

Elections 2026

Statement to Membership from Kimberley Bufton

Candidate for Parent Charter Board Member Position

January 29, 2026

Dear Members of the Westmount Charter School Board Nominating Committee,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Board of Directors for Westmount Charter School for another term. As you are aware, I am a current Board Member and as such, have the experience and desire to continue to serve the Westmount community. I have worked diligently with the Board over the past three years to bring the best leadership to Westmount and I would be grateful to be able to continue the work.

As a parent of a Westmount student, I am a strong supporter of Westmount's mission of nurturing the unique potential of gifted learners through the inside out philosophy. I would welcome the opportunity to continue to contribute and support the school's continued excellence and specialized approach to learning.

My background as a lawyer has equipped me with a strong foundation in factual analysis and critical evaluation of complex issues. I also bring a personal interest in gifted education. I have seen firsthand the transformative impact that an environment tailored to gifted learners can have—one that recognizes both their strengths and their unique social, emotional, and intellectual needs. Westmount Charter School's commitment to fostering a supportive, challenging, and inclusive learning community is very critical to the community it serves.

I would be honoured to contribute to the Board's work in advancing the school's strategic priorities and ensuring that Westmount is able to continue to offer an exceptional learning environment for gifted students. I am confident that my legal expertise, governance experience, and sincere dedication to the school's mission would add meaningful value to the Board.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,



Kimberley Bufton

Elections 2026

Statement to Membership from Joseph Lee

Candidate for Parent Charter Board Member Position

Statement of Background, Commitment to Board Membership, and Commitment to the Education of the Gifted

I am a Senior Acquisitions Engineer in business development, evaluating U.S. oil and gas royalty investment opportunities and presenting independent technical and economic recommendations to executive leadership and boards. My work involves building and reviewing detailed financial and risk models, stress-testing assumptions, and communicating clearly in high-accountability settings. Earlier in my career, I worked in investment banking and corporate finance supporting buy-side and sell-side M&A, preparing investment memorandums and management presentations. I hold a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of Alberta and have passed CFA Level II. Across these roles, I have developed a steady governance mindset—focused on stewardship, transparency, and sound decision-making based on evidence.

I am applying to the Board of Directors because I believe in this charter school's mission and I am personally committed to its long-term success as a parent of children attending the school. I understand board service is a fiduciary responsibility that requires consistency, judgment, and a community-wide perspective. If selected, I will bring disciplined preparation and follow-through: I will review materials in advance, attend meetings reliably, contribute constructively to discussion, and focus on governance rather than day-to-day operations. I am also prepared to commit time between meetings through committee work, policy review, strategic planning, and budget/financial oversight. I will uphold confidentiality, ask principled questions, and disclose and manage potential conflicts of interest transparently. Importantly, while I bring a parent's perspective, I will represent the interests of the entire school community and support decisions that strengthen outcomes for all students.

I am especially committed to the education of gifted learners. Gifted students thrive when learning is appropriately challenging, paced to readiness, and designed to develop both advanced academic skills and personal strengths such as curiosity, creativity, resilience, and character. I believe gifted education should be intentional and inclusive—recognizing potential across diverse backgrounds—and should provide enrichment and, when appropriate, acceleration, alongside strong social-emotional supports and a sense of belonging.

As a board member, I would support the school's gifted mission by helping sustain clear goals and measurable outcomes, responsible resource allocation, strong leadership and teacher support, and policies that reinforce excellence, equity, transparency, and continuous improvement.