



Madison Country Day School Board of Trustees Biographies 2018 - 2019



Bruce Bosben, BBA, is Chairman of the Board of Apex Real Estate Holdings, a Madison-based property ownership and management firm, which he founded in 1986. He earned a BBA from UW-Madison in 1992. Bruce has been involved in numerous real estate development projects, restoration projects and re-purposing projects, as well as serving on several land-use and urban-planning committees. Bruce is serving on the Finance Committee and Property Committee at MCDS. He has also served on the boards of several Madison-area non-profits. He is an amateur expert on classical records and was a successful amateur golfer in his teens and twenties. Bruce and his wife Gwen have two sons, John and Stephen, who have attended MCDS since Pre-K.



Lynn Cichocki, BA, MBA, is a Rare Disease Regional Director at Sanofi Genzyme, the specialty care global business unit of Sanofi. She is responsible for managing and leading a sales team, promoting therapy for patients with lysosomal storage disorders, in the Great Lakes Region. Lynn earned a BA from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in 1996 and MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2003. She and her family have been a part of the Madison Country Day School community since 2012. During that time, Lynn has served as a community grade parent and mentor parent. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, golfing, and downhill skiing.



Guy Comer, BA is president of the Comer Science and Education Foundation (CSEF), a position he has held for the past nine years. CSEF is a nonprofit organization based in Chicago with three areas of focus: owner-city education reform and community development; health care for the underserved; and climate change research, technology and fieldwork. Guy's work centers on improving education and the lives of children in Chicago's Grand Crossing neighborhood, the South Side community in which his late father was raised. Guy's primary responsibilities include overseeing operations of the Gary Comer Youth Center, a facility that provides after-school alternatives for children from Grand Crossing. The Youth Center also offers adjunct classrooms, gymnasium and auditorium space for the neighboring high school, Gary Comer College Prep (GCCP), a Noble Street Charter School, which opened in 2008. Guy manages the relationship among the Youth Center staff, GCCP administration, community leaders as well as city officials. In addition, Guy was involved in the development of Revere Way, a comprehensive community revitalization project offering affordable, fine-quality homes to area residents. He was instrumental in negotiating the first Chicago Public Library branch to open in the Grand Crossing neighborhood. Guy also is a partner in GCI, an investment company that funds start-up businesses. Prior to his appointment at CSEF, Guy was a commercial airline pilot with American Trans Air for five years. For several years he owned and operated Pond Air, a small, Wisconsin-based regional air carrier. Early in his flying career Guy worked as a bush and freight pilot based in Alaska as well as taught flight school in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He graduated with a B.A. in English Literature from the University of California-Santa Barbara in 1993. Guy is on the board of Noble Network of Charter Schools in Chicago and Madison Country Day School in Madison. Guy enjoys volunteering his time to help educate and mentor inner-city youth. In his spare time he also is an avid runner who has completed three ultra-marathons. He and Courtney have three children - Campbell, Spencer, and Clarissa attending MCDS. They reside in Middleton, Wisconsin.



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Jim Gallegos, JD, has been Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary at Wisconsin Power and Light Company, Interstate Power and Light Company, and Alliant Energy Corporation since November 2010. Jim has a bachelor of science degree in business from the University of Colorado. He earned his juris doctor from the Law Center at the University of Minnesota in 1990. Jim has more than 25 years of business and legal experience, including nearly a decade of utility experience. Early in 1995, he joined US WEST, Inc., in Denver as an attorney, Regulatory Section, responsible for regulatory and legislative activities in Colorado and New Mexico. In 1997, he served as director of public policy, becoming the main lobbyist for US WEST in Colorado. Following Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation's merger with Qwest in 2000, he became associate general counsel concentrating on transactions supporting their network and wholesale business sectors. He served as vice president of legal affairs for Quest in 2002. Jim currently serves as the Chair of Madison Country Day School's Board of Trustees. Jim and his partner George Anglin have two children, Django and Adrien, who attended MCDS in the past.



Hollie A. Kemmer, CPA, is a senior manager at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP. She specializes in providing assurance and accounting services to real estate clients, investment fund clients, and employee benefit plans. She manages and completes financial statement audits and other attest engagements including reviews, compilations including full disclosure for commercial, retail, and multifamily real estate developers and funds. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Wisconsin Institute of Certified Public Accountants (WICPA) and graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Accounting. Hollie currently serves as the Treasurer of Madison Country Day School's Board of Trustees. Hollie and her husband Luke have three children, Vanessa, Moreen and Quintin. Their family enjoys the outside, music, and exercise.



