

## 2019-2020 Fairfax County Special Education PTA Officer Nominees

Elections Will Be Held on April 30, 2019

**PRESIDENT: Beth Eachus, Vienna**



Beth Eachus has been an active parent in FCPS for fourteen years and is mom to four children. She has a daughter at University of Michigan, a daughter and a son with autism attending James Madison HS and a 6th grader at Marshall Road ES, and has been married for 23 years to her best friend from high school. She currently serves as PTSA President at Madison HS but has also served as PTA



President at Thoreau MS and at Marshall Road ES, and has held various PTA executive board positions for the past 10 years. Beth also serves as Vienna Town Commissioner for Transportation and Safety and chairs the Bicycle Advisory Committee. She has been an enthusiastic recreational runner for over 20 years and coaches the run club at her children's elementary school.

**VICE PRESIDENT: Michelle Cades, Chantilly**

Michelle Cades is honored to be nominated to serve as VP for SEPTA after serving as



SEPTA's first liaison to the ACSD (Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities). She has dedicated her adult life to working with children with disabilities and their families. Michelle earned her MA in learning disabilities and taught students in Alexandria City Schools and at the Katherine Thomas School. She then earned her MSW and focused her social work practice on this population, working at KTS, Congregation Beth Emeth, Capital Camps, Matan, and USY. With three children who are all twice exceptional and have various chronic health diagnoses, Michelle's professional life merged with her personal life as she now primarily spends her time case managing her kids who are completing 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Oak Hill ES and 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grades at Chantilly HS. When on a "brain break" from special ed, Michelle enjoys reading, creating with her hands (crochet, baking, mosaics), playing mahjong, and cheering on the

Washington Capitals with her husband. Andv. and her licensed therapy doc. Gretzkv.

## **SECRETARY: Jennifer Kruzynski, Fairfax**



Jennifer Kruzynski is a teacher in FCPS with experience in both general education and special education classrooms. She moved to FCPS after teaching in Pennsylvania and abroad in St. Maarten in order to learn more about special education. She holds a master's in special education with a specialty in autism and is currently pursuing her doctorate in educational leadership with an administration and superintendent eligibility. Jennifer is currently working on developing special education programs abroad where she previously taught. Along with special education, Jennifer has a passion for

dance and the performing arts. Jennifer also coaches Special Olympics and runs an inclusive class and after school program at her school.

## **TREASURER: Rich Hem,**



Rich Hem is a graduate of Michigan State University and the father of two twice-exceptional kids, currently enrolled in middle school and high school in FCPS. He happens to be married to Laura Baker, the SEPTA 2e Committee Chair. Rich has over 20 years' senior management IT experience working in the non-profit/association industry. He has experience implementing accounting and financial reporting systems and has led multiple business intelligence projects. He is currently fulfilling the remaining 2018-19 term as the Fairfax County SEPTA Treasurer. Prior to his involvement with SEPTA, Rich served four years as President and two years as Treasurer of the Michigan

State University Alumni Club of Washington DC. His dream is for Michigan State to win the Rose Bowl again.

**Learn more about Fairfax County SEPTA at:**

**[www.fairfaxcountysepta.org](http://www.fairfaxcountysepta.org)**