

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
JOINT MEETING WITH THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
NORTHBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
427 LINWOOD AVENUE – WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588
November 22, 2022 at 6:00 PM**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I. APPOINTMENTS/INTERVIEWS: School Committee [1 vacancy]

- 1) Rebecca Jackson
- 2) Brandon King
- 3) Talia Berkowitz
- 4) Carl Cowen

II. Adjourn

Town Clerk: 2 Hard copies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Web: Post time-stamped copy	<input type="checkbox"/>

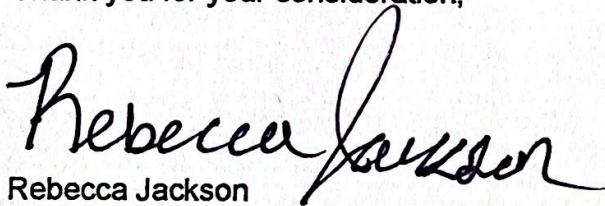
1.)

Letter of Intent

To whom it may concern,

Please use this letter as my formal request to join School Committee for the Northbridge Public Schools. I have a Masters in Effective teaching, over 6 years of experience teaching High School Science in some of the lowest performing districts in MA and RI in the public and charter sectors. I have worked with a large spectrum of secondary students from students with extensive social-emotional needs, to newcomer ESL cohorts, to high-performing honors and pre-AP. I am also the mother of a 19 month old future Northbridge Ram. I have seen first hand how essential it is that the many pieces of a community that make up a school work together- parents, teachers, administrators and students. Having been on founding teams for new schools as a teacher and department chair, I have seen these communities thrive, and also fail. My goal as a member of this town's school committee will be to maintain the goal I have always had in education- to support equity, safety and exceptional education of our students. I believe parents are partners, and student and teacher success and happiness are inextricably linked. I believe that the best schools thrive with compassionate and forward thinking administration. I also know the many, many pressures public schools are balancing from all sides of the political space right now, and I look forward to listening, learning, and providing insight to solve these complex issues so that we can provide a robust, holistic and rigorous education for all students.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'R'.

Rebecca Jackson

TALENT BANK APPLICATION

please return to:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Northbridge Town Hall
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Date: 11/15/2022

Name Rebecca Jackson

P. O. Box _____

Home Address ~~80 Goldswade Rd.~~ Whitinsville, MA 01588

Email Address ~~rmjackson75@gmail.com~~

Telephone ~~978-875-2835~~ Cell _____

Business _____

Address _____ Tel. _____

Current Occupation/Title Success Coach - Pathstream

Education Masters in Effective Teaching - Spasato Graduate School of Ed
B.S. - UMass Amherst

Governmental, Civic & Community Activities _____

Charitable & Educational Activities Taught H.S. Science for 6 years
at various urban schools in MA & RI

Town Committees or Offices _____

I am interested in the following Committees: School Committee

Please indicate whether the applicant and/or any family members are employed by the Town of Northbridge. N/A

NAME: Rebecca Jackson

PRECINCT# 4

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

COMMITTEE INTEREST (Indicate Committee preference)

- | | |
|---------------------|----|
| 1. School Committee | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Present Interest or business affiliation (dates, places)

Experience: Volunteer, social service, business (dates, places)

Special skills and education (be specific)

M.Ed degree, MA license 5-8, 8-12 ^{General} Science + Biology
SEI Endorsed, ESL experience, vast knowledge of
MCAS Standards & NGSS aligned curriculum, passionate
about Project Based Learning & equitable education for all learners.

How experience relates to particular committee interest

See Resume & Letter of Interest.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mail completed form to:

Northbridge Town Hall
Office of the Town Manager
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Rebecca Jackson

80 Gallopwater Rd. Whitinsville MA, 01588 | Phone: 978-875-2835 | rebeccajackson75@gmail.com

Devoted educator with over 6 years experience in researching, planning and implementing curriculum to drive learning outcomes for a diverse population. Skilled in critical thinking and strategic planning for continuous growth . Passionate about a student-centered approach to problem solving. Seeking to close achievement gaps through designing accessible education and facilitation that empowers individuals with skills to make a positive impact.

Professional Experience

Student Success Coach- Pathstream

April 2022-Present

- Generate Student Insights: Analyze quantitative results and qualitative insights from outreach to help Pathstream better understand how to serve students
- User Research: Assist with targeted user interviews to answer key business questions.
- Student Communication/Coaching Calls: Host structured coaching calls with students to provide them with clear and evidence-based resources related to time management, goal setting, and studying.

