in coordinating productions/annual events
- Prepared paperwork, promotional, rehearsal, and scheduling materials
- Ensured implementation of policies and practices
- Handled the project related financial administration by monitoring project's budget and tracking expenditures/transactions
- Managed communications through media relations, social media, etc.
- Built positive relations among the students, parents, faculty and external stakeholders
- Conducted weekly briefings with team members to ensure maximum efficiency
- Kept updated records and created reports or proposals
- Kept all members of the organization up to date with relevant and current information
- Scheduled and organized meetings/events and maintained an agenda for committee members
- Ensured that technology was used often and correctly for all operations (lighting, sound, projectors, editing software, etc.)
- Supported growth and program development through annual recruitment events and supplied informational materials that ensured better communication and understanding of each program created, developed, and sustained
Leadership and Development Roles

Auburn University-Auburn High School Sports Production Partnership Coordinator High School (began August 2020)

- Interview, select, supervise, and model incoming interns for the program
- Secure on-the-job experience and training for students

Hi-Def Club at Auburn High School (August 2018-Present)

- Recruit advisory committee members, plan meetings, manage a membership base of 25 students
- Organize club involvement in regional and state competitions and conferences

Alabama Thespians Performance Coordinator

Alabama Thespian Festival Vestavia Hills, AL (February 2018-2020)

- Work with State Director and Festival Coordinator to plan and organize the festival
- Provide production and technical guidelines to judges and directors
- Secure qualified judges for competition portion of the festival
- Communicate effectively and efficiently with high school directors and coordinators regarding daily performance schedules and other urgent requests
- Maintain and update changes as needed

SKILLS

- Powerful mentoring, teamwork, and collaborative skills
- Powerful flexibility and creative skills
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Strong analytical and problem-solving capabilities
- Grant writing experience (awarded the F.A.C.E.S. Showcase Auburn Grant-Highest grant awarded)
- Strong Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher)
- Proficient in Final Cut Pro X
- Experience with Adobe Premiere Pro and Photoshop
- Technologically proficient in video conferencing
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/COMMITTEES

- Alabama Scholastic Press Association – Secretary
- Alabama Skills USA Professional Member
- Alabama Thespians Performance Coordinator
- Auburn City Schools Strategic Planning Committee
- Auburn High School Technology Committee
- Auburn University College of Education National Advisory Council (NAC)
- ACSI/AU Leadership Capacity Building Program
- AEA (Alabama Education Association)
- Delta Epsilon Iota (Academic Honor Society)
- EdTA (Educational Theatre Association) Professional Member
- ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education)
- NEA (National Education Association)
- PDK (Phi Delta Kappa)

HONORS / AWARDS

- 2006-2007 State Finalist for Alabama Teacher of the Year
- F.A.C.E.S. Showcase Auburn Grant (Highest grant awarded)
- Bob Dumas Honorary FACES Grant Recipient for Auburn City Schools

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- P.A.C.E. (People of Action for Community Enrichment)
- Girls Scout Volunteer Parent/Assistant Leader
- Project Graduation Chairperson

GRANTS

- F.A.C.E.S. Showcase Auburn Grant (Highest grant awarded)
- Mid-South Resource Conservation Grant
- Wal-Mart School Improvement Grant