



IN THIS ISSUE

Who You Vote For Matters pages 1 & 3

Getting to Know Jane Erdenberger Even Better page 2

“Ask a Teacher”..... page 3

Students Talk About Jane..... pages 4, 5 & 7

What did Niles Paul Say About Jane Erdenberger? page 7

How to Vote Early page 8



When It Comes to Your Vote for the Omaha School Board, Who You Vote for Matters

There’s a reason Jane Erdenberger won almost 60 percent of the vote among four District 7 school board candidates in the May 12th primary. And it’s the same reason she was the only candidate in our district endorsed by the Omaha Education Association.

Simply put, Jane Erdenberger is our most qualified candidate for school board.

As the largest district in the state, OPS faces the unique challenge of educating a diverse student population during a pandemic, while also rebounding from a pension crisis that requires state agency oversight.

Erdenberger offers taxpayers the insights and experience of not just one, but two distinctive careers.

First, she spent 22 years as a successful government bond finance attorney at Omaha’s prestigious Kutak Rock law firm. That experience of due diligence can prove particularly valuable as the school board restores financial integrity to the pension system, and safeguards tax dollars to deliver the best educational opportunity to students through remote learning and classroom instruction.

Though she enjoyed her work at Kutak Rock, Jane Erdenberger decided her success there allowed her to make a life change and launch a new career –

as a high school teacher. She went on to teach at Omaha North High Magnet School for 16 years, earning the admiration of students and colleagues alike (see comments elsewhere in this publication.)



Former students and fellow educators praise Jane’s years in the classroom as an enthusiastic teacher who cared deeply about her students, their parents and our community. She’s brought those same organizational skills and vigor to the campaign trail, visiting doorsteps in every neighborhood of District 7.

Unfortunately, the Coronavirus changed the method of campaigning away from the original in-person visits with voters. Now, to respect social

Continued on Page 3

*Paid for by
Erdenberger for OPS
1915 S 63rd Street
Omaha NE 68106*



Getting to Know Jane Erdenberger Even Better

I have been a life-long resident of Omaha, benefiting from, and supporting, its excellent public school system. My three siblings and I attended public schools in Omaha. My two daughters started school at Dundee Elementary, were bussed to Howard Kennedy in third grade, attended King Science Magnet School for middle school and graduated from Central High School. My husband graduated from Hasting High School. My two sisters and I are all public school teachers.

After graduating from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, I attended law school at George Washington National Law Center in Washington DC and returned to Omaha to join the Kutak Rock national law firm.

I was a public finance bond lawyer at Kutak Rock for 22 years. I earned a second Bachelor's degree in education and retired from Kutak Rock to become a dedicated teacher at Omaha North High Magnet School. I taught there for 16 years and then taught at The Omaha Home for Boys for two additional years.

While teaching at North High Magnet School, I taught Honors Human Geography, African American History and Ethnic Studies. None of these courses had specific textbooks, so I was able to creatively develop curriculum and materials to meet the required state standards. Based on the quality of those curricula, I was selected to adapt that curriculum, and assessments, to the standardized courses for the entire OPS district.

In addition, I was selected to serve on OPS committees to revise scheduling and grading standards for the senior high schools throughout the district and to make presentations to



the high school social studies teachers throughout the district.

My students were taking one-semester Honors Human Geography, but many of them elected to take the college-



credit Advanced Placement test that is based on a two-semester course. For several years, I administered study sessions every weekend during second semester to prepare my students to successfully take those tests.

As an Omaha North High Magnet School teacher, I

served on the Scholarship Committee, the Safe, Secure and Disciplined School Committee and worked on the Moral Courage and Holocaust Curriculum Infusion initiative.

I was asked to supervise six student teachers, three of whom were hired to be social studies teachers at Omaha North High Magnet School. [The other three were hired to work at other public schools.] I also sponsored the Senior Class Officers, the Young Democrats and the African American Leadership Association.

One award of which I am particularly proud is that, in recognition of my avid weekly attendance at football and basketball games in the 16 years I taught at Omaha North High Magnet School, the principal, Mr. Gene Haynes, awarded me a "letter" – which I proudly wear on the letter sweater it took me forever to find!

In recognition of my participation in academic and administrative and student and athletic activities, my peers elected me to serve two terms on the Board of the Omaha Education Association. In

that capacity, we met regularly with Superintendent John Mackiel and members of his administrative staff to address – and solve — issues that were important to teachers and the district.

