

My name is Lynnette Brouwer; I hold a Ph.D. in education with a focus in training and organization development, Master's in Public Administration, and B.S. in social science secondary education. I decided to run for the school board as a result of several elements:

- 1) The PUSD decision to eliminate the only counselor position in the Middle School,
- 2) My observations of School Board practice and process from attending School Board meetings, and
- 3) A belief that School Board process and decisions need to be more transparent, both before and after decisions are made, in order to build a better partnership with Rim Country businesses and residents.

I believe the school district needs to take a more predominant role in building relationships with community residents, businesses and social service organizations. This isn't to say that there aren't individuals in the school system who do just that. However, the school system needs to be front and center in initiating and building those relationships for the betterment of Rim Country kids.

I have two children in the PUSD system, one in middle school this year and the other in high school. We moved to Payson two years ago, and if it weren't for Byron Quinlon's actions as RCMS counselor, one of my daughters would have had a very difficult time here. When his position was eliminated, it made me stand up and take notice of what I had been letting slide by. I've heard way too many people say that the worst thing about Payson is the schools. Up until the middle school counselor position was eliminated, I rather minded my own business where the schools were concerned, just working to get my girls the best and safest education I could, in the PUSD system. However, with the elimination of that position, I could no longer ignore the system issues at work here that affect most, if not all, students.

In the spring of 2012 I began attending School Board meetings to speak to the counselor issue. I submitted letters to the editor with the same concerns I was expressing in the meetings. However, with each meeting I attended, I became more convinced that I had things to offer that were sorely needed in this School Board and the system. I taught university leadership, management, ethics and marketing as full-time faculty for two decades, and still teach those courses online since moving to Payson. I've initiated and managed student service learning

projects, and was instrumental in getting the new Unity of Payson church off the ground here. I know how to initiate projects and see them through to success.

I realize that PUSD, like most school districts, is in a financial pinch. My philosophy about that is threefold:

- 1) The money is out there, it just isn't where it used to be,
- 2) Therefore, we need to be more creative in how we seek out and put together financial resources, and
- 3) Strong community/school partnerships are more important than ever.