

GREG BROWN

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Hello,

7 AUGUST 2026

I am writing to express my interest in being appointed to the District 1 School Board seat. I was already planning to run for the seat when the current term is up for election in November 2027, so I am certainly excited for the opportunity to start helping our schools this year instead of waiting until 2028. Whether I am appointed or not I still plan to run for the seat in the next election.

Isle of Wight County School
Board
9307 Old Stage Hwy
Smithfield, VA 23430

I am a professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia. I have worked as a contractor on major construction projects throughout the southeastern United States, most notably the \$60M+ NW 12th Ave. bascule bridge replacement in Miami, FL, and the \$1B+ construction of the new Midtown Tunnel in Portsmouth, VA. I am currently employed by the Virginia Department of Transportation as the area construction engineer in charge of coordination and oversight of the local assistance program in Hampton Roads, which includes 49 active construction projects valued at \$429 Million.

I have been actively involved in Isle of Wight County Schools for the past several years, and I have enjoyed getting to know the teachers and staff at the schools my children attend (Hardy Elementary, Westside Elementary, and Smithfield Middle School). I am an active member in the Hardy, Westside and SMS PTAs, and have served as a PTA officer for the past two years. I have regularly volunteered at Hardy with Watch D.O.G.S. and enjoy working with the students on their reading and math. My whole family volunteered to help run stations at the Hardy STEM night last spring. I attend school board meetings and speak to the Board about issues that are important to me, and I watch all the school board meetings. I was honored to serve on Dr. Cramer's Parents Advisory Council, which was a great avenue for two-way communication directly between IOW parents and the Superintendent. My son and I attended Virginia Capitol Day in January and directly petitioned our legislators to provide more support to our schools. And I assisted in bringing nearly \$20,000 in grant funding to our schools this past year (I worked with Ms. Coopridge on the county-wide Reading is Fundamental grant and secured Dominion Energy grants for both Hardy and SMS).

I feel that my background in project management provides me with a very useful skill set to bring to our public schools, and I hope you favorably consider my application. Thank you.

Best,
Greg Brown

August 7, 2026

Dear Members of the Isle of Wight County School Board:

It is my pleasure to offer this letter of recommendation in support of Mr. Greg Brown's application to serve the remainder of the unexpired term on the Isle of Wight County School Board for District 1.

Greg has consistently demonstrated a genuine commitment to the students, teachers, families, and schools of Isle of Wight County. He has been actively involved with the Parent Teacher Associations at both Hardy Elementary School and Westside Elementary School, giving him valuable firsthand knowledge of the needs and concerns of our school communities.

Greg is also a regular and engaged participant at School Board meetings. He has consistently spoken in support of our teachers and students and has shown a willingness to remain informed about the important issues facing Isle of Wight County Schools. In addition, through his writing in our community newspaper, Greg has used his voice to advocate for public education and to encourage greater community awareness and involvement.

As a family-oriented individual with children in the Isle of Wight County school system, Greg understands that the decisions made by the School Board directly affect students, families, educators, and the future of our entire community. He would bring not only a parent's perspective, but also the experience of someone who has already invested considerable time and energy in supporting our schools.

I believe Greg would approach this responsibility with thoughtfulness, dedication, and a sincere desire to serve. His established record of involvement demonstrates that his interest in the School Board is not new—it is a natural continuation of his commitment to public education.

I respectfully recommend Greg Brown for appointment to the unexpired School Board term for District 1 and ask that you give his application your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Valerie

Valerie Butler
Smithfield Town Councilwoman

April Watkins, MLIS

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aprilmwatkins10@gmail.com

August 10, 2026

To Whom It May Concern ,

I have had the pleasure of knowing Gregory Brown for several years now on both a personal and professional level. Mr. Brown is well respected in our community as an advocate in the PTA, champion for gifted education, frequent parent volunteer, and volunteer at career days across the county. Mr. Brown is also a champion for IWCS through his many Letters to the Editor of the *Smithfield Times* and his attendance at School Board Meetings. For those reasons and the following, I am proud to offer my support as a community member of Smithfield, who resides within District 1 of Isle of Wight County, to Mr. Gregory Brown for School Board.

In addition to my friendship with Mr. Brown, I have worked with him on a professional level through my job as the Manager of the Smithfield Branch Library. Mr. Brown serves as part of the Friends of the Smithfield Library, which is a board of volunteers who support the library's mission by bridging financial gaps through fundraising. Mr. Brown served as part of the auditing committee in 2025 to ensure that our nonprofit organization was fiscally aligned with our records and tax documentation. This is further evidence that Mr. Brown understands the nature of fundraising and fiscal responsibility of a nonprofit, much like that of a school board.

Further, Mr. Brown has assisted the library in grant writing for several projects, including new shelving. Additionally, he has applied and received grants for IWCS on behalf of PTAs to fund teacher's projects, including a \$2000 grant for Smithfield Middle School's robotics club, which will elevate the KidWind team in their national competition.

Mr. Brown cares deeply about the Smithfield community and Isle of Wight County Schools. He would make an excellent addition to the School Board. I wholeheartedly endorse him.

Sincerely,

April Watkins, MLIS