

**Imagine Wesley International Academy School Advisory Council
Parent Representatives
Voting Ballot**

PYP Boys

- Dr. Angela Birkes
- Lisa Chambless
- Erica Jong
- Niya Randall

PYP Girls

- Erica Jong
- Niya Randall
- Gabrielle Phillips

MYP Boys

- Gabrielle Phillips
- Shannon Wells
- Barbara Williams

MYP Girls

- Shemekia Terrell

Before you cast your vote, please see the reverse side for more information about each candidate.

Voting Guidelines:

1. Ballots must be turned in to the Main Office by the end of the school day on Tuesday, September 29. You may send it in with your student or drop it off in the Main Office.
2. You may vote for only one candidate for each position: PYP Boys, PYP Girls, MYP Boys and MYP Girls.
3. You may **not** vote for an individual candidate more than once. If you want to vote for a candidate for PYP Boys you may **not** vote for that same candidate in PYP Girls.
4. You may only turn in one ballot for each parent.

Thank you for participating in this important election for IWIA!

PYP CANDIDATES

Dr. Angela Birkes. Angela Birkes is currently a Research Specialist for the Research and Evaluation Department for the Dekalb County School System (DCSS). Key job responsibilities include analyzing quantitative and qualitative data from program evaluations, surveys, focus groups and other sources, reporting findings and making recommendations based upon the data analysis. She serves on the Research Review and the Charter Review Committees and make recommendations on the approval of research and charter petitions submitted to DCSS. In addition, she assists with the preparation of district-wide grant proposals and represents the Department of Research and Evaluation at meetings and professional conferences.

Lisa Chambless. My experience as a parent (of 5 boys!) and an educator make me uniquely qualified as a PYP representative to the SAC. I have survived through 14 years of parenting a blended family of 5 wonderfully unique and

challenging young men. Their ages are 26, 23, 23, 21, and 8. Collectively, our children have spent a total of 45 years in Atlanta Public Schools. Our son Iain is a 3rd grader in Ms. Perry's class at IWIA.

During the time my older boys were in APS, I faced the challenges of assuring that two of my sons with special needs were provided the services that they needed in order to be successful. Over the years I saw the positive influences that being educated in a diverse, public school had for our children. At the same time, I recognized that many of the students are underserved. When my children were at Grady High School, I volunteered in the counseling office for a year before deciding to pursue a graduate degree in education. I attended Georgia State University and received a Masters in Social Studies Education in 2003.

I began to work for Atlanta Public Schools and spent my first three 3 years teaching 8th grade at M.L. King, Jr. Middle School. During that time I earned my reading endorsement at GSU. While teaching at King Middle School I had the opportunity to develop a number of strategies that would reach a variety of learners with a broad range of abilities. Most of my students were challenged by their socio-economic circumstances and I learned to address their needs on an individual basis while meeting the requirements of the curriculum.

I taught at King for 3 years before transferring to Inman Middle School. While working at Inman for the past 4 years, as a teacher and team leader, I have reaped the benefits of an environment that is professionally challenging and educationally innovative. The depth and breadth of my experiences at these schools has provided me with an opportunity to teach children that live all over the city of Atlanta coming from many cultural backgrounds. I was received a Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence for 2008 CRCT scores from the Georgia Department of Education. In 2009, I was one of 112 teachers in the state that achieved the status of Master Teacher.

Erica Jong. Erica is a former School Clinical Social Worker, organic children's business owner, active community volunteer, positive and effective team player, and neurotic mother of two IWIA students. Erica's family has been involved with IWIA before it opened its doors in the Fall of 2007 and her goal is to continue her involvement to nurture a safe and stimulating environment for all students and a strong sense of community for all parents and staff.

She is committed to the charter's mission to be a school of choice teaching in a single-gender IB setting that encourages "the children to develop into global thinkers and lifelong learners."

Niya Randall. I am a new parent at IWIA of boy and girl Kindergarten twins. I have worked with children for years. I worked at The Children's School and I substitute at Cliff Valley and several mother's morning out programs in the city. I believe I would be a great person for the position because I bring new ideas energy and a desire.

MYP CANDIDATES

Gabrielle Phillips. My name is Gabrielle Phillips and I would like your support in electing me to the School Advisory Council for MYP boys. I am a parent of three students at Imagine Wesley. I feel very strongly about improving the communication between parents and the administration. The opportunity to have input on policies and procedures especially where middle is concerned would be a huge step toward the success of Imagine Wesley. I have many ideas for the middle school that I would like to see implemented into the program this year. For example, student government, student school newspaper, PSAT prep seminars, community service requirement, and last tutoring to help improve our math, reading and science scores on CRCT.

Shemekia Terrell. During Sierra's tenure at Whitefoord I was an active member of the PTA holding several offices. I go above and beyond when it comes to my child's education and will do so for all Imagine's students, staff, and parents.

Shannon Wells. Data Center Manager and is involved in day to day decision making. Has 2 children here at IWIA since school started.

Barbara Williams. Budgeting and Purchasing manager for a non-profit organization. Will bring many ideas/fundraising to IWIA. Have been a parent of 2 at IWIA since school started.