



June 15, 2026

Ms. Kimberly Henderson
City of Saginaw School District
550 Millard St
Saginaw, MI 48607

Dear Ms. Henderson:

Ms. Cecelia Hopkins' position with the Public Libraries of Saginaw Board will expire June 30, 2026. She has resigned from her position on our Board effective at the end of her term. We have received an application from Ms. Lauren Fletcher who is interested in becoming a Library Board member to replace Ms. Hopkins.

Ms. Fletcher is currently employed at the Midland Center for the Arts as a volunteer and engagement coordinator, program developer, and communications and partnership-builder. She believes in strong public libraries being essential to a strong community and values the opportunity to help support and guide that mission.

Please add Ms. Fletcher's name to the agenda for the next School Board meeting for consideration and nomination to fill this vacancy. Please advise me of when this vote will be on the agenda, as we would like to be present at that meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Butler".

Karen Butler
Interim Library Director
kbutler@saginawlibrary.org



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LAUREN M. FLETCHER

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May 19, 2026

Dear Ms. Butler and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my interest in the open position to serve on the Board for the Public Libraries of Saginaw. As someone deeply invested in community engagement, lifelong learning, and creating welcoming spaces for people of all backgrounds, I would be honored to contribute to the continued growth and impact of the library system.

Why I Want to Serve on the Library Board

Libraries are one of the few truly accessible public spaces that serve people across every age group, income level, and stage of life. Having grown up in the Saginaw community, I also have personal connections to the library system and fond memories of frequently visiting Butman-Fish Library as a child. Those experiences helped shape my appreciation for libraries as welcoming spaces for learning, discovery, and community connection. Beyond books, libraries provide opportunities for education, connection, workforce development, technology access, recreation, and community building. I want to serve on the Library Board because I believe strong public libraries are essential to a strong community, and I would value the opportunity to help support and guide that mission.

Throughout my professional and volunteer experiences, I have been drawn to organizations that strengthen communities through outreach, programming, and relationship-building. I appreciate the role libraries play in fostering curiosity, creativity, and inclusion, and I would be excited to support the Public Libraries of Saginaw as they continue evolving to meet community needs.

Specific Expertise I Would Bring to the Library Board

My background includes community engagement, volunteer coordination, program development, communications, and partnership-building. I am the Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator at Midland Center for the Arts and also serve as President of the Directors of Volunteers in Agencies (DOVIA) of the Great Lakes Bay Region. Through these roles, I have experience working with nonprofits and community organizations to connect people with meaningful opportunities and resources.

Some strengths I would bring to the Board include:

- Community outreach, engagement, and public communication
- Volunteer management, leadership, and relationship-building
- Program and event planning
- Partnership development with nonprofits and community organizations

I also bring a collaborative mindset and a genuine interest in listening to community members and stakeholders. I value thoughtful discussion, strategic thinking, and finding ways to make organizations more accessible and responsive to the people they serve.

My Vision for the Public Libraries of Saginaw

My vision for the Public Libraries of Saginaw is for the system to continue growing as a vibrant community hub that is innovative, welcoming, and responsive to local needs. I would especially like to see increased community awareness of the wide range of resources and services the library provides, while also finding meaningful ways to reach community members who could benefit from those resources the most. I believe continued outreach, storytelling, and public engagement are essential not only for increasing library usage, but also for helping the broader community understand the importance and lasting value of strong public libraries. I believe libraries are uniquely positioned to combat isolation, support education, and strengthen community connection. My vision for the Public Libraries of Saginaw is to continue being recognized as an essential and trusted resource for the region.

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Three Critical Issues Facing the Public Libraries of Saginaw

1. Maintaining and Expanding Community Relevance

Libraries today compete with countless digital entertainment and information sources. Continuing to demonstrate the library's value through innovative programming, outreach, and partnerships is critical to maintaining strong community support and engagement.

2. Funding and Resource Sustainability

Like many public institutions, libraries face ongoing financial pressures while community expectations continue to grow. Balancing budget realities with the need for quality services, updated technology, facilities, and programming will remain an important challenge.

3. Accessibility and Community Awareness

Many residents may not fully realize the breadth of services modern libraries provide. Increasing awareness of available resources, reducing barriers to participation, and ensuring all community members feel welcomed and represented are important priorities.