I have been married to Mark Hoeger for 41 years, during which time Mark was the Executive Director, and spearheaded the acquisition and complete renovation, of the Rose Children's Theater. He teaches a film course at the University of Nebraska-Omaha and produces industrial and commercial films and videos. He was recently elected to the Learning Community Coordinated Council for Douglas and Sarpy Counties, with an emphasis on pre-kindergarten education of children and their parents

Together we were blessed to raise two remarkable daughters [both of whom are Central High School and University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduates]. Christian Hoeger earned a Master's degree from Columbia University; she has a private counseling practice in Omaha and is the Director of Counseling at Girls Inc. She is married to Peter DeMarco and they are the loving – but very tired — parents of two-year old twin boys. Eleanor earned a Master's degree at George Washington University and is a Collections Specialist in the mammal department of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Part of her job is collecting bats every two years in Belize.

Thank you for taking time to learn about me. Sometime, I hope to get to meet you! 🍏



Jane Erdenberger is the most qualified candidate for OPS Board.

If you'd like a second opinion, ask a Teacher.

Jane Erdenberger is the only Omaha North High Magnet School faculty member I know of who earned a "letter" for attending so many football and basketball games. Her support and enthusiasm at games was evident in the classroom. The North High Vikings had some of the very best athletes in the State of Nebraska – but Jane would point out we did not win our first [of three] State Football Championship in 65 years until she was a teacher at North! Jane will be a tirelessly enthusiastic member of the Board.

Larry Martin

*Head Football Coach
Omaha North High Magnet School, 2001 to present*

Jane Erdenberger is one of the most knowledgeable and caring teachers I've ever worked with. She is empathetic, passionate, and has high expectations for all students. She understands students from diverse backgrounds and has a way of connecting with, motivating, and supporting them in a way to ensure they meet their highest ability level. I can't think of anyone better to be a part of the OPS School board. Jane is a difference maker in every way.

Dr. Anthony Dancer

*Former Senior Director of Education
Omaha Home for Boys*

I have known Jane Erdenberger for over twenty years. She has many, many outstanding qualities that would make her a great OPS School Board member. Jane is intelligent, dedicated to students and teachers, skilled at problem solving and leads by example. I whole-heartedly support her as a candidate for the board.

Harris Payne

*Former Social Studies Education Specialist
Nebraska Department of Education*

Jane's unique resume and her passion for advocating for OPS students and teachers combine to make her an excellent representative of Subdistrict 7 families. I am confident in Jane's ability to effectively represent her constituency with her characteristic enthusiasm and insight. Please join me in voting for Jane for OPS Board.

Susan K. Kalina

Retired OPS Educator of 34 years

My friend Jane is the best candidate for OPS School Board. I've never seen a candidate work with such dedication as Jane. She brings a skill set and level of experience rare for this position. I knew Jane as a teacher at North and as an OEA Board member. I have subbed for Jane, so I can speak to her amazing organization and planning. The OEA and NSEA endorsed Jane Erdenberger. She has both the educational and legal background that will support the entire OPS community to move forward sanely and safely during these unprecedented times.

Doreen Jankovich

*Retired Teacher
Former OEA President*

I first met Jane Erdenberger when she began student teaching at Omaha North High Magnet School. Once I asked Jane why she quit her law career to become a teacher, and Jane said she always wanted to teach and make a difference. What a difference she made in the lives of many students and colleagues! She worked hard to build positive relationships and she truly cared about each and every student. Jane Erdenberger is passionate about public education and public involvement. She possesses all the qualities to be an excellent school board member.

Nancy Thomsen

Retired, Omaha Public Schools, Teacher and Curriculum Specialist

Continued from Page 1
distancing, Erdenberger leaves her literature at homes, with a personal note and her contact information.

If you think about it, all those Erdenberger lawn signs you see around the neighborhood represent conversations Jane had with voters who were impressed with her experience, enthusiasm and vision for our school district.

This year, electing the most qualified candidate for the OPS Board of Education is more important than ever. In our district, that candidate is Jane Erdenberger. 🍏



Omaha's Working Families Support Jane Erdenberger for OPS Schools Board.

🍏 **Omaha Education Association**
🍏 **Women Who Run - Nebraska**

🍏 **Omaha Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO**
🍏 **Nebraska Unity PAC**

🍏 **SEIU 226**

Were You Ever Inspired by a Favorite Teacher?

