



Toshiba Rice | "A positive voice of direction to equip you for daily life."
6520 Andron Drive Apt. 202 Raleigh, NC 27616
Toshiba@ToshibaRice.com | (919) 576-0556

January 22, 2024

C/O DISTRICT 4
BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY
Wake County Board of Education
Crossroads I
5625 Dillard Drive
Cary, NC 27518

Dear Wake County Public School Board Members,

I am writing to express my interest in the school board member position. As a parent and an active member of the community, I am passionate about ensuring that our schools provide the best possible education for all our children.

I have over twenty years of experience helping families access community and social services they need for self-sufficiency along with helping families ensure their children are successful in their educational pursuits. Specifically, I have extensive experience with special populations including intellectually disabled children and adults, working to ensure their physical, mental, and education needs are met and helping them obtain economic stability. I have listed the tasks and skills I acquired in doing this work on my resume.

I have been active as a mental health trainer, child advocate, and public education advocate working with a variety of public, business, and nonprofit organizations. I have also volunteered in my community, church, my children's schools, and served as Chair of the District 1 BAC. I believe my personal background, work, and community experience, along with my passionate child and education advocacy work has prepared me for this opportunity to serve on the Wake County School Board. In each of these roles, I've demonstrated my ability to lead and inspire others, as well as my commitment to providing all students with a high-quality education.

I understand the value of being a good team member and I am committed to working collaboratively with other board members to develop policies and programs that benefit our students and our community.

I am aware of the hard work and time it takes to be on the school board, and I am willing to put in the effort needed. I know the responsibility that faces this board. If selected, you have my pledge that I will work to put our students first in every decision I make and that I will work diligently to contribute to the opportunities needed by every child to succeed.

I want to commend the board and the staff for the strategic plan created to guide and inform the school system, staff, parents, community, and students. It is excellent. As you requested, I want to share with you in brief, three initiatives related to this plan that I think are critical for WCPSS.

First, I would propose an initiative to help high school graduates transition for career readiness. Building on the Business Alliance model, schools can connect high school students with mentors to enable them to obtain skills and a plan for post-graduation.

Second, I applaud the focus on attendance. Schools must implement strategies to increase attendance working with parents and families to overcome existing barriers to reliable attendance. The school system should adopt strategies to create a culture of attendance beginning with strategies that create a welcoming culture within our schools.

Third, workforce issues remain paramount for the district; I encourage the WCPSS Human Resource department to enhance employee benefits, expand options for employees, and do all it can to recruit, retain, and support quality employees, especially given the limited financing currently coming from the State.

In summary, I feel these three initiatives support the objectives of the Strategic Plan, and I look forward to being part of the Board of Education team that carries through on the Plan's objectives.

In closing, I thank you for this process. I think it is valuable for the community to have access to the applicants and their resumes along with the public interview. Thanks for your transparent process. Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TRice', written in a cursive style.

Toshiba Rice

Toshiba Rice

Toshiba@ToshibaRice.com | 919-576-0556

Qualifications Summary

- Reliable, deadline driven Trainer and Consultant with 15+ years case management, team building, and employee supervision. Excellent ability to complete projects in short time-frames and timely manner.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills, proficient in the ability to interact professionally with internal and external customers of diverse groups, leadership levels, and subject matter experts.
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment with great attention to detail with accuracy.
- Keen decision-making without regard to personal prejudices, biases, and experiences.
- Experienced and knowledgeable with the NC DHHS and Wake County Department of Social Services and their programs.
- Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook, Windows, and Mac OS operating systems. Experienced in using Set-Works, Welligent, Curam, SAP, Casebook, TherapyNotes, ICANotes, Quickbooks, Square, NC Fast, WebEX, Adobe Connect, Adobe Captivate

Work Experience

Principal Consultant/Trainer

2001 to Current

Jo-Khy-Ki: imWell, Raleigh, NC

- Develop well-being strategic and deployment plans for families, businesses, government, and education institutions to guide their well-being best practices.
- Train staff and students statewide from pre-k to post-secondary education in mental health well-being best practices and Mental Health First Aid.
- Provide one-on-one professional development to leadership teams and consultants for personal growth leading to self-actualization.
- Provide case management to families, companies, agencies, and organizations needing culture change and a strategic plan using evidence-based program development.
- Assess families in well-being crisis or non-crisis focusing on the eight dimensions of wellness to develop recovery and resiliency action plans.
- Provide leadership, liaison, or representation for local, state, and national mental health, substance use, and child well-being initiatives.
- Integrate evidence-based well-being best practices, training, and consulting support into governments, businesses, faith communities, and educational institutions.
- Develop, manage, and consult with Mental Health Professionals and Provider owners on administrative practices and community education support services for most productive client/provider outcomes.

