

Jason Austin-BOD (2-year-term) Parent Member Seat Nominee



1. What interests you most about serving on the River Mill Academy Board of Directors?

The opportunity to say, “thank you” and to reinforce to our teachers and administrators their importance and value not only to our school, but also to our society. Additionally, I appreciate the chance to work with these professionals to discover new, innovative strategies that will help grow the minds of approximately 800 students.

2. How do you see your role contributing to the school’s mission and long-term success?

To achieve the school’s mission and to ensure continued success, we must maintain an engaging environment, a space where students, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders share an eagerness to participate in the process of learning. My goal will be to help strengthen this environment and help improve communication among all participants. I will not only share in this responsibility but will also help lead the efforts to ensure questions are answered and needs are met.

3. What professional or personal experience would you bring to the Board?

Every new building project that I’ve worked on begins as an idea. My role is to engage the process of transforming the idea into a physical space that functions to achieve the intended purpose. This requires vision, setting priorities, and the ability to effectively communicate with people across many different fields and to navigate a plethora of variables. This basic skill set is as applicable to building a stronger school community as it is to physical construction. Using this approach in working with various nonprofit organizations, I’ve been able to accomplish tasks that range from securing thousands of dollars in grants to installing a new roof on a church in 100-degree temperatures with a team of 14 girls to building a ramp so a 96-year-old lady could access her home.

4. What do you believe are the primary responsibilities of a Board of Directors?

The primary responsibility of the Board of Directors is to provide oversight and direction to the school by setting priorities, staying connected to RMA stakeholders, and monitoring progress. The Board helps guide decisions and ensures that resources and policies support strong teaching, meaningful learning, and the ability to adapt to changing needs.