

2019-2020 Cheatham Elementary Foundation Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

President – Emerson Palame
Vice President – Vic McCarty
Secretary – Shelley Powell
Treasurer – Matt Jelenevsky
Administrative Representative – Dr. Kevin Carpenter

Committee Chairperson(s)

Communications Chair – Rashed Chowdhury
Community Engagement Chair – Tim Cowan
Fundraising Chair - Tracey Northington
Governance Chair – Shelley Powell (Interim Chair)
Support Chair - Nicole Meador

PTA Liaison - Jenna Belfanti

Members At Large

Trent Flournoy
Aubrey Kinnaman
Ashley Payne
Heather Powell

Committee Members

Julia Sargent
Lynn Taylor
Kathryn Vise
Jason Vise
Emily Welsch

Cheatham Hill Educational Foundation

2019/2020 Executive Leadership and Committee Member Bios

Jenna Belfanti --- Jenna is a mom of 2 girls. Gracie is a 4rd grader at CHES, and Stella is a kindergartener. She has served as our school's PTA President for the past 3 years, and she will serve as one of the VP's next year. Jenna's goal is to continue the strong working partnership that has been established between the Foundation and the PTA."

Dr. Kevin Carpenter --- "The 2019-2020 school year will be Kevin's first year serving as the principal of Cheatham Hill Elementary School. His goal is to empower and inspire our amazing staff, students, and community members to be their best as we prepare our children for their futures in a positive and encouraging learning environment. Additionally, Kevin wants to continue to work toward our vision of creating 'a school of excellence where ALL students succeed.' He is excited to begin building relationships with our wonderful Cheatham Hill community."

Rashed Chowdhury --- "Rashed serves as Principal, Enterprise Application at Infosys. Rashed has 20 + years of IT and Cloud technology experience. Rashed is an Adjunct Faculty, CRM and Digital Marketing at Georgia State University, Computer Information Systems where he teaches master's level students CRM courses. Recently, he worked as the global Vice President, Salesforce Development for a Crawford & Company, a major insurance claim management company in Atlanta, responsible for high level design, strategy to implement cloud technology, marketing automation and Front Office platform. He is married to Sameena Chowdhury and their son, Imaad, is a 3rd grade student at CHES and Imran, is a 6th grade student at Pine Mountain Middle School. Imran graduated from CHES."

Tim Cowan --- "Tim is Managing Partner/Listing Specialist of The Cowan Connection Team of Keller Williams Realty which he manages with his wife, Jennifer. Their team has consistently been recognized as one of the Top 10 Real Estate Teams by the Cobb Board of Realtors and Tim was named as one of the ""100 Most Influential Real Estate Agents in Georgia"" in 2016 & 2017. Tim understands that our local property values are a direct result of the school rating of Cheatham Hill Elementary School. Tim believes we have enough resources and connections in our own backyard to make Cheatham Hill the most desirable elementary in the system. Tim also serves on the CHES School Council as a parent and local business owner. Tim and Jennifer have 2 kids currently at CHES with Cody entering his last year and Avery going into the 4th grade. In his spare time, Tim enjoys coaching Cody's youth football and basketball teams. He loves to play golf, tennis, working out at OTF and recently has taken up running with his kids. From time to time, Tim can be spotted wearing something orange in support of his beloved Clemson Tigers where he graduated from in 1998 with a BS in Business Mgt."

Matthew Jelenevsky --- "Matt has 15+ years of experience leading process improvement and project management activities for large, complex organizations. Currently, he works at SunTrust designing and improving processes related to fraud detection and prevention. In previous volunteer Board/Director roles, Matt helped launch the Families@Amex Employee Network which was responsible for developing programming and events to help employees meet work-life needs related to both child and elder care. Matt also served as Secretary for the University Landings HOA in Tamarac, FL. Key strengths Matt brings to the Board are organization, problem solving, attention to detail, and a bias toward continuous improvement. Matt and his wife Marcie (teacher at CHES) also have a daughter Emilie (1st grade) attending CHES."

Aubrey E Kinnaman --- “Aubrey is currently in her 3rd year as a CHES Parent. She has one daughter, Char, a 1st grader and Claire – who finished CHES last year at is currently a 6th grader at Lovinggood Middle School. She grew up in West Cobb and attended Dowell, Smitha and McEachern/Pebblebrook. Professionally, Aubrey is a Sr Project Manager focused in both business process re-engineering and software development for ABM Industries.”

Vic McCarty --- “Vic has served on the CHES Educational Foundation for 8 years. He is the Managing Partner of McCarty Collaborative Consulting, LLC. He works with nonprofits to support strategy planning, operational development, fundraising and special events. He is married to Shanie McCarty, CPA Tax Principal with CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP and their children Dalton and Chelsea attended CHES.”