Mike Kersels, MIM, MBA, BSBA is Founder and CEO of Enterprise Services Management, Inc., a Madison based Software as a Service company. Prior to running his own company, Mike held senior level management positions at IBM, SAP, HCL, and Home Meridian International. He has fulfilled a variety of key roles in the adoption of technology innovation for more than 20 years. Mike has worked and lived globally for business throughout most of his career and earned a Master of International Management from Thunderbird in Latin American studies. He also holds an MBA from Saint Louis University, and a BSBA from University of Missouri. In the past he was a volunteer teacher of various business topics through multiple chapters of Junior Achievement. In his spare time, Mike likes to practice Bikram yoga with his wife Kathryn and is constantly planning the next project car build to race at Road America. Mike and Kathryn reside in Cottage Grove with their two daughters. Sydney is now entering First Grade at MCDS and has attended since Pre-K. Zoe is turning two soon and already plans to be an MCDS student!

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Sumit Rana, BSE is Senior Vice President of Research and Development at Epic. Sumit serves as a liaison with Epic's users and helps coordinate and propel Epic's technology and application development roadmap. Sumit is a graduate of the Delhi College of Engineering and has formal training in computer science. He has played an extensive role in Epic's software and services planning and development and has been with Epic for over eighteen years. Sumit and her wife Divya have two children, Rhea and Anya, who are both long-time students at MCDS.



Bob Rusch, CFA, CPA, is the Vice President – Finance & Accounting for American Transmission Co. LLC (ATC), an electric transmission company serving a large portion of Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and portions of northern Illinois. His primary responsibilities include all aspects of finance, treasury and accounting, and include long-term and short-term financing needs, cash management, financial forecasting and budgeting, financial reporting, general accounting, and partnership tax matters. Bob began his career in public accounting with the Milwaukee office of Arthur Andersen & Co. He worked for over 17 years with Alliant Energy in several capacities including treasury, investor relations, financial planning, and natural gas trading and energy risk management. He has been with ATC since 2008. Bob has a BBA and MBA from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and is also a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). He is a member of the CFA Institute and the Wisconsin Institute of CPA's. Bob is a member of the finance and audit committee of the MCDS Board of Trustees. His two children, Nicholas and Amanda, attend MCDS.

Not Pictured

Rick Salin, CFA, MBA, worked for William Harris Investors, Inc., a Chicago-based family office, between 2001 and 2017. Rick served as a co-portfolio manager and senior equity analyst for the WHI Growth Fund, a \$350 million hedge fund. Prior to 2001, Rick worked as a small cap analyst for the Chicago Trust Company and JSS Investments, Inc. He also spent five years working as an associate at Houlihan, Lokey, Howard and Zukin, a boutique investment bank. Rick received his MBA from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business where he graduated with honors and was elected to the Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society. He also holds a BBA degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Rick volunteers his time mentoring prospective and current students in the Applied Securities Analysis Program at the UW School of Business. Rick is an avid Badger Hockey fan and enjoys spending time with his wife, Jen and daughter, Lily. Lily attended MCDS from Pre-K through second grade.

Madison Country Day School Board of Trustees Biographies 2018 - 2019



John Schaffer, PhD, is professor of music theory at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and former chair of the School of Music. He holds a PhD in music theory from Indiana University and a BM in Classical Guitar from Wayne State University. He is quite active in exploring advanced uses of technology for music theory research and pedagogy and non-formal approaches to the study and cognition of atonal music. In addition to his teaching duties, John is the founding director of the Wisconsin Center for Music Technology, emeritus editor and founder of the international journal *Computers in Music Research*, and member of the NASM Commission on Accreditation. He is a frequent consultant to music programs across the United States and Canada and can be found moonlighting as a jazz bassist. Prior to his appointment at Madison in 1986, John held positions at the University of Windsor (Ontario) and Purdue University.



Richard Shepley, CFA, MA, is Senior Director of Investments at the University of Wisconsin Foundation where he is responsible for managing the Foundation's public equity investments. Richard received an MA (Hons) in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University, is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and is an Associate of the CFA Society of the UK. He has over 20 years of experience investing in global equity markets initially in London, with Newton Investment Management, and then in New York with Scudder Investments, Deutsche Asset Management and OppenheimerFunds. Richard and his wife Rebecca have three children, Claire, Luke and Sofia who all attend MCDS.



