

## Statement of Interest in Appointment to the Durham Public Schools Board of Education Consolidated District B Vacancy

In order to serve on the Board, a candidate must reside in school board consolidated district B, not be a convicted felon unless restored to the rights of citizenship, be a registered voter, be at least 21 years of age, and not be an employee of Durham Public Schools.

Additionally, all candidates should be prepared to fulfill responsibilities including participating in work sessions, monthly meetings, hearings, called meetings, school visits and regular communications with constituents.

Name: David Vanie

Address: 2710 E. Geer St Durham, NC 27704

Telephone: 9199099845 Email: David@needtrust.net

I hereby declare my interest in filling the vacant Consolidated District B seat on the Durham Public Schools Board of Education through June 30, 2022. I have read the DPS Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for School Board Members (1106) and agree that if I am appointed to the vacant seat I will comply with the code and with all other policies governing the conduct of board members.

I certify that I reside within the boundaries of Consolidated District B and that I am eligible to vote in elections for the Consolidated District B seat on the Durham Public Schools Board of Education.



8/12/2020

SIGNATURE

DATE

*The completed form must be delivered to Nicole Smith, School Board Executive Assistant, by 5 p.m. on August 12, 2020. The form may be delivered to Ms. Smith by electronic mail at [Nicole.Smith@dpsnc.net](mailto:Nicole.Smith@dpsnc.net) or by letter carrier at Durham Public Schools, 511 Cleveland Street, Durham, NC, 27702.*

**From:** [David Vanie](#)  
**To:** [Nicole Smith](#)  
**Subject:** Statement of Interest for DPS Board  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:53:37 PM

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To the Durham County School Board,

I am interested in serving as a member of the 2020 DPS board for four reasons that are grounded in the contextual consideration of the most marginalized people groups in our community. First, to serve simply as a mirror reflecting the impact DPS school cultures are having on the most vulnerable segments of our community. Secondly, to advocate for the continual development of a district wide culturally responsive community school pedagogy that creates increases inclusion and successful learning outcomes for families on the perimeter of privilege and power. Thirdly, to carry the burdens of families who have literally given up believing Durham Public School system is capable of being for their family's good. Lastly, to seek to use technology as an institutional equalizer to be a leveraging tool for students previously excluded from traditional AP pathways to success.

My experience to begin with is having had 4 children over the last 5 years enrolled between Glenn Elementary, Neal Middle School and Southern High Schools. We were previously a homeschooling family and chose intentionally to enter into DPS believing we need to be apart of the system in order to have an impact according to our hope for change especially spaces that had experienced the greatest history of divestment. I had the privilege to participate in organizing Glenn parents at PTA President a few years back when Glenn had been slated to be taken away from DPS control due to racial biased metrics. During that intense experience I had an opportunity to understand the depth of educational systemic injustice especially around the deeply painful ways schools like Glenn Elementary have been strategically "negatively zoned" with students, their families and resources to reflect a particular sentiment toward certain neighborhoods in Durham.

Recently this past spring before Covid changed everything I had spent a year collaborating with NCCU's FAB LAB and Communities in School to engineer a technology pilot program for 2nd and 4th graders at Glenn Elementary intended to cultivate hands on High-Tech trade skill development while nourish black genius family integration approaches. This program had been initially accepted by school support staff and was in the process of being funded by CIS. Of course we didn't get it launched but I wanted to share just so you all had a sense on where my heart and mind was and is in regards to the work before us in our community.

My wife and I own a trucking company which we have managed locally and regionally for last few years. This has given the freedom for me to be able to make and

mange my own schedule. We are in process of conducting interviews to hire our first driver which would free my time up for other things like this DPS school board appointment, serving my family and a the greater community of Durham in other ways. Being in attendance at meetings and fulfilling the time obligations for a seat on the DPS board of education would not be an issue. I'm grateful to be able to even write this letter to you all and hopeful for what's coming in this dope City of Durham.

I appreciate the opportunity to be a voice giving power back to the people closest to the pain. My two statements of support will be coming in separate emails.

With honor and respect,

David Vanie

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Let's RAP Family,  
David Vanie

**From:** [David Vanie](#)  
**To:** [Nicole Smith](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter of Recommendation for David Vanie  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 9:55:00 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Glenda Jones** <[gjones@sincerelyyourssalon.com](mailto:gjones@sincerelyyourssalon.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 10, 2020 at 9:30 AM  
**Subject:** Letter of Recommendation  
**To:** <[Vanietribe@gmail.com](mailto:Vanietribe@gmail.com)>

Glenda D Jones  
Sincerely Yours Salon  
[2718 Hillsborough Rd](#)  
[Durham, NC 27705](#)  
919-286-7777

Durham School Board:

I writing with the utmost confidence to recommend David Vanie for a position as School Board Member in Durham North Carolina. I have been honored to be Mr Vanie's friend and supporter for more than 10 years. His dedication to family and his community have been constant and ever-growing.

As a loving and involved father of 5 children, attending school in Durham County, Mr Vanie has had the opportunity to act as President of the PTA at Glenn Elementary School. While in this position he has demonstrated the ability to represent and serve a diverse community. He has worked to understand the collective needs of the community which ensures every deliberation, decision and action reflects the best interests of every student being served. Mr. Vanie has also used his strong organizational skills and abilities to effect positive change by working with others while continuing to stand strong in his convictions. Mr. Vanie has proven to be consistent, reliable, creative and highly intelligent.

As a business owner in Durham and graduate of Durham Public Schools, I believe that the Durham School Board would benefit from having someone directly connected to the community with an ability to think onward and upward. David Vanie's unique life experiences and characteristics have the ability to improve the effectiveness of the board and the community at large.

Mr Vanie is unquestionably an outstanding candidate for the position on the Durham Shool Board. He has proven himself to have the perseverance, initiative and leadership abilities necessary to thrive in this position. I would therefore like to recommend without hesitation that David Vanie be considered for the position on the Durham School Board. If you need additional details or have further questions regarding this recommendation feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Glenda D. Jones

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Let's RAP Family,  
David Vanie

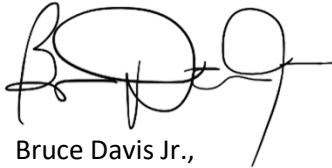
August 12, 2020

To whom it may concern;

I am writing this letter to share my enthusiastic support of David Vanie for the Durham Public Schools board. Durham would be fortunate to have a representative of his character and passion. He is a business owner, husband and father of five children with his lovely wife Tamara. I have known David for 12 years and his commitment goes far beyond the interests of his own children.

A new normal has emerged for our school systems and I believe David will work to support the evolving needs of students, parents, guardians, teachers and administrators. I know him to be an excellent listener that fully considers options before making decisions. I am inspired by his advocacy for equity and the integrity in which he serves his community. I believe his perspective and reasoned approach would make him a valued part of DPS.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Davis Jr.", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Davis Jr.,  
President, On Board Workforce  
2161 Wilmington Street Raleigh, NC 27603  
[www.onboardworkforce.com](http://www.onboardworkforce.com)  
919-275-0446