

Washington County Daily News- Anne Utech

Headshot: 

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### **Biographical information (For Box)**

Name: Anne Utech

Age:44

Years living in district/municipality: since 2015

Occupation: Stay at home mom and owner of Anne's Helping Hands, LLC

Prior elected/appointed positions: PTA President at Amy Belle 2022-present

Prior convictions (if any): none

### **Election-related questions (limit responses to 100 words each)**

1. What inspires you to run for this position?

I'm running for School Board because our district needs new voices — especially parent voices. There is a clear lack of trust between parents, the community, the Board, administration, and staff. I want to help rebuild that trust and serve as a bridge between these groups. I'm ready to bring my experience in community involvement and relationship-building to the broader district and help move our school district forward together. I want my children, along with the rest of Germantown's students, to get a strong education that will set them up for success post high school.

2. What experience/attributes do you believe best qualify you for this position?

I've been involved at Amy Belle Elementary since 2019 as a parent, volunteer and PTA member. I currently serve as PTA President, leading fundraising efforts and organizing school events. In this role, I work closely with teachers and staff and have built strong relationships there. I've also begun volunteering and building connections at Kennedy. In addition, I coach youth sports through the Germantown Park & Recreation Department and the Germantown Jr. Warhawks volleyball league. These roles have given me a direct, day-to-day understanding of what students, teachers and families need to feel supported and succeed.

3. What do you think are the greatest needs/issues that the district should focus on right now?

I believe the most pressing issue facing our district is the lack of trust between parents, staff, the Board, and the administration. At the root of that distrust is poor and mis-communication. Another issue I see is providing access to high-quality education for all students while remaining fiscally responsible.

4. How (specifically) do you plan to work to address these needs?

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We can improve communication. First, the Board could send an email one week prior to committee and board meetings providing context for agenda items. Second, I would host a brief post-meeting podcast to explain the discussion and reasoning that shapes policy. Third, we should transcribe all meeting recordings. Transcriptions would make the information accessible to individuals of all abilities and make recordings searchable.

We can address the second issue by managing our budget wisely to focus on providing students with strong tools for learning through curriculum, investments in technology, maintaining our buildings and attracting (and retaining) high quality educators.