

Bill Couldry

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Donna Baker

Board Secretary

Serving as a school board member is a thankless job. Despite this, I see myself as a courageous individual that is willing to commit to this without expecting anything in return. I believe it is extremely important that you pick the right person for this position. In my humble opinion, people that run for this position should have certain qualifications. I feel I have those and have the ability and time to give. I have a willingness to serve and a passion for education. I am familiar and knowledgeable of the needs of the students and the community that I live in and serve. I have experience in the teaching field as an educator and an administrator. I can discern and prioritize the importance of the various issues that affect our school and our community. I look forward to the opportunity to serve on board and look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,



Doctor William Couldry

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCIES
(Application for a Vacated Board Position—Urban Districts)

The board of education is required by law to fill vacancies on the board created when a board member leaves office prior to the end of an elected term. The board is responsible for appointing an eligible person to fill the vacancy until the next April election, at which time a candidate will be elected to fill the remainder of the term, if any, or the new term. This application will serve as written notice that you are eligible and wish to be considered for the current board vacancy. If selected, your service will begin immediately after you are sworn in and will continue until the person elected in the April 7 , 20 26 , election is sworn in. You are also welcome to sign up to be a candidate in the April election when candidate filing begins in December.

The board requires all individuals who wish to be appointed to the board to meet the eligibility requirements for school board candidates under Missouri law. Therefore, to be eligible for appointment to the board you must:

1. Be a citizen of the United States of America. Mo. Const. art. VII, § 8.
2. Be a voter of the St. Joseph School District. § 162.471, RSMo.
3. Have resided in Missouri for a minimum of one year immediately preceding your appointment, if selected. Mo. Const. art. VII, § 8; § 162.471, RSMo.
4. Be at least 24 years of age. § 162.471, RSMo.
5. Not be delinquent in the payment of any state income taxes, personal property taxes, municipal taxes or real property taxes on your place of residence as listed on this form. If an applicant is a past or present corporate officer of any fee office, that office cannot be delinquent in the payment of any taxes owed the state. § 115.306, RSMo.
6. Not have been found guilty of nor pled guilty to a felony under the federal laws of the United States of America or to a felony under Missouri law or an offense committed in another state that would be considered a felony in Missouri. § 115.306, RSMo.
7. Not be registered or required to be registered as a sex offender under § 162.014, RSMo.
8. Have filed, or the treasurer of any existing candidate committee has filed, all required campaign disclosure reports with the Missouri Ethics Commission, when applicable, for all previous elections in which you were a candidate. § 130.071, RSMo.

FILE: BBE-AF1
Critical

Upon completion and submission of this application, you will be provided:

1. A copy of the board policy for filling board vacancies (BBE).
2. Notice of your potential obligation to file a personal financial disclosure statement with the Missouri Ethics Commission within 30 days of your appointment to the position (BBE-AF2).
3. A summary of the laws the Missouri Ethics Commission enforces.
4. A copy of the board conflict of interest policy (BBFA).
5. A copy of the board ethics policy (BBF).

Please complete the following. Attach additional sheets if necessary. All information provided will be subject to public disclosure under the Missouri Sunshine Law.

Name: Dr. William (Bill) Couillard

Address: 

How long have you lived in the district? 7 1/2 years

1. Why do you want to serve on the board of education? see attached
2. Please describe your current and past involvement with the district or any of its schools (for example, PTO activities, committees, booster clubs, etc.):
3. Please describe your current and past involvement with any nonschool-related civic, nonprofit or community organizations:

1. As a member of the school board, I can share my educational knowledge and life experience to benefit our schools and community. I believe in quality public education for current and future students.
2. I served on the finance committee and have attended board meetings. I have substituted in Saint Joe's school system at Benton, Central, Lafayette, Hosea, and Bessie Ellison schools. Also, I have attended sporting events. I have been a CASA for Buchanan County for three years.
3. I am the past potentate for Moila shrine, member of South side Sertoma, serve on the board for Farm to Table Breakfast of Northwest Agri Business board. The City Council appointed me as a member of the Zoning and Planning board in March 2025 for a three-year term.

4. For 25 years I was an elementary, middle school, high school principal and assistant superintendent. I taught at Missouri Western State University for nine years. Served as assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance for Excelsior Springs schools. Served as a state evaluator for buildings and district administrators. Served on the team for the state that audited the Kansas City school system, and other schools in Northwest Missouri.

5. Students first – Inspiring, educating, and celebrating, learning. I believe in providing an exceptional learning environment that empowers every student to succeed in life today and tomorrow. High expectations, high achievement is the goal for every building.

6. The Board of education plays a critical role in shaping and overseeing Saint Joseph schools in the district, acting as a liaison between the community and the school system, putting students first.

