

*Teresa C. Blumer*

Hi! My name is Terri Blumer. I was born and raised in Charlotte and reside in Union County with my husband, Paul and son, Andrew. I'm a Christian, wife, mother, sister, friend and patriot. I am CEO of our business and our manufacturing plant is in Monroe. I also teach group fitness classes and sing in our local church, Lee Park.

We moved into Union County in 2006 specifically for the outstanding school system we had heard so much about. We were in the process of adopting a boy with severe developmental delays and wanted a smaller, better school setting for him. Thus began our in-depth journey into education. Upon Andrew's autism diagnosis in 2007, our journey moved into the Exceptional Children's education area. I could probably write a book on all we have experienced but I'll save that for another time.

Over the years of Andrew's time in school, I've been involved in multiple areas. I was a room parent for most of the elementary years. I served on the PTSO committee as secretary during middle school and supported his class and school during his high school as much as possible.

Outside of school involvement, I served as a board member with First In Families (ARC of Union County) from 2014 – 2017. I have served on Parents of Collaborative Leaders Board (3 years) and Parents Advisory Board (3 years). These groups were created under "Families Support Network of Southern Piedmont" and we worked with local leaders to create better solutions (medical, scholastic, jobs, society, etc.) for all Special Needs individuals. I also served on the Special Needs Advisory Council for Union County Schools representing parents for the SunValley district.

I have several reasons for wanting to serve on the Union County School Board, and I'll do my best to keep it simple.

1. I feel a desire to give back to the schools and community and to serve them.
2. I realize the importance of protecting our children's rights as well as parental rights and I'm willing to fight for that.
3. I am in a unique position of being immersed in a community of special needs families that need people to lead and continue advocating for them; like Gary Sides did.
4. My strongest reason: We have carved a good path for strong parental rights and getting back to solid education fundamentals. Together, we can make it better!

Thank you for your consideration and I truly hope to serve Union County in this position.

Sincerely,

*Terri C. Blamer*