

**2022 Board of Education Candidate Biographies**  
**Listed in ballot order**  
*Biographies are published as submitted by the candidates, unedited*

**Unexpired 1-Year Term Candidates for One Open Seat**

**Kimberly Gallagher – “Find Common Ground”**  
**1537 Hillside Drive**

My name is Kimberly Gallagher and I moved to Cherry Hill in November 2015. I grew up in Ambler, Pennsylvania and moved to New Jersey after marrying. My Husband and I chose Cherry Hill specifically for the school district. I have two elementary age daughters and I have a teenage stepson who attends Eastern Regional High School. I have a unique perspective as I have gone through elementary, middle school and high school with my stepson, and I am experiencing elementary school again with my daughters at Horace Mann.

I received my BA in Philosophy (Ethics) from University of California, Santa Barbara, and my Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Northeastern University where I concentrated in Supply Chain Management. With my background, I can help look critically at the Cherry Hill Public School’s operations and think of better strategies to create better efficiencies within the system - Both tangibly and intangibly.

My career has two distinctive roads. Prior to having my children, I worked in the corporate setting. My career focused on Supply Chain Management - inventory management, sourcing and purchasing, and customer service. After having children, my career pivoted to education. I have taught Supply Chain Management, Marketing and Operations for an MBA program for seven years.

I took a leadership role during the 2020-2021 school year to mobilize a large group of parents in a short amount of time to push the district to open school for in-person learning. This was a powerful experience and taught me a lot about engaging the community and interacting with the district. I look forward to continuing to advocate for our students on the Board of Education.

**Benjamin A. Ovdia**  
**100 Roanoke Road**

Mr. Benjamin Ovdia, MBA, has served on the Cherry Hill Board of Education since August 2019, when he was appointed to fill a vacated seat. Mr. Ovdia was then elected to the Board in November 2019. On the Board, Ben has been an appointed liaison (Camden County Educational Services Commission), an appointed Committee chair (Strategic Planning), and is currently the Board of Education President, unanimously elected in January 2022. Prior to serving on the Board of Education, he served in various roles on the Sharp PTA, including as PTA President. Mr. Ovdia was an active member of the Zone PTA Cherry Hill Fair Funding Committee and involved in several other districtwide advocacy efforts. As a District parent and community stakeholder, he has spent a significant portion of his time volunteering in the school ecosystem in Cherry Hill for over a decade.

Mr. Ovdia has over 20 years of experience in fund development, media and public relations, and project management. He has served as a leader in the nonprofit field for over 12 years. Mr. Ovdia earned his undergraduate degree from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, majoring in Management and Marketing, and earned his graduate degree with multiple honors from the Rutgers

Business School in Newark, NJ, majoring in Marketing and Supply Chain Management. Ben is the Development Director of a large, local nonprofit where he has worked for over a decade.

Ben is excited to continue his volunteer service to Cherry Hill Public Schools, an amazing school district filled with incredible people, resources, and opportunities. Mr. Ovadia is committed to serving the children, families, and community of Cherry Hill. He believes that stakeholder voices are vitally important in District discourse. In his spare time, Ben is often known to travel with wife Rosa (a Cherry Hill High School West graduate) and three children by car all over the country; to date, they have had a road trip component in seeing all 50 states.

### **3-Year Term Candidates for 3 Open Seats**

#### **Adam Greenbaum – “Moving Forward Together”**

##### **16 Tracy Terrace**

Adam Greenbaum moved to Cherry Hill with his family eleven years ago, and the reputation of Cherry Hill schools was a big part of that decision. Adam is running for a seat on the Cherry Hill Board of Education to have a positive impact on the community and to be a part of that success story.

Adam is passionate about education, and comes from a family of educators. As an involved parent, he has attended district board and committee meetings, town council meetings, and has closely followed the wide array of issues affecting our schools. He works as a cyber security expert in the aerospace industry developing augmented reality solutions for spacecraft and satellites. Through his professional experience, Adam will bring analytical thinking, business acumen, and leadership skills to the school board.

