



# League of Women Voters Troy Area

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## Voter Guide-Troy School Election

**Vote: November 8, 2011**

**Candidate Forum-Troy School Board**  
 Monday, October 24, 2011  
 School Services Building Auditorium  
 4420 Livernois, Troy  
 7-8:30 PM

**Viewing Times**  
 Check TS-TV TSD Comcast channel 19 and WOW channel 15 for times and dates of replay on TV.  
 Check Video on Demand for rebroadcast via computer on [www.troy.k12.mi.us](http://www.troy.k12.mi.us) and clicking on appropriate icon.

**Voter Information**

- ✓ Polls open from 7AM – 8PM
- ✓ Troy City Clerk’s Office will be open for absent voter balloting. Call for hours and precinct information.
- ✓ Report illegal or fraudulent activity to the local clerk or the Michigan Department of State’s Bureau of Elections
- ✓ Troy City Clerk’s Office (248) 524-3316

**Election Day Ballot**

**Vote for three (3) for Troy School Board for a six year term**

**Gary Hauff  
 M’Liz Malven  
 Todd Miletti  
 Karl Schmidt  
 Cristian Teodoridis**

<b>Biography-School Board (50 word limit)</b>	<b>How do you feel about Troy participating in schools of choice? (75 word limit on all questions)</b>	<b>What needs to be done about bullying, especially cyber bullying using electronic devices and means?</b>	<b>Are we preparing students for the current job market and living in the world of today?</b>
<p><b>Gary Hauff</b></p> <p>I began my career of public service to the citizens of Troy in 1971 serving as a police officer for over a quarter century. Then my attention turned to serving the citizens further as a school board trustee, first being elected in 1998. I’ve amassed over 868 credits from MASB (.....)</p>	<p>I am confident our schools of choice program is an excellent program, maintain our enrollment and programs at capacity. We have set parameters for initial entry into “S.O.C.” at K-1 and have met our goals, and is met with approval by our community.</p>	<p>The bullying issue is closely monitored through the guidelines and policies set by the Troy School District and state law. The bullying policy is frequently reviewed by the school board and administrators. The board receives periodic reports regarding this issue that provides detail, as appropriate, as this problem occurs.</p>	<p>As the Troy School District is a “destination school district” we strive, as board members to ensure 21<sup>st</sup> century programming that prepares our students for entry in a global economy. We strive to provide the tools and physical environment that allow our children to learn and succeed. Importantly, our educators in the classroom are the best.</p>
<p><b>M’Liz Malven</b></p> <p>Nine year resident          Two children Troy Schools          First year Board appointed – February          80% MASB Certified          B.S. Education, Special Education; Pennsylvania State University          25 years senior manager with strong global leadership, financial and problem solving          Youth Advocate: President PTO Council, Vice President SAFE HOMES, Community Coalition, Youth Assistance</p>	<p>Support Schools of Choice because allows better use facilities and utilize our staff plus some of these students’ families ultimately move into district. Parents who choose this option are committed to child’s education and are seeking higher standards in Troy. Troy limits enrollment to Kindergarten/first grade. This allows for some control on student population. Studies show that schools of choice students enrolled in Troy early in elementary grades score just as well as district students.</p>	<p>I have always been an advocate against bullying of any kind. With the advancement of technology, bullying has taken on many unknown avenues. I was the parent liaison for Self Esteem Committee at Wass elementary and I participated in the Larson Peace In Dissin’ Out campaign. I also wrote an article for SAFE HOMES newsletter specifically about Cyber Bullying. I believe that open, caring, and frequent communication to all youth is key to detecting problems.</p>	<p>Statistics about Troy graduates are highlighted with awards and honors that rank them fourth in the state and are nationally recognized. The superior instruction that our students receive have them scoring in the top of the nation. Troy senior graduation rate is 99% with over 95% seeking higher education. I think that the sports, clubs, and activities that are available and encouraged of our students prepare them to be successful dealing with others in life.</p>

