

Dear families of Oconomowoc Area School District,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Michelle Kruger, I am lifelong Oconomowoc resident, and I am married and have four children. I have two boys and two girls their ages range from 12 to 4 years old. All four of my children attend school in the Oconomowoc Area School District.

I had unremarkable pregnancies and all of my children were presumed healthy at birth. It wasn't until my second born son turned six months old; I noticed that something was wrong. It took us five long years of unexplainable behavior, sensory issues and lack of verbal progress to get a diagnosis of Autism.

My son is now 11 years old. My family and I have endured a lot emotional ups and downs over these years, and worked tirelessly to integrate my son's vocabulary, sensory and emotions. My mission with my son has always been to make him the best he can be, love him each day, and accept him for who he is. If today is the best he can be great, if tomorrow brings better things, well then it's just icing on the cake.

Throughout the years as I struggled, I received encouragement and support from various resources such as family, friends, neighbors, teachers and school support staff. I have always felt an enormous amount of gratitude and knew that some day when I had more time, I was going to give back.

As the new Parent Liaison for Oconomowoc Area School District, my goal is to strive to improve communication between parents and the school district. I would like to partner with parents to provide a resource for information, conversation and support.

I believe Oconomowoc Area School District is embarking on many new endeavors. Lisa Dawes the Director of Student Services, has worked tirelessly to improve the services our children receive. The district is focusing on individual education for everyone, and utilizing the resources of our talented teaching staff to cross train and co-teach our children, at the school they would normally attend in the least restrictive environment.

Together we can strive for greatness in all our children, teach compassion and understanding. My hope is to break down walls, squash ignorance and help develop meaningful relationships for children as well as their parents.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to a positive year, with good things happening at the OASD.

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