If so, you'll appreciate these comments by former students of Jane Erdenberger.



Aaryon Williams

Entrepreneur & Former Professional Basketball Player

In 2004, I transferred from Wirt High School in Gary, Indiana, to relocate to Omaha, and from there, I enrolled at Omaha North High School as a junior. My grades from my previous years of high school were horrible, it was not something I was exactly proud of.

I felt I was not smart enough to make decent grades. My self-esteem was shot, my family wasn't necessarily the most supportive and I was new to the city—I felt like I was living a lie but I might as well live it up before everyone found out how much of a dummy I was (or so I thought).

Then I met Jane. I didn't know her from a can of paint and she didn't know me either. The first conversation she had with me was about doing my homework. I told her I struggled with my attention span and I was afraid I was going to fail her class.

Her exact words, "I'm not going to let you fail."

She believed in me, she believed I could do what not even my family thought I could—graduate from high school. "You're actually not dumb at all, when you talk, people listen to you." She was building my self-esteem. That was not a part of her job—That day I knew she wanted to help a nobody black kid from Gary, Indiana, and that day I quit asking why.

The first semester had come around and my G.P.A. had skyrocketed to a 3.25! I was on the honor roll!

I had become eligible to play

(basketball) for North High School. I became an All-Metro Honorable Mention and all All-City All-Star Team inductee within one semester.

Who was front row every game? Yep – Jane Erdenberger.

She never asked me to thank her, she never asked for anything other than me to pay it forward.

OPS needs Jane Erdenberger. Beyond the expertise she carries, it is in her heart to do good and what is right.



Jason Albeno

Student at UNO pursuing degree in Education

I am so excited to support Jane Erdenberger with her campaign for District 7 on the OPS board!

As a current educator, I know she will do an excellent job at supporting and being an advocate for all children, their families and the community.

Jane was an absolute powerhouse of an educator filled with a lot of knowledge in regards to the rich culture of our communities. She opened my eyes to the realm of community advocacy and supported my involvement with Latino Leaders! I still carry some of her teachings and lessons and apply them to my own classroom.

OPS needs vocal leaders who support all demographics of children and families. She truly embodies the quote "Be the light you wish to see in the world." I would love to continue my education advocacy under her legacy.



Christopher McCroy

Educator and Master's Degree in Education Candidate

I was fortunate to have Jane Erdenberger as my social studies teacher. Her support, guidance, and hundreds of letters of recommendation were paramount in my graduation from Morehouse College.

She understood the true objective of the profession was not merely to train students to think intensively and critically. Rather, she embodied Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s idea that, "complete education gives one not only power of concentration, but worthy objectives upon which to concentrate." She is not just a good addition, she is a necessary addition to the OPS School Board.



Sidra Fahad

OPS Elementary Teacher

Jane Erdenberger inspired me to become a teacher because she is one of the best educators in the field. She modeled for us how to build positive relationships and sees

challenges as chances/opportunities to empower others.

In her classroom, she created a secure environment for students to learn, grow, and feel safe. Because of her values, commitment, passion, and service, I became a better student and human being.

I can't think of a better person to serve on the Omaha Public Schools board than Jane Erdenberger.



Cornelius Levering

Native American and Foster Care Activist

Jane Erdenberger is a former teacher of mine and a good friend. I had the privilege of taking her class at North High about a decade ago.

I still remember her classroom like it was yesterday. She challenged us to think critically, but she also made learning fun! I believe in the proverb that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

Thanks to her innovation in the classroom, I graduated from my alma mater debt free. Jane is someone who I knew I wanted to be there. Needless to say, she was right there.

Jane has been a (CASA) Court Appointed Special Advocate—I wish she had been mine.

One thing I honor is someone who has follow-through. I know Jane Erdenberger will bring that to the OPS Board!

Jane ERDENBERGER
Omaha Public Schools Board





Jabin Moore
University of Nebraska at Omaha Student President/Regent

Jane Erdenberger is an amazing educator and has played a key role in my development.

I am so proud to support her for the OPS Board.

Jane is a person I trust to represent my little brother as he enters into his first year of high school amid the coronavirus pandemic.

We need her voice! I am eager to see her continue to advocate and serve students. Jane Erdenberger will be an invaluable member of the OPS Board.

day to empower and uplift everyone she contacts.

She is leader who speaks up for injustice with a fearless edge. Mrs. E. taught me to believe change is possible if I believe in myself. I was blessed to be her student.



