Beth Watson for Board of Education Position Two Our kids are counting on us!

My husband, David and I, along with our family, moved to the Wellsville community in 2006. David is currently the general manager for a hydraulic company based out of Lenexa. I am working part time for Five Star Roofing here in Wellsville.

David and I have four children. My stepson, Erik, graduated from Missouri Valley College with a degree in History. He now works for Lockton Companies in Kansas City. Brandon, my eldest, graduated from KU in 2010 with a degree in Strategic Communications. He is currently working as a licensed personal banker for U.S. Bank in the Kansas City area. Alec graduated from WHS in 2013. He is a sophomore at K-State studying elementary education with a focus in English as a Second Language. My youngest, Hailey, will graduate from Wellsville this year. She is planning to attend Kansas University to study psychology with the intent of becoming a clinical psychologist. I am extremely proud of all four of my kids and the direction they are going with their lives.

One of my biggest passions is volunteer work, especially when it involves kids. I have been volunteering in public schools since Brandon was in elementary school, 22 years ago. Since moving to Wellsville, I have been involved in USD 289 as much as possible. Along with volunteering wherever needed in the schools, I have been an active member of the schools' SITE councils and booster clubs. I also am very active in the Wellsville United Methodist Church. I directed our VBS for five years along with serving on various committees within the church.

Public education is vital to the success of our children and our community. The Board of Education is extremely important in making sure that our public schools succeed. I am very proud to say that I have been part of the USD 289 Board of Education for four years and hope to continue for another term. As a board member I have been a huge advocate for public education and all USD 289 students. I believe it is important to attend board meetings even if you aren't a member. I started attending board meetings before moving to Wellsville and then started attending Wellsville Board meetings in 2008. While serving on the Board, I have been Vice President for two years and served as the KASB voting delegate for three years.

To me, being a board member means:

- Putting all kids first
- Advocating for public education from the local to the state level
- Making difficult decisions when necessary
- Communicating openly between patrons, staff, community, administration and board
- Being a team player
- Giving of yourself and your time
- Respecting confidentiality

I would appreciate your support in the upcoming Board of Education election for Position Two!