Executive Director

2010 to Current

Track My Steps, Raleigh, NC

- Supervised staff education consultants and volunteers.
- Train parents and community on complex education policy during highly stressful situations in a calm effective manner while respecting and valuing individuals' differences.

- Developed programming/training for parents and students focused on closing student achievement gaps, increasing attendance, on-time graduation, college, and career readiness.
- Interview and access program participants for multiple county services Casebook to report interview outcomes and client data.
- Representative for county boards, collaboratives, and public meetings.
- Create community partnerships to maintain effective relationships with others in order to encourage and support communication and teamwork with the public.
- Attend student parent/teacher conferences, Section 504, and IEP meetings for best student outcome.

Community Resource Trainer

2016 to 2022

Easter Seals UCP, Raleigh, NC

- Case manager for 25 mental health and intellectually disabled persons in supported employment.
- Strong interpersonal human relation skills and the ability to maintain a high level of confidence.
- Analyze data for best strategies on training, motivating and coaching clients.
- Conduct interviews and train clients in seeking and maintaining employment.
- Organize and prioritize duties, use strong analytical and problem-solving skills for client support.
- Inform clients on Medicaid eligibility for supported employment using the NC TOPPS system.
- Submit timely service notes with detailed outcomes in Set-Works & Welligent Disability Management System.

Education

Wake Technical Community College Raleigh, NC

2001

Focused classwork in Associates in Arts Degree

Certifications & Trainings

Income Maintenance Caseworker -NC FAST Certificate	2018
Human Services Exploration: DSS Caseworker Certificate	2018
Silver Career Readiness Certificate	2018
Disability Determination Certificate	2018
Project Management-Lean Process Certified	2017
Executive Management Certified	2017
Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Certified	2017
Mental Health First Aid Trainer Certified	2016
Nurturing Parent Program Facilitator Certified	2016
Child and Family Teams Certificate	2015
City of Raleigh Citizens Leadership Academy Certificate	2014

CHRISTINE KUSHNER
3220 Birnamwood Road
Raleigh NC 27607

January 22, 2024

Wake County Board of Education
RE: District 4 vacancy
Wake County Public School System
Crossroads I
5625 Dillard Drive
Cary, NC 27518

Dear Members of the Wake County School Board:

I write to endorse Ms. Toshiba Rice to fill the vacant seat representing District 4 on the Wake County Board of Education. I have known Ms. Rice since 2009, and I recommend her as a fierce advocate for children and an unblinking supporter of improving public education and public schools for all students.

Ms. Rice has been active in our schools, as a parent and as a mental health worker, as well as a public speaker and member of District Board Advisory Councils. She served as Chair of the District 1 BAC under then-board member Chris Malone, and she has remained active in policy development, as both a parent volunteer and as a mental health provider for youth. The variety of her work, knowledge, and experiences would make her a strong member of the School Board.

Ms. Rice is especially an ideal successor to Ms. Tara Waters—Toshiba has four children, three who have graduated from WCPSS schools and a son who is a current high school student in WCPSS, as well as a grandchild who is a first grader in WCPSS. Ms. Rice has a deep, long-term commitment to the school system. Like Ms. Waters, she is an optimist and has a powerful positive presence, even when working on difficult problems. She is a problem solver, with keen empathy that identifies problems and ways for systems to improve.

I strongly support her candidacy to the Board. As a mother, grandmother, and advocate, Toshiba has the perfect background for the job, and she has the skills to excel as a public servant.

Sincerely,



Christine Kushner

C/O DISTRICT 4
BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY
Wake County Public School System
Crossroads I
5625 Dillard Drive
Cary, NC 27518

Dear Wake County School Board,

I am writing to recommend Toshiba Rice for the open school board seat. I have known Ms. Rice for over five years, and I have been impressed by her dedication to public education and her commitment to serving the community.

Toshiba is a lifelong resident of Wake County. She has a child who is currently enrolled in the public school system. She is actively and historically been involved in her children's schools, and she has served on several school committees. She was also a member of the local PTA and was Chair of the Board Advisory Council.

She has a strong background in education. She has worked with several education advocacy organizations, and she has worked to train in the areas of Mental Health First Aid. She is known by a range of school staff, leaders and superintendents in the public school system. More importantly, she is known by the community. She is knowledgeable about the challenges facing public schools, and she has a passion for ensuring that all students have access to a quality education.

In addition to her experience in education, Toshiba is also a community leader. She is a member of several civic organizations, and she is always willing to volunteer her time to help others. She is a strong advocate for children and families, and she is committed to making sure that all students have the opportunity to succeed.

I believe that Ms. Rice would be an asset to the school board. She is a dedicated educator, a community leader, and a strong advocate for children. I highly recommend her for the open school board seat.