Some of the important issues Adam Greenbaum will be focusing on include school funding, equity and inclusion, and ADA compliance. The bond referendum has been a hot topic, but ensuring the budget meets the needs of the district is an important and ongoing issue. It is imperative to identify and remove barriers to foster an inclusive environment where everyone has the same opportunities to succeed. Accessibility is not just a goal, but a continuous effort to ensure new projects are accessible, and older facilities are updated accordingly.

Adam lives in Cherry Hill with his wife and son. He holds a bachelor’s degree in computer engineering from the University of Rhode Island, and master of business administration from Villanova University. Adam has worked as a cyber security expert in the aerospace and defense industries for twenty three years. He enjoys gardening, mountain biking, and is an avid photographer. Please visit [greenbaum4boe.com](http://greenbaum4boe.com) to learn more about Adam Greenbaum and his platform.

#### **Gina Winters**

##### **211 Gravel Bend Road**

Gina Winters was appointed in August 2022 to fill a vacant Board seat. She earned her Masters degree in Public Policy (MPP) from the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University, where her primary research interest was education policy. Her research on the components of high quality preschool programs in urban districts throughout the state led to her belief in the power of high quality early childhood education to transform lives. Upon graduating, Mrs. Winters served as nonpartisan staff for the New Jersey State Legislature. As a Senior Research Analyst, she provided bill drafting, policy analysis, and committee staffing on diverse issues such as legislative ethics, campaign finance, elections, and property tax reform.

A Cherry Hill resident for almost twenty years, Mrs. Winters has been an active volunteer with the youth of Cherry Hill as a religious education teacher, youth minister, and Girl Scout leader. She holds a certification in youth ministry from the Diocese of Camden, and has over a decade of experience designing and implementing comprehensive programming for middle and high school youth in our community. She also served as a parent representative to the district's Kindergarten Curriculum Committee, where she contributed to developing the full day kindergarten curriculum and assisted with communicating about the newly developed curriculum with community stakeholders. As a parent of three children in the district, Mrs. Winters is personally invested in making our schools the best they can be for all students in our community.

**Suni (Sunny) Reed – “Truth, Equity, Transformation”**

**117 Ridge Road**

No biography submitted.

**Renee Cherfane – “Community, Health, Education”**

**6 Clark Drive**

My name is Renee Cherfane, also known to the Cherry Hill community as Renee Solimeo. Both my husband and I grew up in Cherry Hill. I attended Thomas Paine Elementary School, Carusi Middle School, and my husband and I graduated from Cherry Hill West. Both of my parents were actively involved in the community and schools when I attended, and now is my chance to do that for my three daughters. My oldest, Olivia is at Kingston Elementary School in third grade, and my 4 year old and one year old will be following her. I have a tremendous amount of pride for this town. I have lived in Rhode Island during college and Texas while my husband was in the United States Army, and we've since settled back in the hometown that we love.

I have a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in Chemistry from Rutgers University in Camden. I completed an alternative certification program to become a Texas Educator prepared to teach at-risk students in high-need areas of El Paso, TX. I later moved on to teach General and Organic Chemistry Labs at RU-C, while working as an In-Process Chemist at a pharmaceutical plant in South Jersey. Later, I found a love for healthcare and nursing, so I completed my Bachelor of Nursing at RU-C and Master of Science in Nursing Education at Walden University. After working in and managing the Intensive Care Unit at the local Level-1 Trauma center, I moved into the Education and Professional Development Department and am now working with all the new-to-practice nurses that join the hospital.

I have decided to run for the Board of Education because the well-being and success of our children matter more to me than anything else. I owe my personal and academic success to this district. I appreciate the highly diverse, academically-rigorous environment I grew up in at Cherry Hill West. I feel the education that was provided to me prepared me well for what I have been able to achieve. Now, as a parent in the district, I've been noticing that those standards seem to be dwindling. Combined with the social and environmental struggles that our children are faced with just by being raised in current times, I feel as though we could be doing better for our children. Building a stronger sense of community by giving parents a bigger voice, addressing the emotional and physical healthcare needs of our students and teachers, and addressing the declining educational performance will be my main focus as a member of the board of education.