Laura J. Stephenson, PhD, is an educator, mother, and parent advocate. She holds a BA from Stanford University, and an MA from University of Pennsylvania. She has worked in many aspects of media. Including, as a child actress, casting assistant, and research assistant for children's television shows. Laura earned her PhD in Communication Arts at the University of Wisconsin-Madison studying media effects. Her research focuses on the role of media in the home, with an emphasis on parents and parental mediation. She strives to help parents understand their influential part in negotiating media in the home, and to provide ideas on how to smoothly navigate this new terrain. Before pursuing her PhD, Laura worked with undergraduates at Washington University in St. Louis as a scholarship director, guiding Scholars through their college careers and advising students. Laura and her husband, Jason, have twins, Hunter and Walker, who joined the MCDS community in 2016.

Madison Country Day School Board of Trustees Biographies 2018 - 2019



Michelle Umberger, JD, is the Managing Partner of the Madison office of Perkins Coie LLP, an international law firm with more than 1,000 attorneys. Michelle is also a member of the Firm's Executive Committee, which guides the Firm's Management Committee in fulfilling its responsibilities to the partners and others by overseeing the executive management of the Firm. The Executive Committee does this by reviewing and monitoring the business of the Firm on a regular basis, and making recommendations to the Management Committee on policy and procedures when necessary. She serves as thoughtful counselor to local and international clients on issues relating to intellectual property matters and complex commercial disputes. Michelle moved to Madison to attend the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1994, with her three children, ages 2,3, and 5. She graduated cum laude in 1997. In 2012, Michelle received the distinguished "Women in the Law" award from the Wisconsin Law Journal. This award recognizes women who have achieved excellence in their legal careers, influenced other women to pursue legal careers, and shown a commitment to advancing opportunities for women in job settings that were historically closed to women. Michelle is married to Jamaal Kemp and together they share a passion for travel.



Telisa Yancy, MBA, is recognized in the business community as a revolutionary thinker and a transformational leader with a keen focus on customer-driven business models that leverage technology and design to gain efficiency and deliver delight and growth customers. Ms. Yancy is a member of the American Family Mutual Insurance, SI, Senior Leadership Team, where she serves as the Chief Marketing Officer of the Fortune 300 company, leading all marketing, customer experience, consumer insights, communications, and digital functions. Ms. Yancy is a native of Chicago, IL and holds a BS from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and an MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management. She is listed by Savoy Magazine and Black Enterprise Magazine for being in the top 100 of most influential African Americans in Business. She was a 2016 Ebony Magazine Power 100 Honoree, a 2017 Ad Age Woman to Watch and she is one of 100 individuals globally selected to be a member of Marshal Goldsmith's 100 coaches. She has one first grader and a niece in seventh grade attending MCDS.

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Sheila Young, BA, has worked in marketing, promotions and public relations in Chicago, London, Tokyo, and New York. Primarily for news organizations including New Century Network, USA Today International, and the Chicago Tribune, as well as the British Heart, Foundation, FOCUS Information Services, Eastern European Investment Magazine and Entertainment Publications. Sheila has a BA in English Literature from Northwestern University. She has also served a three-year term on the Board of Directors of Maple Bluff Country Club and remains on their tennis committee. For the past five years Sheila has co-chaired the Village of Maple Bluff annual Bocce fundraiser in support of neighborhood parks, and serves on the village Parks and Recreation Committee. Additionally, Sheila is the 2017-18 Mayor of Maple Bluff, an office which, in the tradition of her Irish American political predecessors like Dailey, Kennedy and Tweed, she simply purchased outright. (The position is auctioned annually for fun; true village governing power resides with an elected board). As an MCDS volunteer, Sheila has been a room parent, kayak volunteer, Girls on the Run coach, booster club member and manages both middle school and high school club tennis teams. She has been involved with MCDS' marketing, development, and public relations efforts since 2006, inaugurating the Big Hairy Fundraiser in support of the Annual Fund in 2009, and is currently the chair of the marketing committee. Sheila and her husband, John, have three children who have attended or are currently enrolled: Celia, MCDS Class of '17, now at Brandeis University in Boston, Declan (Class of 2019), and Colin (Class of 2022).

