

Your Name:  
Sarah Nisbet

- Number and grade of children in your family enrolled at BFA:  
3 - 4th, 1st and Pre-K

- Number of years your family has been at BFA:  
6 years

- Brief biography, including any charter school experience:

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Students from Texas State University. I have five years experience teaching at the elementary school level. During those years, I took advantage of every opportunity to further my education by becoming trained in gifted & talented (GT) education, ESL certified and serving on our literacy collaborative committee. I continued my passion for education outside of my classroom by helping students and teachers through leading small groups to prepare for standardized testing, mentoring a first year teacher and mentoring a student teacher. Since becoming a parent, I've continued to stay involved in my community by leading a Mom's group, running the finance side of my MOPS group, being a room parent, plus serving on the SAC Committee at BFA. Being involved is so fulfilling and I'm happy to bring the parent, student, and teacher perspective.

- Number of BFA Board meetings and events have you attended this school year (identify by type of event - Board meetings 1; PTO meetings    ; Committee meetings 6; Community events 2; Other [District Accountability Committee Meetings 4](#))

In 100 words or less per question, please answer the following:

- Describe the ideal relationship between the BFA Board and the BFA community.

The ideal relationship between the BFA Board and the BFA community is one of transparency. I'd continue to publicize that board meetings are open to the public and I'd encourage parents to call in if they can't attend in person. I think it is important to educate our BFA community on where to find Board agendas and minutes, as well an understanding of the escalation process for concerns. I would share this information by starting a Board Corner in each Newsletter.

- What are the current challenges facing charter school boards?

The current challenges facing charter school boards are the ever-changing dynamics within our district and state. We need to be informed and up to date of state legislation and what impact that plays to charters and to our school. Transparency comes into play again. It's important to share these with our BFA community and be clear how these could negatively and positively impact our school. There is so much misinformation out there.

- What motivates you?

I am motivated to take the next step in serving our BFA parent and student community after four years serving on SAC. I've reviewed every policy, helped create the parent and student surveys, provided recommendations to the board, and, most importantly, encouraged parent engagement. Along with my background as a teacher, I feel I could bring a well-

rounded perspective to the governance of BFA. I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve in a more meaningful role in supporting positive changes at BFA to keep us moving forward with the ever-changing dynamics of the educational environment.

- Share any personal aspirations you would like to achieve by serving on the BFA Board.

As a board member, my primary goals would be increasing parent engagement, and streamlining our volunteer website. I would like to see all volunteer opportunities in one location so parents can easily find ways to volunteer within their schedules.

- Describe a moment when you knew BFA was the right school for your family.

When my oldest started the afternoon preschool program six years ago this really set the tone for our relationship with BFA. From day one the staff, director, and parents were so welcoming. Children thrive in a loving and nurturing environment and as a teacher I loved seeing the balance of all areas of study including the arts. I liked that students were ability grouped in kindergarten for math and in higher grades with literacy. The parent volunteerism and Board sealed the deal for me. I want to be engaged and BFA offers numerous opportunities to serve.