4. Please list skills you have that you believe would be an asset to the district's leadership team:

5. In one or two sentences, describe your vision for this district: _____

6. In one or two sentences, explain the proper role of the board of education: _____

The board meets 2 time(s) per month on 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

In addition to board meetings, you will be expected to allocate time to adequately prepare for meetings, perform committee work and complete training sessions both in and occasionally outside the district. Your estimated weekly time commitment is about 4 hours per week.

All newly elected or appointed board members are required to complete an 18.5-hour training program within one year of their election or appointment. If you run for and are elected to the board at the next election, you will also need to complete one hour of refresher training during each subsequent year you serve as a board member.

Are you aware of any conflicts that would regularly interfere with your ability to commit to this amount of time? Yes No

Are you aware of any conflicts of interest you may have in serving on the board? Yes No

A conflict of interest might be having ownership in a business that does business with the district, having a relative employed by the district, or serving on another board of directors or in another elected office. A conflict of interest does not necessarily disqualify you from board service, but may require certain procedures and disclosures to be used. If you have possible conflicts, please describe them: NONE

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
§ 162.203, RSMo.	State Statute
§ 162.261, RSMo.	State Statute
§ 162.471, RSMo.	State Statute
Mo. Const. art.VII § 11	State Constitution

Cross References	Description
AA	SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL STATUS



We're your Shield.
We're your Shelter.

John Anderson



To: Saint Joseph School Board

Date: May 5th, 2025

Re: Vacant Seat- School Board Candidate

Dear Saint Joseph School Board,

It is a privilege, pleasure, and honor to recommend Bill Couldry as a candidate for the vacant seat on the Saint Joseph School Board. I currently serve with Bill in Sertoma and have known him for the last 4-5 years.

I have owned 3 businesses in St. Joseph, and I am the current owner of the John P Anderson Agency LLC- Shelter Insurance. I met Bill at numerous business and chamber meetings, and we became great friends. We quickly understood that each of us has deep care and love for others, and doing the right thing.

Bill is a busy man but puts 100% into anything he starts. From helping veterans, representing children in court, serving with Sertoma, or cooking for Noyes Home or other events, Bill is a man that gives back!

I can't think of a better man to support our community, our teachers, and the growth and development of our youth.

Thanks for your consideration,

John P Anderson- owner

May 3, 2025

Donna Baker
Board Secretary
St Joseph School Board
1415 N 26th Street
St. Joseph, MO 64506

RE: Board Position

It is my pleasure to recommend Bill Couldry as a candidate for the vacant School Board position. I have known Bill for many years. He is active in our community and as a retired educator, he has an interest in seeing our school district thrive.

He has spent twenty-five years working in education serving as elementary, middle school and high school principal; assistant superintendent of schools, and chief financial officer for Excelsior Springs. His background in education would make him an excellent candidate for our Board. He clearly comes with an understanding of school funding, and the needs of students and staff.

Bill would make an excellent and positive contribution to the school board. He is dedicated to serving others. I have collaborated with him in several organizations. He is a team player and an asset to any team that he is on.

Sincerely,


Judith Hausman

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2 May 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my sincere honor to write this letter of recommendation in support of **Dr. William (Bill) Couldry, Ed.D.**, as a candidate for the **St. Joseph School District Board of Education**.

Dr. Couldry is a distinguished and dedicated public servant whose career spans more than five decades of meaningful service to both country and community. A proud veteran of the United States Air Force during the Vietnam era, Dr. Couldry continued his lifelong commitment to public service through a remarkable career in education. His 25 years in the field—including 16 years as a teacher and administrator in local public schools, and 9 years as a respected faculty member at Missouri Western State University—demonstrate both deep experience and an enduring passion for student success.

Beyond the classroom, Dr. Couldry has played an active and vital role in shaping the St. Joseph community. His leadership extends across a wide range of organizations, including service on the **St. Joseph Planning Commission** (by mayoral appointment), the **Sertoma Club**, the **Farm Table Breakfast Board**, the **Northwest Missouri Agricultural Business Board**, and his generous volunteer efforts with the **United Way**. His commitment to improving local health and wellness is equally evident in his nine-year tenure as **County Health Officer and Epidemiology Specialist**, where his contributions to health research culminated in a published article in the **New England Journal of Medicine** in 2013.

Throughout his career, Dr. Couldry has exemplified integrity, sound judgment, and an unwavering belief in the value of public education. His broad-based experience, paired with his proven leadership and deep-rooted investment in the St. Joseph community, uniquely qualify him to serve on the School Board. He brings not only the insight of an experienced educator, but the perspective of a strategic thinker who understands governance, public policy, and the needs of our diverse student population.

I strongly and without reservation endorse Dr. Bill Couldry for a position on the **St. Joseph School District Board of Education**. He is a man of conviction, vision, and action—exactly the kind of leader our schools and our students deserve.

With highest regard,

Tim Conard
President

