

TOWN OF WATERBURY VERMONT
Application Form for Town Commissions, Boards, and Committees

Please submit your application to *one* of the below:

In person or by mail: Board Search, Town of Waterbury, 28 N. Main St. Waterbury, VT 05676 or by
email to: karen@waterburyvt.com

Please supply the following information:

1) Review the scheduled meeting day/time of the Commission, Board, or Committee along with the length of the term of the position. Will you be able to regularly make the meetings? N Will you be able to serve for the term of the position? N

2) Please introduce yourself to the Selectboard by providing a one page cover letter detailing your background, experience, and interest in the board/commission/committee you are applying for. A 1-2 page resume is optional.

Name of Applicant: Pamela (Pam) Eaton

Date: March 27, 2025

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Name of Commission/ Board/ Committee and term (if known):

HUUSD School Board

How many years have you served on this Committee? 0 Years

If you serve on another Commission/Board/ Committee, please indicate which one(s):

NA

If you were referred or recommended for this position by someone, please share that reference's name and contact information.

NA

Waterbury Resident: / N (circle one)

Please note, applicants are asked to attend the selectboard meeting at which volunteers will be nominated to their respective positions. If you cannot attend, please email [Karen@waterburyvt.com](mailto:karen@waterburyvt.com) in advance of the meeting to provide additional background information.

All policies that apply to the town's Select Board also apply to all boards, commissions, and committees. Policies may be found at www.waterburyvt.com/ordinances.

For hard copies or accessibility accommodations please contact: Karen Petrovic; karen@waterburyvt.com

Dear HUUSD Board Chair Woods and Superintendent Leichliter,

My name is Pam Eaton, and I am writing to express interest in being appointed to the HUUSD School Board as a representative for Waterbury.

As a parent and community member, I care about the quality of our schools. When my husband and I first were looking at houses in Vermont in 2012, I pulled the annual reports from the various area schools to see how many kids were in a classroom, the graduation rates, and acceptance rates into college. Waterbury had exceptionally high numbers and I was lulled into believing our schools were thriving and supported by the community.

However, when it came time to enroll my son in kindergarten, my family decided to send him to private school (Mountain River School, which has since closed). The reason for this was that I saw Waterbury students struggling after the pandemic. I saw the school infrastructure bond get voted down by the district, even though that bond would have allowed Harwood High School to be significantly updated for the first time since before we put people on the moon. And I have seen school budgets get repeatedly voted down, even though it means we are losing teachers and programs that our students rely on. This year the school budget passed on the first vote, but that budget already promised to cut teachers and increase class sizes. In short what I saw was a school system that is not fully supported and embraced by the community. That harms our students and our towns.

My family is now in the HUUSD school system because Mountain River School closed. My son is a second grader at Brookside Elementary School. The decisions of the HUUSD Board no longer just impact my community, but my son's learning directly. I no longer think it is enough to simply read the newspaper about the changes to our schools (as mandated by the State or decided on by the HUUSD school board) and vote on the budgets.

I want to be on the HUUSD School Board to better understand the decisions that are being made that impact our students daily. I want to be on the board to help promote effective learning spaces for our children. I want to be on the board to help promote community engagement that will support our schools. And I am especially interested in participating on the board as the current school district consolidation proposals from the State will impact our schools.

As a taxpayer, I understand that the decisions we make for our schools impact my property taxes. But I also firmly believe that the decisions we make for our schools should consider more than the impact on property taxes, but also look at what is best for our children and community. An exceptional school system will not only provide the students the learning they need for their futures, but also attract new families to the area, encourage business growth, and provide a pipeline of future community leaders.

I have the skill set necessary to be a member of the HUUSD School Board. I am an attorney by trade, which means I have been trained to read and synthesize information, ask questions, and help drive workable solutions. I also have board experience from my time on the Vermont Bar Association's Board of Bar Managers and the Vermont Young Attorneys' Board.

Thank you for considering my interest in being appointed for this position.

Sincerely,

Pam Eaton

[REDACTED]