Sgt. (E-5) Victoria Harold
United States Army National Guard; Department of VA Health Insurance Customer Service Representative

I had the pleasure of meeting Jane Erdenberger my freshman year at North High School.

Mrs. E was my African American History teacher and my teacher for home room (so I got to see her several times a day.) She always had a unique way to make everyone feel important and special.

Whenever a student was struggling with something, whether it be academically or personally, she always gave her full attention before, during, and even after school hours to do all that she could to help.

I've never met a teacher who was so dedicated to making sure students succeed!

I went on to college after my four years at North to Clark Atlanta University in 2013 and Mrs. E was still available anytime I needed her, whether it be for advice or for mentoring.

After a year at CAU, I joined the US Army Reserves Military Police. Even after 5 years in the military, two deployments, one in Kuwait and one in Cuba, Mrs. E never stops checking (in country and out) on me and makes sure that I am okay.

Jane Erdenberger is the best candidate to have for OPS School Board District 7. Our children need more leaders like her!



Michaela Daugherty
Community Organizer

Jane Erdenberger was a tough, outgoing, and thoroughly inspiring teacher. Every class period she gave her all to make us think about the world beyond the walls of the classroom, and to make us believe that we could have an impact upon that world.

She will bring so much to the school board.

Besides having been a passionate, caring educator, Jane practiced law for 22 years, acquiring vast legal knowledge and skills.

The Omaha School Board needs Jane Erdenberger, her experience, her caring attitude, her passion for education and her love of learning.

with three kids and a beautiful wife. See, it's accomplishments like these Mrs. E, as I call her, would talk about in class -- not as a dream, but an expected reality, at a school in a poverty stricken and gang warfare neighborhood.

Mrs. E didn't sell us dreams or teach to just meet some state curriculum! She raised our expectations, made us believe, and followed us after graduation! Yes, after graduation.

There hasn't been a year since I was in freshman football and wrestling in 2006 till now that she hasn't checked on me, encouraged me, and made me push past my expectations.

For these few reasons, when you support Jane Erdenberger, you are supporting someone who literally changes lives.



Elaundra Nichols
Honors Student at College of St. Mary; Occupational Therapy

When I think of a phenomenal educator, Mrs. E fits the description perfectly.

She taught the fundamentals of human geography that helped develop my understanding of the world.

When I think of a brave woman who is willing to sacrifice to change the world, Mrs. E also comes to my mind. She diligently works every



Justin Asuncion
*2009 Omaha North High Magnet Graduate
2013 University of Notre Dame BBA Finance*

Jane Erdenberger is the best choice for Omaha's Board of Education. She was my high school social studies teacher and introduced me to the world of government and how it can be a driving force for positive change.

Her experience in corporate law combined with her teaching experience brings the right perspective we need for our Board.

Mrs. Erdenberger has always been there to answer my questions, she has always provided me with mentorship, and she has always done what is best for the students.

Don't delay, vote Jane E today!



Ronald Coleman Jr.
*Student Services Coordinator
Cape Girardeau Public Schools*

I fully support and ask that you support Mrs. Erdenberger, not for my personal reasons, but for how her personal reasons affected me as a high school graduate, college graduate, graduate in my master's program, ordained pastor, my career field impacting struggling youth, and all around family man

Continued on Page 7



TOP 10 REASONS

YOU SHOULD VOTE FOR OUR MOM FOR SCHOOL BOARD!

By Chris & Ellie

Our mother has been making lists for us our whole lives. So we thought a list would be the best way to tell you why you should vote for her.

10. Speaking of lists, our mom stays focused by making a list for absolutely everything, from to-do lists six months ahead of upcoming vacations to ways to tackle important community-wide issues.

9. Our mom always has time for the details. She still proofreads our papers and resumes. (And, yes, this list.)

8. When there is something that needs to get done, our mom makes sure it gets done. Every Sunday was chore day. No excuses.

7. Education has always been important to our mom. Family vacations always included museums, required reading—and mandated daily journals.

6. A little positive reinforcement never hurt anyone. And what is a better reward than our mom's homemade cookies sought after by our family and friends -- nationwide!



5. Our mom is remarkable at anticipating other people's needs. Like having at least one pair of scissors in every room.

4. She always has time to help anyone – whether they ask or not, such as helping with a scholarship application, writing dozens of letters of recommendation, or planning our babysitter's honeymoon.