Thank you for considering my application. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my experience, perspective, and enthusiasm to the Public Libraries of Saginaw Board. I appreciate your time and consideration and would be happy to discuss my interest further.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Lauren Fletcher

LAUREN M. FLETCHER

(989) 443-3785 | 651 Alice St. Saginaw, MI 48602 | lmfletcher00@gmail.com

PROFILE

Community-focused nonprofit and recreation professional with 10 years of experience leading staff and volunteers, developing programs, coordinating events, and building partnerships that strengthen community engagement. Skilled in volunteer leadership, public outreach, program management, and creating welcoming, accessible experiences for diverse populations. Passionate about lifelong learning, civic engagement, and enhancing quality of life through inclusive programming and mission-driven leadership.

EDUCATION

Central Michigan University - Bachelor of Applied Arts 2016-2021

Major: Outdoor and Environmental Recreation

Minor: Recreation and Event Management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MIDLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

July 2024 - Present

Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator - Professional Full Time

- Recruit, onboard, and train volunteers for Center activities specific to each department (Front of House, Programming, History and Museums, Education)
- Coordinate and manage volunteer scheduling for all departments listed above
- Manage volunteer database and volunteer data documentation, provide volunteer reports annually
- Manage volunteer recognition, communication, and stewardship to strengthen relationships and support the Center's mission
- Facilitate various volunteer committees and attend meetings as Center Staff Liaison
- Plan and execute volunteer, community, and staff engagement events
- Chair the Center Staff Engagement Committee in partnership with the Midland Area Wellbeing Coalition
- Participate as an active member in regional professional development associations
- Represent the Center as a public-facing figure, leading tours, presentations, community speaking events

HUNTINGTON WOODS PARKS AND RECREATION

July 2021 - July 2024

Program Coordinator - Professional Full Time

- Lead community events and festivals from concept through completion, overseeing planning, logistics, vendor coordination, and day-of execution.
- Recruit, train, and supervise volunteers and staff, fostering a collaborative and inclusive environment.
- Manage grant applications and program improvement projects, supporting funding and operational goals.
- Oversee community programs, including sports leagues, scheduling, and program operations.

MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION

January 2020 - July 2021

Parks and Recreation Intern - Professional Full Time

- Assist in planning and implementing community programs and events, ensuring smooth operations and participant engagement.
- Support sponsor and donor initiatives, coordinating recognition and engagement for community festivals.
- Develop marketing materials to promote programs and increase public participation.
- Contribute to grant applications supporting program and facility enhancements.

CITY OF MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION

Summer 2019

Plymouth Pool Manager - Professional Part Time

- Supervise, train, and mentor 25 lifeguards and swim instructors, fostering a safety-focused, high-performing team.
- Schedule and implement swim programming, ensuring participant satisfaction and program success.
- Manage public inquiries and customer concerns, representing the organization professionally.
- Develop and implement continuous staff education and training programs to strengthen performance, safety, and service quality.
- Create detailed pool operations manual outlining standardized procedures, safety protocols, and staff responsibilities to improve operational consistency.

CAMP TIMBERS - YMCA OF SAGINAW

Waterfront Director

Summer 2018

Assistant Waterfront Director

Summer 2017

Cabin Counselor

Summer 2015-2016

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

DIRECTORS OF VOLUNTEERS IN AGENCIES - GREAT LAKES BAY REGION CHAPTER

April 2025 - Present

Board of Directors President

- Lead regional volunteer management initiatives and support professional development across multiple organizations.
- Plan and facilitate monthly professional development member meetings.
- Create and manage Volunteer Opportunities in the Great Lakes Bay Region Facebook Page in partnership with local organizations

HUMANE SOCIETY OF MIDLAND COUNTY

November 2024 - Present

Volunteer and Foster

- Create and manage HSoMC Alumni & Friends Facebook Page with 440+ members, fostering community engagement and promoting shelter initiatives.
- Lead Leadership Midland project for ReTails Rummage Market, managing shed renovation, inventory organization, and a volunteer-run operations model to improve efficiency and boost revenue.
- Support HSoMC events, assisting in set-up, day-of support, and animal care while representing the shelter
- Advocate for fostering by presenting as a keynote speaker at the Paws for a Cause Luncheon Fundraiser, representing HSoMC and educating attendees on volunteer opportunities.
- Provide foster care for dogs, resulting in six successful adoptions since November 2024.

I HEART DOGS RESCUE AND ANIMAL HAVEN

August 2023 - June 2024

Volunteer

- Exercise and care for dogs through scheduled daily walks and supervising yard time
- Foster puppies too young for the shelter environment

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & LEADERSHIP

- **Leadership Midland Graduate** – Midland Business Alliance **October 2025**
- **SVSU ALICE Poverty Simulation** - Dr. Rose Lange **October 2025**
- **Community Wellbeing Certificate** – Midland Area Wellbeing Coalition **October 2024**
- **Speaker, mParks Conference & Trade Show** – “Future Professional Showcase” **January 2020**