Milford Public Schools | Milford, MA

July 2019- April 2022

Biology Teacher

- Created and delivered high-impact learning experiences through project-based and experiential assessment
- Repurposed all written assignments to online and virtual assignments
- Converted synchronous material to asynchronous to aide in virtual learning
- Hosted live video trainings for course participants
- Implemented strategic communication efforts with stakeholders in order to maintain and improve engagement.
- Conducted performance gap analysis to assess current state and prioritize performance issues

Blackstone Valley Prep Mayoral Academy | Cumberland, RI

August 2017-June 2019

Lead Science Teacher

- Created multi-year initiatives for vertical alignment of content within the department for a comprehensive skills-based curriculum
- Designed leadership protocols that leveraged the unique strengths of each team member
- Performed data analyses and reporting on progress of organizational initiatives as a member of the extended leadership team.
- Provided one on one instructional coaching to 4 members of the department
- Designed and facilitated full company trainings
- Acted as academic mentor to 17 students 9-12, with a focus on college readiness

Lawrence Public Schools 9th Grade Academy | Lawrence, MA

August 2016- June 2017

Biology Teacher

- Developed curriculum and various materials for diverse clients with specific learning needs, including learning disabilities and English as a second language
- Collaborated closely with stakeholders and colleagues to innovate ways to meet large organizational goals quickly
- Used frequent, data-driven modifications to content to ensure performance outcomes were achieved

Education and Certifications

University of Massachusetts | Amherst, MA

Bachelor of Science (**B.A.**), *Environmental Science*

Minor, *Education*

Charles Sposato Graduate School of Education | Boston, MA

Masters in Effective Teaching (**M.E.T**)

MA SEI Endorsement- Spring 2016

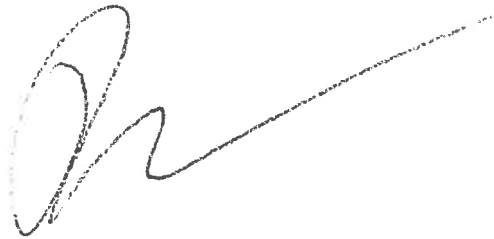
2.)

Letter Of Intent

To the Board of Selectman,

Please accept this letter as notice of my intent to be considered for the open school committee position. I will be present at the 11/22/2022 school committee meeting at 6pm to meet with the remaining board members and the selectman to be considered for this position.

Brandon King

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brandon King', written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

TALENT BANK APPLICATION

please return to:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Northbridge Town Hall
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Pursuant to Town bylaw §4-209 (Eligibility for service),
you must be a registered voter in order to serve.

Date: 11-14-22

Name Brandon King

P. O. Box _____

Home Address ~~xxxxxxx~~ Whitinsville MA 01747

Email Address ~~xxxxxxx~~ King21570@gmail.com

Telephone ~~xxxxxxx~~ _____ Cell _____

Business _____

Address _____ Tel. _____

Current Occupation/Title electrician

Education High school, trade school (Master)

Governmental, Civic & Community Activities Current president of NSEPAC

Charitable & Educational Activities _____

Town Committees or Offices NSEPAC president

I am interested in the following Committees: School committee

Please indicate whether the applicant and/or any family members are employed by the Town of Northbridge. No

NAME: Brandon King

PRECINCT#

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

COMMITTEE INTEREST (Indicate Committee preference)

- | | |
|---------------------|----|
| 1. School Committee | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Present Interest or business affiliation (dates, places)

Northbridge Special Education parent Advisory Council

Owner - King & Petric electric inc.

Owner - Special Dads of the Valley

Experience: Volunteer, social service, business (dates, places)

3 years on NSEPA board (2 as secretary 1 as president)

Special skills and education (be specific)

Dedicated to the betterment of the Northbridge school system

How experience relates to particular committee interest

I've been attending School Committee meets & school sponsored events "Better Together"
working with surrounding towns for united sports

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mail completed form to: Northbridge Town Hall
Office of the Town Manager
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

3.)

November 15, 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am requesting your consideration to fill the vacated seat on the Northbridge School Committee. I have taught inclusion special education, having both an early childhood and moderate disabilities teaching license. I am currently teaching kindergarten special education in a co-teaching model. I have completed advocacy training and also have my dyslexia certification. This is my 15th year working in public schools as a teacher. Prior to that I worked 2 years as a paraprofessional in the substantially separate PK classroom administering ABA programs. I have a Masters degree in early childhood education and continuously pursue professional development as the world of education is always evolving. I have also been involved in numerous negotiation committees via the teachers union.

I have two boys who attend Northbridge schools and have been a resident for 26 years, having gone through the very same school system and being a member of the first class to graduate our new high school. My boys have attended NPS since preschool, and are now in 2nd and 4th grades. We have also been involved in the special education realm since then as well and have had the pleasure of working with so many amazing teams.

As such, I currently serve on the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee as treasurer as well as on the Oxford School Council. I'm also lucky enough to have helped coach lacrosse last season. Our family has been involved with fostering puppies for various rescues for the last 6 years and we maintain a free little library outside our home for community use.

I feel having the perspective of a longtime community member, parent, special educator and special education parent who is invested in their community would be a benefit to the committee when looking to creating policies and strengthening our schools. My intent in applying for this position is to do the most amount of good possible for not only the current students of Northbridge to succeed, but for future generations as well. Whether that lie in creating inclusive policy or an educationally sound budget, my hope is that my knowledge of education and experience working in it, as well as my dedication to this town, will be an asset to the other 4 members serving, as well as our district.

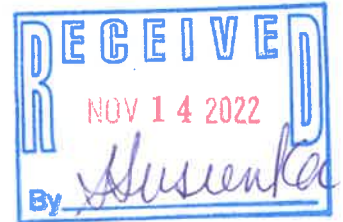
Thank you for your time and consideration,

Talia M. Berkowitz

TALENT BANK APPLICATION

please return to:

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Northbridge Town Hall
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588**



**Pursuant to Town bylaw §4-209 (Eligibility for service),
you must be a registered voter in order to serve.**

Date: 11/14/2022

Name Talia Berkowitz

P. O. Box _____

Home Address XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX st Whitinsville

Email Address XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@aol.com

Telephone XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Cell _____

Business _____

Address _____ Tel. _____

Current Occupation/Title teacher, Kindergarten special education

Education Master degree plus 60 credits

Governmental, Civic & Community Activities assist lacrosse team

Charitable & Educational Activities constant professional development in regards to education

Town Committees or Offices ∅

I am interested in the following Committees: school committee

Please indicate whether the applicant and/or any family members are employed by the Town of Northbridge. ∅

NAME: *Talia Berkowik* PRECINCT# *1*

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

COMMITTEE INTEREST (Indicate Committee preference)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 1. <i>school committee</i> | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Present Interest or business affiliation (dates, places)

Special Education Parent Advisory treasurer, puppy foster for 6 years through various rescues

Experience: Volunteer, social service, business (dates, places)

taught special / regular ed for 15 years, worked as para prior, knowledgeable on special ed law / policies, early childhood and social skills / programs

Special skills and education (be specific)

Knowledge of what it's like to be a special educator as well as a special education parent

How experience relates to particular committee interest

Thank you for your consideration.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mail completed form to:

Northbridge Town Hall
Office of the Town Manager
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

4.)

Carl W. Cowen
~~158 Northbridge~~
Northbridge, MA 01534

To Whom It May Concern,

I am very interested in filling the vacancy on the Northbridge School Committee and serving the community of Northbridge.

I have been a resident of Northbridge for over fourteen years. My daughter, Sarah, is a junior at Northbridge High School and has been in the Northbridge Public Schools since kindergarten. My wife is currently the Program and Volunteer Coordinator for Plummer Place (Northbridge Senior Center).

Through my twenty-three years in the active-duty Army, I gained direct experience in managing multi-tiered complex organizations and have been a staff team member in such organizations. I have had many previous work responsibilities for multi-million dollar budgets and hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of equipment.

With regard to understanding the inner workings of schools, I was the department head for the Junior ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) program at Rogers High School in Newport, RI for six years. As a district-recognized department head, I had the privilege of being a member of the high school's leadership team with the principal, vice principal and other department heads. Additionally, I was a class room instructor of the Army JROTC curriculum.

I look forward to speaking with you and answering questions about my experiences and qualifications as they relate to the school committee position.

Sincerely,


Carl W. Cowen

Carl W. Cowen

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Competencies

**Leadership Budget Analysis/Management Operations Management Teaching/Training
Staff Development Asset Management (Facilities) Human Resources Program Building**

Professional Experience

Department Head, Rogers High School, Newport, RI **2012 – 2018**
Teacher and Department Head of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) at a Title I public high school with 650 students. Maintained compliance with Army regulations and school district policies.

- Increased overall program enrollment by 27% within 10 months
- Reinstated adherence to existing school policies and standards within the department over a sixty day period with no adverse effects to retention in the program
- Generated meetings, tours and discussions with administration to establish a plan for capital improvement funds to be invested in updating classroom and office spaces
- Developed an in-school tutoring program for at risk students

Director, Army ROTC, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), Worcester, MA **2008 – 2011**
Supervised a staff of 13 to administer the training and development program for 85 (annually) Senior Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) student cadets at WPI and eight other area colleges. Managed \$2.5 million in scholarships.

