



JODI EHRLICH,
President

Term Ends:
Dec. 31, 2020
Email:
jehrllich@goaj.org
Phone:
480-329-7230

It takes a lot of energy and intelligence to successfully run a school board. Fortunately Jodi Ehrlich has both. In addition to her current role as president of the AJUSD Governing School Board, Mrs. Ehrlich is a certified public accountant, a small business owner, and an avid triathlete. She works out on a regular basis and is actively involved with her hometown's signature athletic event, the Lost Dutchman Marathon. This annual event is a favorite with serious marathoners, casual runners and the community based on its beautiful location, great volunteers and the support it provides to the children of our community.

Jodi holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Finance from Northern Arizona University and a Post Baccalaureate in Accounting from Arizona State University. She is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In her corporate experience she gained valuable expertise working with human resources, finance and billing issues.

Jodi has been connected to Apache Junction since she and her family moved to the area when she was a 3rd grader. She is married and has a child who attends Apache Junction High School, which is also Mrs. Ehrlich's alma matter.

Jodi is committed to using her talents and abilities to better our school district - the community that she grew up in and continues to live, work, and play in.



CAMI GARCIA,
Vice President

Term Ends:
Dec. 31, 2020
Email:
cagarcia@goaj.org
Phone:
602-319-0701

Cami Garcia was born and raised in Apache Junction and continues to work and volunteer in the hometown she adores. This love of the community and a desire to serve others runs in the family. Mrs. Garcia married Joe Garcia, an AJHS graduate who is now captain for the AJ Superstition Fire and Medical District.

Mrs. Garcia is an active volunteer with a special interest in sports. She has been with the Black & Gold Youth Football League for 15 years, served as past vice president of Apache Junction Little League for three years, was a Football Team Mom for five years, and has stepped up to the plate to help out on a variety of parent teacher organizations when needed. Mrs. Garcia has served on the AJUSD School Governing Board for two years and is looking forward to continuing in her role through December 2020.

Mrs. Garcia and her husband have raised three children - Tanner, Cameron, and Garrett. Tanner graduated from Apache Junction High School in 2016 and Cameron and Garrett currently attend district schools.

Mrs. Garcia is a real estate broker and owns Western Lifestyle Realty. While she admits her business and family keep her busy, she said she is excited to serve as a School Board Member for AJUSD and be a part of the decision-making process to allow our students to excel in school and in life. She said she firmly believes AJUSD teachers and students deserve the best!



DENA KIMBLE,
Member

Term Ends:
Dec. 31, 2022
Email:
dkimble@goaj.org
Phone:
480-980-2481

A native "Jersey Girl" who was born, raised and married in New Jersey, Dena Kimble and her husband, Raymond, an attorney, moved to Arizona in 1997. The couple's three children attended AJUSD schools and Mrs. Kimble has supported the district by being an active volunteer and fundraiser. She served as PTO president at Desert Vista Elementary School for four years where she helped raise money to install smart boards in every classroom. That same year she helped recruit folks to participate in the AJ Parks and Rec Walk-a-Thon fundraiser and the school's PTO not only won first place - they repeated those efforts the following two years.

As her children grew older she moved on to Cactus Canyon Junior High and became PTO president at the school. She was instrumental in raising money to install smart projectors in many of the classrooms, and worked on a successful \$4000 grant that enabled the school to purchase new books for the library. One of Mrs. Kimble's favorite accomplishments was teaming up with the Anthony Bates Foundation and AJ's fire department to provide free heart screening in AJ, and, by donation only; she helped raise enough money to install Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in every AJUSD school and the district office.

Mrs. Kimble is a paralegal and manages Kimble Law Firm. She has also operated her own successful home-based business for many years. She said she is delighted to offer her energy, creativity and experience to serve the AJUSD kids and community as a member of the AJUSD Governing Board.



CHRISTA RIZZI,
Member

Term Ends:
Dec. 31, 2020
Email:
crizzi@goaj.org
Phone:
480-330-7744

Christa Rizzi's two passions are serving the community and working with youth. She combined both of these interests when she became a Governing Board Member for AJUSD. Mrs. Rizzi's journey to her current role was a process. When she worked for AJUSD as an employee her peers repeatedly selected her as their departmental representative for CARE and ACT budgetary meetings with administrators. Over the years she served on a wide variety of city boards, which gave her important insights on government operations and budgets.

Her background includes being a former state certified child caregiver, a former Boys & Girls Club Teen Director, a Pinal County Juvenile Court Volunteer, a founding member of the Apache Junction Drug Prevention Coalition, and a strong supporter of the local DARE program.

Mrs. Rizzi has lived in Apache Junction for more than 20 years. All four of her children and several of her grandchildren attended and graduated from schools in AJUSD. Mrs. Rizzi and her husband, Bob, own Arizona Tireman Services in Apache Junction. As local business owners they make it a priority to support youth programs and activities in the community. Mrs. Rizzi also applies her business knowledge when making school board decisions with a focus on providing a high level of quality customer service combined with fiscal responsibility and transparency.



CHELSEA CONNOLLY,
Member

Term Ends:
Dec. 31, 2022
Email:
cconnoll@goaj.org
Phone:

Ms. Chelsea Connolly is the newest member of the AJUSD Governing Board, but she is not new to the community. She attended AJUSD schools, is a proud graduate of Apache Junction High School, and works in Apache Junction as a Loan Officer/ Branch Manager of Academy Mortgage. Ms. Connolly has been involved with the AJ community for many years and sees her new role as a Governing Board member as another way that she can help.

Ms. Connolly believes her past experience as a parent, school alumna, and former district employee will provide a valuable voice to the school board. Her goal is to help strengthen a positive identity for AJUSD and the entire community. She said she looks forward to the improvements that will be made in the district in the next four years and she is eager to be a part of the governing process.

Ms. Connolly is engaged to Ben Young (also an AJ resident) and they plan to be married in March 2019. Together the couple is raising their son, Kash, who will start kindergarten at Desert Vista Elementary School in 2019. Ms. Connolly said they are excited for their son to have the same great experiences both she and Ben had growing up in AJ and attending AJUSD schools.