Nicole Meador --- “Nicole Meador currently serves as the Instructional Specialist at Cheatham Hill Elementary. Nicole has two boys – one currently attends Cheatham Hill and her other son is currently at Lovinggood Middle School. Her family is active in the west Cobb from playing baseball at Oregon Park to football at Lovinggood. The Meador family feel very blessed to be raising their kids in this area.”

Tracey Northington --- “Tracey has been a teacher for a little over twenty years, fifteen of those have been at Cheatham Hill. She has taught special education and 2nd grade, but now serves as the Response to Intervention Specialist. She has been a member of the CHES educational foundation for the past three years, where she served as secretary and vice president. She would like to offer continued support to the foundation in whatever capacity needed, to do what is required to see that the level of dedication is given to supporting and enhancing quality educational programs for every student at Cheatham Hill.”

Emerson Palame --- "Emerson is the father of three awesome Cheatham Hill Champs: Charlie (5th grader), Julia (3rd grader), and Joey (K). Emerson is super passionate about education, team building, and serving others. He is a motivator and connector - focused on bringing the right people together to achieve great results through highly functional collaborative teams. Also, he is a pretty swell guy to hang out with and enjoys hiking, paddle boarding, and playing games with his kids or just about anyone who likes a little friendly competition. Emerson is Science Teacher at Kennesaw Mountain High School. Previously, he taught Magnet Biology at Kennesaw Mountain High School and composed the musical score for several Nickelodeon shows including Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide and Big Time Rush."

Ashley Payne --- “Ashley has taught at Cheatham Hill for thirteen years. She’s been a Cheatham Hill parent for seventeen years. Her three kids attended CHES school and her family actually chose Cheatham Hill over a private school choice where we had a huge discount due to the variety of instruction and folks her kids would encounter at CHES. On the foundation, she would like to give the teacher perspective when needed and help the foundation regain its former goal. Ashley was a teacher when the CHES Educational foundation originated and as a teacher have benefitted greatly because of it.”

Heather Powell --- “Heather is a kindergarten teacher at Cheatham Hill. Teaching is her passion and she strives to make the classroom an environment every child looks forward to coming to each day. She is the mother of 2 boys, who both attended Cheatham Hill. When she’s not at school, you will most often catch her at the baseball field cheering on one of her boys! She loves baseball! Heather feels very strongly about what a great school Cheatham Hill is and describes Cheatham Hill as a warm, inviting, and most of all accepting school. Heather looks forward to serving our school in a meaningful manner.”

Shelley Powell --- “Shelley is somewhat new to the CHES area, the upcoming school year being her 3rd in the area. She has a 1st grade son and a 6th grade daughter. Shelley has served as a parent volunteer for various CHES activities and is in her first year on Foundation. Her kids are active in soccer and martial arts. Professionally, Shelley is a financial analyst at a Fortune 500 company where she has worked for nearly 14 years. She and her husband also own Sweet Tees Print Shop, a T-shirt printing and embroidery company. She is eager to foster a love of learning for all CHES students and supporting the teachers in this goal.”

Julia Sargent --- “My twins, Kellen and Emily attend Cheatham Hill. I am a Fifth Grade Teacher at Argyle Elementary and have taught in Cobb County for 17 years. I want to be actively involved in the Cheatham Hill Elementary Community and help maintain a culture where all students and staff have what they need to succeed.”

Lynn Taylor --- “Lynn Taylor is a Unit Marketing Director for Zaxby's, one of Cheatham Hills Partners in Ed. Her two sons attended CHE, so she was also a parent for 8 years. She hopes to support Cheatham Hill through her connections with other schools and businesses as a community business partner.”

Jason Vise --- “Jason is a firefighter for Cobb County fire department. His wife is Kathryn, and their daughter, Taylor is a third grader at CHES. He is dedicated to serving on the CHES Educational Foundation board with his wife Kathryn so that they can help to make CHES a better school for their daughter and all the students. Jason and Kathryn are eager to help with the fundraising efforts of the foundation and excited to volunteer their time and support to the foundation where ever they are needed.”

Kathryn Vise --- “Kathryn is a registered nurse, currently working in cardiology at WellStar Health Systems. She and Jason have been anxious to serve the school and hope to provide better means for improvements through service. Kathryn says she is an “excellent tasker”. Give her a job and she’ll do it!! She hopes to serve the foundation in any way that she can.”

Emily Welsch --- “Emily is a mom of 3 boys. She has a 4th grader, a 1st grader and one who will follow in a few years. Basically, you will be seeing her face around school for many years to come! Professionally, Emily is a pharmaceutical rep in dermatology covering most of the state. Emily is happy to help on committees where needed. She is really looking forward to being more involved with the school!”