<b>Biography – School Board (50 word limit)</b>	<b>How do you feel about Troy participating in schools of choice? (75 word limit on all questions)</b>	<b>What needs to be done about bullying, especially cyber bullying using electronic devices and means?</b>	<b>Are we preparing students for the current job market and living in the world of today?</b>
<p><b>Todd Miletti</b> K-12/Hi-Ed Account Manager for Hewlett-Packard Company. P&amp;L responsibility of \$18 million. Michigan Association of School Boards Certified-Award of Merit BoE Trustee since 2007. Documented record of strong leadership. Balanced budget without sacrificing educational programs. Collaborative and transparent approach to position. Student Centered. Fiscally Focused.</p>	<p>The limited SOC program has been essential for TSD to balance student enrollment over the last few years. Since inception, it has resulted in 42 children actually moving into the district. SOC population is still below 10% of total students. District is responsible in its approach (K-1 only) and monitors the need annually. District did grow organically this year.</p>	<p>Zero tolerance for bullying, regardless of the means. Cyber bullying takes it to another level of complexity. District must engage when cyber bullying occurs. Unfortunately, asking the district to monitor 12,000 students’ electronic communications is not realistic. Parents MUST engage and monitor their child’s cyber communications. This type of intervention is critical to help keep bullying out of the schools. Parents are also encouraged to notify and work with the district when these situations arise.</p>	<p>Yes, but it is a constant process. Being employable goes beyond being a good test taker, but also includes possessing 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. Critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and communication skills are at the center of the district’s new Common Core Assessments. District’s goal for this year is for all students to be college/career ready in literacy, science, math and social studies.</p>
<p><b>Karl Schmidt</b> Self-financed owner of \$2 million Troy research firm since 1995. Instructor, Oakland University Business School. Leadership team, St. Anastasia Youth Program. Married, two kids, 17 years in Troy. Skills include management, marketing, finance, human resource management, employee benefits, social research, statistics. BA Advertising, MSU; MBA, Oakland University.</p>	<p>I support limited participation in Schools of Choice. Choice allows parents unhappy with neighboring districts an option to enroll here. Choice also provides financial stability for the District and its employees by maintaining total enrollment and most funding if the number of students living in Troy falls. I do not support actively marketing Troy Schools outside the district because it could become a significant distraction from our primary purpose of educating kids already here.</p>	<p>Social media can make bullying especially devastating. TSD needs to maintain environments where all feel safe, protected and respected. We must actively promote the value of respect and tolerance across students. Students must know that adults surrounding them care and will vigilantly protect any student who feels bullied. Clear reporting mechanisms must be in place. Special care should be taken to provide high risk groups such as LGBTIQQA teens with resources and emotional support.</p>	<p>The current market requires formal education beyond high school, and TSD is preparing its students well for higher education. However, we need to increase our kids’ exposure to potential careers in newer, less conventional fields. A better preview of modern career options will help them plan appropriate higher educational paths. Let’s add an “executive on campus” program, where Troy area adults with unusual careers occasionally visit related-subject classrooms to share and inspire.</p>
<p><b>Christian Teodoridis</b> 20+ years of international experience in Engineering, Information Technology and Marketing in Eastern Europe, Western Europe and the United States. Currently working as an Innovation Manager at Chrysler.  Bachelor and Masters in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA . Successfully completed 3 years in a Doctorate in Business program (DBA), no dissertation.</p>	<p>I don’t support the recent initiative in Lansing for making schools of choice mandatory. Implementing schools of choice should be a local decision, an option available to school districts if optimal enrollment numbers cannot be achieved.  Schools of choice is controversial, with split support among the residents of Troy. I am therefore supportive of it only if no other means exist of boosting enrollment to a level that would maximize revenue without jeopardizing students’ safety.</p>	<p>Troy schools have a bullying policy; cyberbullying is a form of bullying, therefore there is no need for additional policies. Schools must follow their policy, provide prompt feedback to parties involved.  For legal standing and jurisdiction in digital world schools must apply the Tinker test: restrictions on speech are permissible if the speech caused, or was likely to cause, a “substantial disruption or material interference with school activities” or “invasion of the rights of others.”</p>	<p>Our schools are among the best schools in the US, who in turn are the best in the world at preparing students for living and working in today’s world. More can be done to increase effectiveness by: emphasizing entrepreneurship; analyzing trends in technology and adapting learning to anticipate careers in emerging fields (nano-technology, biomedical etc.)  Scholastic knowledge must be complemented by practical skills. More hands-on courses could better prepare students who don’t pursue higher education.</p>