### **Nicholas J. Gaudio, Jr. – “Reestablish Family Values”**

#### **13 Hillcroft Lane**

Nick is a 30+ year Cherry Hill resident, having grown up in the Kingston neighborhood from age 5-25, during which time he attended Kingston Elementary School, Carusi Middle School, and Cherry Hill High School West and Villanova University. With his wife, Christina (deceased in 2019) he had lived in Merchantville and Reston, Virginia from 2005-2011, ultimately moving to the Olde Springs Crossing neighborhood of Cherry Hill in 2011. Their move back to Cherry Hill was influenced by Cherry Hill’s strong public education system and diverse community for their older daughters, Sophia (now 12, Rosa International Middle School) Lucille (now 9, Thomas Paine Elementary School). As a sociable, widowed single parent, now in a loving relationship with a warm-hearted mother of two sons (11 and 6), Nick prides himself on his informal open door policy to all friends, neighbors, and their children, and the casual nature of being on a first name basis with all.

For years, family and friends have tried to convince Nick to become more active and involved in the community because of his friendly demeanor, ability to disagree fearlessly but respectfully, and ability to validate his opinions with logic and facts. Over the past few years, we have witnessed and experienced a depreciation of respect throughout the education system for the freedom of parents/guardians to instill their family values in their children. Through his activism in fighting for parental/student rights, Nick met his running mate, Jennifer Sharman, in August, 2021. Nick and Jen do not believe school districts should be telling children whether their parents’ personal beliefs and values are consistent with a state or district-issued set of subjective and opinionated guidelines. They believe that parents/guardians have the right to be partners in their children’s education, and together Nick and Jen will fight to reestablish the rights of all parents/guardians to raise their kids with each family’s unique and diverse set of values. Nick grew up in a public school household. His father, Nick Sr., well known around town for his archival videography, was a 30+ year elementary educator for the School District of Philadelphia and coached many of Nick’s baseball and basketball teams throughout his childhood. His mother, Lauren, known around town for her excellent Italian-American cooking, was an active member of the PTA throughout his childhood. His upbringing influenced Nick to take an active role in his children’s schooling, attending and/or chaperoning all of their school events, field trips, parties, and meetings. He maintains a warm and close relationship with the faculty and staff at their elementary and middle schools.

Nick has over 20 years of experience as a systems/security engineer in the defense industry. He received his BS and MS in Computer Engineering from Villanova University and obtained his Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) certification. He is the Vice President of an engineering labor association and is also a board member for his condominium association in Wildwood, NJ. In his free time, Nick enjoys spending his summers with his family at Cherry Valley Swim Club and on the beach in Wildwood. Nick also enjoys playing guitar, exercising, cooking spicy food, and making coffee with his French press and manual grinder. Nick is his daughters’ biggest cheerleader during swim meets and he enjoys helping coach their softball teams.

### **Jennifer L. Sharman – “Reestablish Family Values”**

#### **15 Whitman Avenue**

Jennifer Sharman has been a Cherry Hill resident for the past 8 years. She and her husband each have 2 children (3 sons ages 17, 20 and 21 and 1 daughter who is 24) and are a blended family. Her husband and all of their children have gone through the Cherry Hill Public School system ranging from Clara Barton to Carusi to Cherry Hill High School West. Her husband is a Marine Veteran who grew up in Cherry Hill and graduated from Cherry Hill West in 1991. Jennifer grew up in Northeast Philadelphia and has always admired Cherry Hill as a child. She has found memories of visiting Cherry Hill as a teenager

and often heard about Cherry Hill's great school system. When Jennifer had the opportunity to move to Cherry Hill she was thrilled that her children would be able to participate in such a strong academic and highly rated school system.

