

## 2020 – 2021 School Committee Member Bios

**Evelyn Abayaah-Issah,**  
Member Boxborough  
Term Expires: May 2023



Evelyn has lived in Boxborough since 2012 with her spouse and two girls. She began her service on the Acton Boxborough Regional School Committee in May 2020.

She has over 15 years of experience in healthcare operations, quality/safety, global business development, and strategy. She currently serves as Director for International Programs and Advisory Services at Mass General Hospital. In her role, she helps to establish several global strategic collaborations and partnerships with health institutions. In addition to her day job, Evelyn serves on several non-profit boards and diversity committees.

Evelyn obtained her Master's in Health Management and Policy, Graduate Certificate in Management, Bachelors in Health Education from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, and her Journalism degree from the Ghana Institute of Journalism. In addition she has participated in several leadership development programs through the MGH Leadership Academy, The Partnership Inc and YW LeadBoston.

**Diane Baum,**  
Member Acton  
Term Expires: April 2021



An Acton resident since 1999, Diane was elected to the School Committee in May 2015 and has held many leadership positions including Chair of the Budget and Policy Subcommittees and School Committee Chair and has represented the School Committee as liaison to the PTSO/PTO/PTF Roundtable, Special Education Parent Advisory Council and Minuteman Working Group. She led the Superintendent Search Committee in 2017-2018. Diane's interest in regional and state-level issues affecting public education led her to become an active member of a multi-district School Committee Roundtable and to take a leadership role in a taskforce that compared per pupil spending in Acton-Boxborough with its comparative communities. In 2018-2019, Diane was elected to the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees as Division 2 Chair.

Diane holds a B.A. from Scripps College, a Master's of Theological Studies from Harvard and a M.Ed. from Fitchburg State University. She is currently the Director of a non-profit after school tutoring center for children with dyslexia and, since 2015, has enjoyed serving as a volunteer facilitator for Communities for Restorative Justice.

**Kyra Cook,**  
Member Acton  
Term Expires: April 2023



Kyra moved to Acton with her husband and two sons in 2013. She taught middle-school history in Boston before moving to MetroWest. She served on the superintendent search committee in 2018 and currently serves on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Group. She works as the Events Coordinator for the Silver Unicorn Bookstore and as a search consultant for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. A writer, Kyra taught noveling and short story classes through AB Community Education. She has served as a classroom mom at McCarthy-Towne for 3 years.

Kyra holds a B.A. in Political Science and Secondary Education from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (2006) and an Ed.M. in Learning and Teaching from the Harvard Graduate School of Education (2007). Her studies focused on the political, social, and legal history of segregation, integration, and re-segregation of public schools. Aside from her other work, Kyra is an accomplished cook, knitter, quilter, and embroiderer.

**Adam Klein,**  
Vice-Chair Boxborough  
Term Expires: May 2021



Elected to the Committee in 2018, Adam joined after serving on the District Master Plan Review Committee, Blanchard School Council and Superintendent Search Committee. Since joining the committee, Adam has served on the Policy and as the chair of the Capital Planning Subcommittees. He is currently chair of the Budget Committee and a member of the School Building Committee. Adam and his family moved to Acton in 2013 and relocated to Boxborough in 2015. Adam has a BFA in technical theater from Ithaca College and an MBA from UMass Lowell. He spent 15 years in the entertainment technology field before moving to product management in the building technology world. He is currently a Director of Global Product Management at Schneider Electric. As a thoughtful and supportive leader, Adam looks to put the equity, wellness, and engagement of our learning community at the forefront of his work on the committee.

**Ginny Kremer,**

Member Acton

Term Expires: April 2022



Ginny Kremer is an attorney who has devoted her career to making government work better for the people it serves. After spending two years as a Superior Court law clerk, Ginny was appointed by Attorney General Scott Harshbarger as an Assistant Attorney General in the Government Bureau. During her time as an AG, Ginny represented state agencies and officials in the state and federal courts. Ginny was a member of the four AAG team that defended the Commonwealth and the Department of Education in the constitutional lawsuit known as Handcock v. Driscoll. After 8 years as an AAG, Ginny moved from the state level to the municipal level and was appointed as Town Counsel for the Town of Grafton. Ginny has served the Town and its residents, as well as private clients, ever since.

Ginny moved to Acton with her husband in 2005. Their two daughters have attended the District's schools since kindergarten. Ginny first ran for School Committee in 2017 hoping that her municipal legal experience could benefit the District, its educators and staff, and all AB students.

**Amy Krishnamurthy,**

Member Acton

Term Expires: April 2023



Amy was elected to the School Committee in April 2014. She currently serves on the Policy Subcommittee, Budget Subcommittee, Negotiations Subcommittee, and School Building Committee.

Amy also serves on the board for the Acton-Boxborough Coalition for Healthy Youth (ABCHY). Amy is the mother of 4 boys. Her oldest is an AB graduate, and the other three are triplets at the high school. Amy and her family moved to New England and Acton over 10 years ago. Before that time, they spent 10 years in the Silicon Valley, where Amy was a 4th and 5th grade teacher in the Palo Alto School District. Having grown up in Dallas, Texas, she is still learning to adjust to the harsh New England winters, but has managed to fall in love with the Red Sox and Patriots.