- Sustained a 90% retention rate of students in the program – 9th highest of 42 total peer programs
- Selected over many other candidates to develop and lead a Department of Defense sanctioned culture and language immersion program in Panama for 26 nationally selected college students
- Worked with WPI staff, architects and construction managers to develop new, multi-million dollar office space which resulted in a professional and functional work environment completed on schedule and within budget

Chief of Staff, Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), Fort Devens, MA **2007-2008**
Led a staff of 13 to support 19 university Army ROTC programs with enrollment of over 2500 students and 310 cadre throughout the six New England states and the state of New York. Managed an operational budget of \$1.3 million and the distribution of \$30 million in scholarships.

- Outperformed 13 other peer organizations across the U.S. for meeting mission of commissioning new lieutenants into the U.S. Army
- Organized all facets of two three-day conferences for 125 attendees; the conferences were lauded by a CEO-level leader (two-star general)
- Oversaw the bidding, contracting, and construction of a 200 person capacity (8,000 sq ft) conference room

Liaison to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Eastern Region, Burlington, MA **2005-2007**
Performed inter-governmental agency coordination within the National Airspace System throughout 13 states and the District of Columbia to protect critical Army aviation training. Interacted daily with members of the FAA and local politicians' staff throughout the area.

- Consolidated three regional offices on schedule and without any loss of continuity of operations
- Collaborated with the FAA and Pennsylvania Army National Guard to resolve protected airspace issues which enabled the continuation of critical pre-combat deployment training

Aviation Special Staff Officer, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, HI **2003-2005**
Directed a staff of 15 to manage the request process for all Army aircraft (115 combat helicopters) for a multi-national force in Afghanistan during a year-long deployment. Engaged the public regarding the impact of Army aviation operations on the surrounding communities of Hawaii.

- Coordinated aviation-related actions to support larger training events for a 15,000 person organization (an Infantry Division)
- Revised the 500+ page Division Readiness Standard Operating Procedure (RSOP) governing all tasks for emergency notification and deployment of 12,000 service members from Hawaii

Operations Manager, Helicopter Battalion, Wheeler Army Airfield, HI **2001-2003**
Coordinated the efforts of eight staff departments consisting of 40 people supporting a 500 person aviation organization.

- Developed and implemented all training and operations for five subordinate organizations totaling 500 people, 41 helicopters and 63 wheeled vehicles
- Managed the care and maintenance of over \$170 million in aircraft, vehicles and other equipment

Education

MA, International Relations, (**Distinguished Graduate**), Saint Mary's University, San Antonio, TX
BA, Public Relations, Spanish Minor, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA
U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS
U.S. Army Flight School (Rotary Wing), Fort Rucker, AL

Volunteer Experience

Volunteer, Northbridge Public Schools, Northbridge, MA 2011 – Present
Volunteer, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Classic Charity Ride, New England Chapter 2009 – Present

TALENT BANK APPLICATION

please return to:

BCARD OF SELECTMEN
Northbridge Town Hall
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588

Pursuant to Town bylaw §4-209 (Eligibility for service),
you must be a registered voter in order to serve.

Date: 11/17/22

Name Carl W. Cowen

P. O. Box _____

Home Address ~~150 Nixka Avenue~~ Northbridge, MA 01534

Email Address ccowen60@yahoo.com

Telephone _____

Cell: ~~978-228-3679~~

Business _____

Address _____ Tel. _____

Current Occupation/Title Not working

Education BA - Public Relations
MA - International Relations

Governmental, Civic & Community Activities NMS Principal Search Committee
NHS School Council SY 21/22
Assistant Track Coach - NHS Spring '22

Charitable & Educational Activities _____

Town Committees or Offices _____

I am interested in the following Committees: School Committee

Please indicate whether the applicant and/or any family members are employed by the Town of Northbridge. My wife, Amy Cowen, is the Program and Volunteer Coordinator at Plummer Place

NAME: *Carl Cowen*

PRECINCT# *4*

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

COMMITTEE INTEREST (Indicate Committee preference)

1. *School*

4.

2.

5.

3.

6.

None

Present Interest or business affiliation (dates, places)

As listed on 1st page

Experience: Volunteer, social service, business (dates, places)

*Twenty-three years active duty as an Army officer. Served in
Special skills and education (be specific)
Numerous command (leadership) and staff positions around the US
and in other countries.*

*Six years as a Junior ROTC instructor (teacher) at Rogers High School,
Newport, RI.*

How experience relates to particular committee interest

- Decades of developing young people - 1st soldiers and later high school students*
- Work experience involved extensive personnel management, administration, and resource management (budgets).*

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Mail completed form to:

Northbridge Town Hall
Office of the Town Manager
7 Main Street
Whitinsville, MA 01588