Jennifer has been a Registered Nurse for over 25 years and always wanted to earn her Bachelor's degree. In 2018, Jennifer's dream came true when she proudly earned a Bachelor's degree in Healthcare Administration at Peirce College. She has been working at a Medicaid and Medicare Health Insurance Company since 2012 and currently has the position of a Senior Clinical Quality Management Specialist. Jennifer's work experience and achievements as a registered nurse has given her a variety of strong skill sets in communication, health, education, collaboration, assessing needs and outcomes, performing under pressure and problem solving. These strong skill sets will be of great value when serving as a Board of Education Member.

Jennifer and her husband actively volunteer and are involved with a local Boy Scout Troop. Jennifer is the Advancement Chair responsible for managing and keeping record all the kids advancements and achievements. Her husband is the Scout Master and helps the Boy Scout Troop develop character and become active positive members of the community while having fun too. Jennifer's husband and three sons are all Eagle Scouts which is the highest achievement attainable in the Scouts BSA program. Only 4% of Scouts have earned this rank across the nation and demonstrates loyalty, citizenship and character. These are all traits that Jennifer's family try to live by. In her free time, Jennifer also has a creative side and enjoys being outdoors. She loves camping, gardening, painting, drawing and photography.

Jennifer decided to run as a Cherry Hill Board of Education candidate because she wants to help all students of this community improve their academic abilities so they can achieve their dreams and goals as well as be positive and strong members of the community. Academics, character, community and family values are very important to her. She looks forward to a chance to serve the amazing Cherry Hill Public School district as well as serving the children, families and the Communities.

**Cathy DeCampli**  
**109 Sawmill Court**

Cathy DeCampli is a public librarian working with teenagers and emerging technologies. She proposed and oversaw the creation of a new technology center featuring 3D printing, laser cutting, graphic design, and more for patron access. She reviews and purchases young adult books and teaches technology classes for seniors.

Mrs. DeCampli has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Trinity Washington University and a Master in Library and Information Science from Drexel University. She is certified as both a public and school librarian. Before her work in a public library, she was a high school librarian.

Mrs. DeCampli is running for a seat on the school board to help safeguard Cherry Hill's reputation for excellence that drove her to move here. If elected she will work to provide an equitable education to all students.

**Joel Mayer – "Raising Expectations"**  
**213 Gravel Bend Road**

Joel Mayer, JD, CCEP, was appointed in January 2022 to fill a vacant Board seat. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Mayer served as a community member of the Safety & Security Committee of the

Board. He is the parent of three student athletes in the Cherry Hill School District: all three at Cherry Hill West High School.

Mr. Mayer earned a Law Degree from Pepperdine University School of Law, Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Political Science and Psychology from Syracuse University, and a Certificate Degree in Leadership Development from Rutgers University. Mr. Mayer is a former prosecutor and former Chief Compliance Officer for the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, and managing director and chief regulatory counsel for a Fortune 500 company where he assisted federal and state legislators in drafting statutes and regulations protecting college and university students across the country. He is also a nationally recognized thought leader and lecturer on compliance and ethics issues in Higher Education. Mr. Mayer is a speaker and facilitator for a New Jersey based nonprofit providing resiliency training, organizational culture change, and stress management practices for first responders, including police departments and emergency management agencies.

A firm believer in the importance of a robust public education, Mr. Mayer grew up in a neighboring community where he admired the excellence and dedication towards students displayed by the Cherry Hill School District. Mr. Mayer has always solicited, valued, and benefitted from a wide diversity of opinions and is committed to assuring that Cherry Hill Public School students benefit from the life experiences and perspectives brought by the wide and diverse student and staff population at all educational levels. He enthusiastically supports and encourages diversity, equity, and experiential learning beyond the classroom.

A musician, former athlete, and avid youth sports coach, Mr. Mayer has coached boys and girls travel soccer for the past ten years with the Cherry Hill Soccer Club, coached lacrosse with the Cherry Hill Wildcats, and was head girls soccer coach for the South Jersey Delegation to the 2018 Maccabi Games in Orange County, CA. Mr. Mayer has been a Cherry Hill resident for 24 years where he lives with his wife, children, two dogs, and a constantly rotating tank of fish. The family enjoys hiking in Sedona, AZ, relaxing along the coast of Maine, and building outrageous sand resorts on the beaches of Ocean City.