

JULIA BURGESS
Greater Essex County DSB
Western Region

**Candidate for: Regional Member and
Alternate Regional
Member, Policy
Development Work
Group**



As a 25-year veteran on the Greater Essex County District School Board, Julia has invaluable governance experience that can be counted on in tough times.

Highlights of positions of added responsibility on the GECDSB: Chair/Vice Chair of the Board, Chair of Standing Committees, Director Search/Performance Appraisal, GEC Parent Involvement Committee, Policy Committee, SEAC, Indigenous Education Committee, and innumerable ad-hoc and Permanent Committees.

As a polymath, life-long learner and scholar, Julia's preparation is deep and directly applicable to whatever the agenda holds. Julia has represented the GECDSB well as a Director/Voting Delegate at OPSBA for over a decade. She made valuable contributions through the Education Program Work Team for many years and served as its Chair and Vice-Chair. Most recently, she has been a member on the Policy Development Work Group. Highlights of other OPSBA committee work includes PES and AGM Planning Committees, Ad-Hoc OPSBA Governance Review Committee, Award Judging Committees, Education Alliance for a Sustainable Ontario (EASO), etc.

She served as both Western Region Chair and Vice Chair, initiating meaningful regional meetings that provided informative site visits and opportunities for Trustee professional growth for members of district boards.

From Julia:

"These are extraordinary changing times in public education! We as policy makers have been called upon for fundamental governance re changes to the Education Act and the role of school boards. We assemble amongst expert advice on group tables that mix critical discussions on budgets, staff deployment, pedagogy, health and well-being. Creating a made-in-Ontario learning environment that provides a bright and modern future for students is the challenge of this moment.

This time asks that we demolish silos, find commonalities, employ creative solutions to acute challenges, advocate with precision and be conversant across disciplines. My formal education in Engineering and Science at the University of Windsor and subsequent career opportunities has made me a quick study, good analyst, and adept at connecting the dots across domains.

We are a region of district boards which serve urban, rural, and suburban areas, with areas of both growth and declining enrolment and constrained budgets. Recent governmental changes have demanded critical understanding of emerging issues, active listening to identify needs and strong advocacy to ensure a sustainable public education system. **We have much to learn from each other.** It is through the contributions of all members within our organization that the success stories, concerns, priorities and emerging issues get brought to the table at OPSBA. I have no real or perceived conflicts that would prevent me from speaking on any issues on behalf of the OPSBA regional membership. I would be grateful for your support and commit to ensuring honest communication and representation of our wonderful and diverse district boards.”