3. Being in a leadership position has never been a problem for our mom. Calendar planning every Sunday night in our house was like a military strategy meeting.

2. We learned from a young age how important community involvement is. We don't think we missed a single rally or meeting about civil justice or education issues affecting Omaha.

1. Our mom believes that there is nothing more important than considering the needs and feelings of the people around you and a well written note is the best way to show your appreciation or that you are thinking of someone. We still get in trouble if we don't write thank you notes.

Our mom always expected the most from us – because she expects the most from herself. And that is why she will be a great member of the OPS Board.



Continued from Page 5



Dr. Jaime Lopez-Merizalde
Tulane University Mathematics

I first met Jane in her social studies and civics class. Her personality as a caring and passionate person immediately struck me as someone who cares about other people and prioritizes education in a fair and inclusive environment.

Outside of teaching, Jane has supported students through her leadership in the academic decathlon team, pushing students to further their educational advancement, regardless of background.

Jane is passionate about initiating progress to a better positive future. She is an energetic and capable leader. The school board would be lucky to have her!



Anna McKeown Hoiberg
Student at Loyola Law School in New Orleans

When I heard one of my favorite former teachers was running for OPS board, I could not think of anyone better.

Janr sees the inherent value in every student who crosses her path and does her absolute best to

make sure their potential comes to fruition. She understands the importance of education and fights the good fight when it comes to education inequalities.

The OPS Board would be in no better hands than Jane Erdenberger's and I'm thrilled to support her!



Terry Grigsby
North High, Class of 2012
Assistant Head Coach for Peak Performance Track & Field Club
McMillan Middle School Boys Sprints Coach
Varsity Wide Receivers Coach for Omaha North High School

I first met Mrs. Erdenberger when I was a freshman at Omaha North High School. From the beginning, I could tell that she was selfless and very proud of her job. Throughout my four years at North, I can't think of many of my football or basketball games she missed.

Visitors would always ask, "Who's that redhead lady cheering behind your bench?" Yes it was Mrs E!

One thing that stood out to me that's a direct reflection of Mrs. E's character, is knowing her profession before she became an educator.

As a young 15-year-old, I remember asking myself, "Why would Mrs. E leave her job being a lawyer and making so much money to become a teacher?"

When I became a school coach, I've never asked myself that question again. I understood her commitment to education and young people outweighed the pros of continuing her career as a successful lawyer.

To this day, Mrs. E continues to be a mentor and open book for me. She's embedded in the education community and she shows every-

day the kind of love, leadership and devotion that it takes to lead the OPS School Board.

Ms. Erdenberger's energy, dedication and passion for the Omaha Public Schools system and more importantly, the young people who depend on it, are unmatched.

Please do your part to help our school district become the best it can be and vote Jane Erdenberger for OPS Board, District 7.



Jarrell Williams
Para-educator at Nelson Mandela School

I remember being a freshman at Omaha North High waiting my turn to be involved.

Mrs. Erdenberger use to send me notes of encouragement with bags of cookies attached.

She always found a way to keep me motivated not only as a student, but as an advocate of what I believe in.

Jane believed in me when I had doubts about where I belonged.

Even years after graduating she stayed in my ear; always pointing out my strengths.

I can truly call her a great teacher, supporter, and mentor, and now friend.

Jane Wants to Hear From You!

Jane Erdenberger knows education is important to Omaha taxpayers and we want our voices heard. That's why Jane is the most accessible candidate for school board. Contact Jane and let her know what you think!

www.erdenberger4ops.com
f /erdenberger4ops
☎ 402-650-1529
✉ jerdenbergerops@gmail.com

Putting Students First

Jane ERDENBERGER
Omaha Public Schools Board

Gridiron Star Endorses His Teacher

Imagine the surprise for Jane when she read this letter in the Public Pulse of the Omaha World-Herald. Former Cornhusker and NFL football player Niles Paul offered these kind words of endorsement, remembering Jane's impact as a classroom teacher.

Omaha World-Herald Your Letters to Public Pulse

Erdenberger deserves support

My name is Niles Paul and I was a student of Jane Erdenberger during my time at North High. Mrs. Erdenberger, who is running for the OPS school board, was a special kind of teacher who made learning fun. She always went above and beyond the required curriculum and her responsibilities as a teacher.

Niles Paul, Omaha



Jane and Niles are pictured here in January of 2015, when his North High football jersey was retired.