Sincerely,



Dr. Terrance Ruth



C/O District 4
Board of Education Vacancy
Wake County Board of Education
Crossroads I, 5625 Dillard Drive
Cary, NC 27518

Dear Wake County Public School Board Members,

I am writing this letter to recommend that Toshiba Rice be considered for the currently vacant seat on the Wake County School Board. I've known Ms. Rice for many years, while we worked together at Easterseals UCP, providing Supported Employment services to adolescents and adults with disabilities. During my time working with Ms. Rice I have always known her to conduct herself with integrity and passion for the people we were providing services to. She is a hard worker and strong advocate for others. She never fails to address hard situations and make difficult decisions when necessary. I truly believe that Ms. Rice will thrive in a position on the Wake County Board of Education and in turn, our schools, teachers, and students will also thrive.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Casey Corder
73255DDE1CEC422...

Casey Corder
Senior Program Manager
Employment and IPS Services
Easterseals UCP
919-621-2109
casey.corder@eastersealsucp.com

New Search

TOSHIBA RICE
6520 ANDRON DR # 202
RALEIGH, NC 27616

[Collapse all sections](#) | [Expand all sections](#)

YOUR VOTER DETAILS 

County:	WAKE
Status:	ACTIVE
Voter Reg Num:	000010361999
NCID:	EH324957
Party:	DEM
Race:	BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN
Ethnicity:	NOT HISPANIC or NOT LATINO
Gender:	FEMALE
Registration Date:	10/09/1996
NCDMV Customer:	No

YOUR JURISDICTIONS 

Precinct:	PRECINCT 13-01
Congress:	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2
NC Senate:	NC SENATE DISTRICT 14
NC House:	NC HOUSE DISTRICT 66
Superior Court:	SUPERIOR COURT DISTRICT 10E
Judicial:	JUDICIAL DISTRICT 10B
Prosecutorial:	PROSECUTORIAL DISTRICT 10
County Commissioner:	COUNTY COMMISSIONER 1
Municipality:	RALEIGH
Ward:	RALEIGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT B
School:	BOARD OF EDUCATION 4

YOUR VOTING LOCATIONS 

During the early voting period, voters may cast a ballot at any one-stop site in their county, and eligible individuals may register and vote at the same time. Find one-stop sites and schedules in your county with the [One-Stop Early Voting Site Search](#). *Voting sites change for each election and become available when finalized.*

Election Day voters must cast a ballot at their assigned polling place. Click the name of your Election Day polling place below for location details, your county board of elections contact information, and sample ballots *when available*.

[SAINT MATTHEW BAPTIST CHURCH](#)
5410 LOUISBURG RD
RALEIGH, NC 27616

YOUR SAMPLE BALLOT (1) 

If this section is blank, you do not have any upcoming elections in your jurisdiction for the current year.

“Ballots not assigned yet” means a sample ballot is not yet available. Return to this site closer to the election date to view your sample ballot(s).

Practice making your selections with the accessible sample ballot by choosing “Option 4” on the [absentee ballot portal](#).

Election	Your Sample Ballot(s)
11/05/2024 GENERAL	Ballots not assigned yet.
03/05/2024 PRIMARY	<u>D0014</u>

YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT: BY MAIL OR EARLY VOTING (0)



By North Carolina law, in-person early voting and by-mail voting are “absentee” voting, as you vote “absent” of Election Day.

Note: County boards of elections will post ballot acceptance information, but ballot requests are no longer public record until the ballot is returned, or until Election Day, whichever is earlier. If you have not received your ballot within two weeks of your request, contact your [county board of elections](#).

To track your by-mail absentee ballot from request to acceptance, sign up for status notifications through [BallotTrax](#).

YOUR VOTER HISTORY (27)



If this section is blank, we do not have a record that you voted in a past election in North Carolina.

<u>Election</u>	<u>Voted Method</u>	<u>Voted County</u>	<u>Primary Election Ballot</u>
11/08/2022 GENERAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
07/26/2022 SECOND PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
05/17/2022 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
11/03/2020 GENERAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
03/03/2020 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
10/08/2019 MUNICIPAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	
11/06/2018 GENERAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
05/08/2018 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
11/07/2017 MUNICIPAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	
10/10/2017 MUNICIPAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
11/08/2016 GENERAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	
06/07/2016 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
03/15/2016 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
10/06/2015 MUNICIPAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	
11/04/2014 GENERAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	
05/06/2014 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
10/08/2013 MUNICIPAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
11/06/2012 GENERAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
05/08/2012 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
11/02/2010 GENERAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
06/22/2010 SECOND PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
05/04/2010 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
10/06/2009 MUNICIPAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	
11/04/2008 GENERAL	ONE-STOP EARLY VOTING	WAKE	
05/06/2008 PRIMARY	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	DEMOCRATIC
11/02/2004 GENERAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	
11/07/2000 GENERAL	IN-PERSON ELECTION DAY	WAKE	

For more information, please contact the [Wake County Board of Elections](#).

