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2017 Board of Directors Elections

Karen Goulandris

▶ **City/County of Residence:** Cleveland/
Cuyahoga

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▶ **Current Employment:**
Assistant Professor of
Early Childhood
Education at Cuyahoga

▶ **Why are you interested in serving on the Ohio AEYC Board of Directors? What are you passionate about? What do you see as the most significant issues facing Ohio AEYC and its members?**

I am passionate about ensuring that individuals that work with children have access to quality resources that support a high level of professionalism. Resources should include options for building a network of like-minded professionals, a place to support advocacy issues, and support for maintaining best practices in early care and education.

I think the most significant issue facing Ohio AEYC and its members is finding ways to translate to individuals who respond to the call for work in early care and education, that there is value in belonging to a professional organization. NAEYC is the premier organization that represents all that is good for the professional, families, and children. It is vital that Ohio AEYC remain as the leading avenue to NAEYC and the appropriate practices that embed the foundation of this organization.

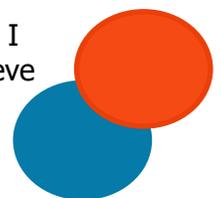


▶ **What professional committees, boards, and work groups, etc. have you participated on?**

Work group for the revision of the Keeping Children Safe Curriculum for the Recognition and Prevention of Abuse and Neglect course · NAEYC grant review committee for affiliates working to retain members

▶ **What professional relationships do you have that will allow you to both hear from members/prospective members and to share their perspective with the Board?**

I am an Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education at a community college and I have contact with emerging professionals in the field of early care and education. I believe that reaching college students who are just entering the teaching field is an important place to share information regarding NAEYC and the benefits of belonging.



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Joyce Grimes

► **Why are you interested in serving on the Ohio AEYC Board of Directors? What are you passionate about? What do you see as the most significant issues facing Ohio AEYC and its members?**

I have been involved with Ohio AEYC for many years, assisting with the annual conference and planning sessions. I strongly believe in the mission of the Board in furthering the professionalism of Early Childhood. I believe that I can bring fresh ideas and my many years of Early Childhood experience to the work of the Board. My passion is providing high quality early learning experiences to children who come from low income families. I am the administrator for three 5 STAR programs.

Bridging the achievement gap is critical for these children to succeed throughout their educational journey. Equipping the parents with tools and knowledge to help their children is essential and we engage our parents in our program on an ongoing basis. Bringing Early Childhood Professionals and the important work that they do, to policymakers and the community, is a significant issue that we continue to strive for. To assure quality programming, we need quality teachers and funding sources to secure those teachers and programming needs. Also equipping teachers with effective strategies for the classroom and keeping abreast of research and trends in the profession through professional development opportunities is a very important aspect of the association.

► **City/County of Residence:** Columbus/
Franklin

► **Current Employment:**
Columbus Urban League
Administrator of Head
Start Services



► **What professional committees, boards, and work groups, etc. have you participated on?**

Growing Healthy Kids Coalition · Immunization Coalition of Central Ohio · OSU Pipeline Scholarship Advisory Council

► **What professional relationships do you have that will allow you to both hear from members/prospective members and to share their perspective with the Board?**

As a partner agency with the YMCA Head Start grant, I have access to many early childhood professionals and share information with them. I am also a PD Specialist with the CDA Council of Professional Recognition and have regular interactions with teachers throughout Ohio, to share the work of Ohio AEYC and bring their issues to the Board.



2017 Board of Directors Elections

Jennine (Jeni) Hoover

► **Why are you interested in serving on the Ohio AEYC Board of Directors? What are you passionate about? What do you see as the most significant issues facing Ohio AEYC and its members?**

Serving on the Ohio AEYC Board of Directors is important to me because I have a passion for Early Childhood. I want to assist in the effort that all children in Ohio have quality experiences in Early Childhood which leads to entering kindergarten ready to learn and succeed. In working towards this effort I believe it takes a partnership between schools, parents, and educators. Together we can share and use each other as resources to make a greater impact on the Early Childhood field and the future of children 0-8 years old.

► **City/County of Residence:** Elyria/
Lorain

► **Current Employment:**
Kendal at Oberlin – Early Learning Center

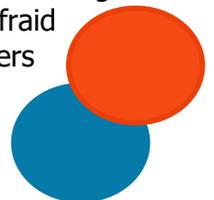


► **What professional committees, boards, and work groups, etc. have you participated on?**

Advisory Board for Free Spirit Publishing · OberlinKids · REACHhigher Birth through Grade 3 · Lorain County Imagination Library · Head Start Advisory Group Member · Oberlin Business Partnership Member · Live Healthy Oberlin

► **What professional relationships do you have that will allow you to both hear from members/prospective members and to share their perspective with the Board?**

I am currently a director of a preschool; however, I've also worked as a teacher of infants – school age classrooms. I've partnered with parents and caregivers in a variety of settings in addition to being a parent myself. When hearing from educators, parents, or community partners I am not afraid to listen to opposing views and welcome feedback even if I do not agree. Respecting others and allowing all voices to be heard is a strength I can share with the Ohio AEYC board while representing members and perspective members.



2017 Board of Directors Elections

Charlotte Stille

► **City/County of Residence:** Westerville/
Franklin

► **Current Employment:**
Director; Creative Child
Care, Inc. Community
College



► **Why are you interested in serving on the Ohio AEYC Board of Directors? What are you passionate about? What do you see as the most significant issues facing Ohio AEYC and its members?**

My passion is developing future teachers. My role as Director at my 5 STAR rated early childhood program is to continually foster strong connections between teaching staff and children by creating opportunities for professional growth in all areas of development. My work with Ohio AEYC has allowed me to be actively involved in growing membership with teachers and family providers, it has also brought me closer to the operations side of planning the annual state conference.

If elected, I plan to continue my work with Ohio AEYC to strengthen support services to teaching professionals, both current and past, as they evolve with the ever changing needs of children and their families. As a Director, I see my teaching staff making a significant difference in preparing children for their next chapter in their education journey. I also see that we must address the deeper socio-emotional needs of our students as a result of ever present stressors which can be a source of great challenge to today's teaching professional. As an organization committed to supporting teachers, Ohio AEYC must acknowledge these needs and offer intentional strategies to empower our teachers and build confidence and resiliency in our students.

► **What professional committees, boards, and work groups, etc. have you participated on?**

Board Member Ohio AEYC · Professional Development Instructor with Action for Children · member of Bexley Area Chamber of Commerce · Athletic Booster with Westerville City Schools · member of Leadership Circle with FutureReady Columbus

► **What professional relationships do you have that will allow you to both hear from members/prospective members and to share their perspective with the Board?**

As a professional development instructor to early childhood professionals, I have a wonderful opportunity to hear about the struggles and successes of working directly with children in the classroom. As a Director, I hear from my families about what needs and resources would be valuable to them to increase their parenting skills as well as giving parents tools to be advocates for their children. Being part of such an incredible organization such as Ohio AEYC, I can better equip teaching professionals and families with resources to help them be more successful.