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Honorary Trustees:



Terry Haller, grew up in the Los Angeles area, graduating in 1969 from Pomona College with distinction in mathematics. In 1971, he received a M.A. in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin, and he has lived in Madison since then. In 1971, he co-founded Exel Inns of America, which owned and operated hotels in the Midwest and Texas. This company was sold in 2008, and Mr. Haller is now retired and is spending much of his time traveling. Since 1984, he has served as a board member or advisor to many nonprofit organizations, primarily in the arts, education and foundation areas. He has been an enthusiastic supporter of the arts and humanities in Madison and Wisconsin. As a volunteer, he has used his considerable business and fund raising expertise on behalf of numerous organizations including the American Players Theatre, the Madison Symphony Orchestra, the CTM Children's Theater of Madison and the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters. In 1993, Mr. Haller was awarded the Governor's Award in Support of the Arts in Wisconsin. The next year, he received national recognition in Boston Massachusetts when he was given the National Governor's Association Award for Distinguished Service in the Arts in a ceremony before the nation's governors (an award which is given to one person each year, selected from nominations made by the 50 state governors). He was named Philanthropist of the Year in Madison in 1998 by the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, and he was awarded the Community Asset Builder Award by the Madison Community Foundation in 2002.



Eric M. McLeod, JD, is a partner with the law firm Husch Blackwell, LLP. Eric was a cum laude graduate from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1993. He was a founding member of the Madison Country Day School Board of Trustees and he served as a Trustee from 1995-2000 and again from 2005-2012. Eric is now an ex officio member of the MCDS Board. He has also served on a variety of non-profit and government boards and committees including the Madison Children's Museum and The Village of Maple Bluff, where served as Village President between 2009 and 2015. Eric is married to Jenner Weston McLeod. They have three adult daughters, Jenner, Anders and Hollis, who are fortunate to have received an MCDS education.



Madison Country Day School Board of Trustees Biographies 2018 - 2019



Bassam Shakhashiri, AB, MSc, PhD, a native of Lebanon, is a highly esteemed chemistry and science educator who holds degrees from Boston University (AB) and the University of Maryland (MSc, PhD). He is the William T. Evjue Distinguished Chair for the Wisconsin Idea, Director of the Wisconsin Initiative for Science Literacy, past president of the American Chemical Society, and founder of the Institute for Chemical Education, which he served as director. Bassam joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1970, a position he still holds. Additionally, as assistant director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) for Science and Engineering Education from 1984-1990, his leadership helped establish initiatives and NSF education programs that still make a lasting contribution well beyond his tenure. Dr. Shakhashiri's entertaining and educational program "Once Upon a Christmas Cheery, In the Lab of Shakhashiri," as well as other shows proclaiming "Science is Fun," are well-loved locally and known throughout the United States thanks to PBS programming. Bassam has delivered over 1400 invited lectures around the world, received more than 35 prestigious awards for his contributions to science education, and been awarded numerous honorary doctorates. Professor Shakhashiri has long been a friend of MCDS serving previously on the board of trustees. He and his wife June live in Madison.



Beverly S. Simone, Ed.D., earned her EdD from Indiana University. She has served as a community college district president for twenty-five years in Wisconsin and Iowa. She also was the provost of a system of twelve colleges in the United Arab Emirates. She has been a faculty member, dean, provost and president. Additionally, she has experience as a business developer and owner in Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. Simone's national leadership included chairing the boards of the American Association of Community Colleges, the American Association of Women in Community Colleges, and the National Leadership Institute. Dr. Simone also served on the boards of the American Council for Education, the national Chairs Academy, and the regional North Central Board, and the Higher Learning Commission. She is an international speaker on US community colleges. Her writings focus on leadership, ethics, access, and accountability. She is President Emerita of Madison College and served as an adjunct professor in the doctorate of management program at the University of Maryland.



Emily Henry '10, BA, President, MCDS Alumni Association, (Ex-Officio), is a Client Relationship Manager at Design Concepts, a strategic innovation and product design firm headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin. Working with clients ranging from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies and everything between, Emily is passionate about helping solve her clients' most complex business problems. Emily currently serves as President of MCDS Alumni Association, a natural step from her days as a member of the very first MCDS IB Diploma class. Emily's daughter, Harper, has joined the MCDS Class of 2032 this year.