**Tessa McKinley**,  
Chairperson: Boxborough  
Term Expires: May 2023



Tessa grew up in Acton and graduated from AB. She went on to earn her bachelors' degree in sociology and education from Colby College. After working in a classroom for speech and language challenged children, Tessa earned her Master's in elementary education from Lesley University. She taught first grade for five years before having her children and becoming a full-time mother. She was on the board of the Blanchard PTF since her eldest entered school. Her first role was the arts enrichment chair, followed by corresponding secretary and then PTF president. Tessa also served on Blanchard's school council for 5 years. Her two daughters are currently at the junior high and high school. This summer marks her family's 12th anniversary as residents of Boxborough.

**John Petersen**,  
Vice-Chair Acton  
Term Expires: April 2022



John Petersen and his wife, Cheryl, have lived in Acton for more than thirty years. Their two children, AB '15 and AB '18 have lived in Acton their whole lives and were educated in the Acton-Boxborough schools.

John is a chemist by training and has worked in leadership roles spanning pharmaceutical research and operations. John majored in chemistry as an undergraduate at MIT and earned his Ph.D in chemistry from the University of California Berkeley. He has served as a volunteer and co-chair for AB Parent Involvement Project (ABPIP) STEM, an organization encouraging community involvement in STEM Education K-12. John continues to serve as part of the adult committee for Acton Scout Troops 12 and 32.

John previously served on the AB school committee (2009-2012) prior to full (K-6) regionalization of ABRSD. During this service, he was the School Committee representative to the health insurance trust. John believes that school committee policies should recognize the differences between students and the diversity of their families. School Committee policies should provide teachers and administrators with the flexibility to create unique educational experiences responsive to individual student needs. John likes poetry.

**Nora Shine**

Member Boxborough  
Term Expires: May 2022



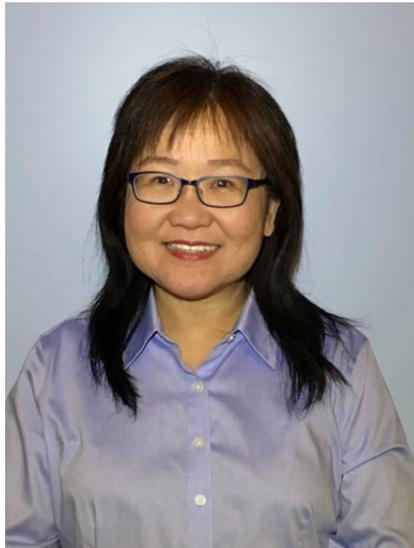
Nora was elected to the AB School Committee in 2019. She moved to Boxborough in 2017 and feels at home in this community which shares a commitment to excellent public education, a love of learning, a connection to nature, and a valuing of community. Her children attend Blanchard Memorial.

Nora earned an MEd from UPenn, a PhD from Boston College, and completed doctoral clinical training in psychology through Harvard Medical School. She has a private practice in which she provides cognitive behavioral therapy and conducts neuropsychological assessments for children and teenagers. She is interested in the social sciences and research driven practice, and believes her knowledge and experience will help her to be a successful contributing member of Acton Boxborough School Committee.

Nora serves on the Policy Subcommittee, and is the appointed liaison to the Boxborough Financial Committee and EDCO.

**Angie Tso,**

Member Acton  
Term Expires: April 2021



Angie was elected to the School Committee in 2017. She currently serves on the Budget Subcommittee and as liaison to EDCO and the Acton Finance Committee, and has previously served on the Policy Subcommittee.

She and her family moved from Silicon Valley to Acton in 2000, and both of her children have grown up in the AB school system - one is currently attending ABRHS, and the other graduated in 2014 and is now a PhD student at Harvard University. As a first-generation immigrant from Taiwan, Angie has benefited from both eastern and western education styles, which helps her bridge diverse perspectives. She wants to continue to bring out the spirit of curiosity and love of learning in AB.

Angie holds a Bachelor of Financial & Economic Law from Fu Jen Catholic University and a Master's (M.S.) from the University of Texas, Dallas. She worked for over fifteen years in the telecom industry for service development, and is currently a business owner and a certified Project Manager. In the summers, she volunteers as a summer camp director.

**Yebin Wang,**

Member Acton

Term Expires: April 2023



Yebin, along with his wife and two kids, has lived in Acton since 2011. While enjoying the friendly neighborhoods, excellent school system, and pristine environment, they would love to do their part to sustain and improve our community. Yebin joined the School Committee in 2020 and serves on the Policy and Capital Improvement Subcommittees. Yebin is a frequent volunteer at the Conant school. He has served low income families as a tax preparer through CRA's "Community Volunteer Income Tax Program" for many years.

Professionally, Yebin is an engineer working for a corporate research and development organization in Cambridge; his commitment to excellence has earned him Best Annual Employee and President's Awards. He has also proudly served as an associate editor for various referred journals and conferences. He holds a Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering.