



## **Hawbridge Board of Directors Application – 2024**

***All application submissions must be received by September 13, 2024.***

**Introduction:** The Hawbridge School is a tuition-free public charter school located next to the Haw River in Saxapahaw, NC. Hawbridge currently serves students in grades K-12, providing student-centered education with an emphasis on place-based learning, environmental stewardship, and the arts.

The Hawbridge Board of Directors is responsible for the financial health of the school, for supervision and support of the school directors, for collaboratively creating and maintaining school policies with input from school administrators, and for maintaining the mission of the school. Our board is composed of 7 to 9 members and is dedicated to building a diverse learning community committed to inclusiveness, mutual respect, personal attention, exploration, and engagement.

It is worth noting that the Hawbridge Board of Directors does not manage the day-to-day operations and activities of the school, which fall under the purview of the school administrators and faculty.

The Hawbridge Board works closely together on important and sometimes difficult issues to help guide and lead the school. We expect all board members to have a passion for education and a willingness to engage fully in conversations and to consider all viewpoints. A focus on the holistic well-being of the school, a willingness to listen to the concerns and interests of community members, an ability to work as a team to solve problems and address issues, and a sensitive and discretionary approach in confidential matters are also required of all board members.

Service on the Hawbridge Board involves a serious time commitment. The monthly board meetings are open to the public, typically from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., usually in-person at the school and occasionally via video conference. In addition to the regular board meetings, board members also convene if

an immediate need arises and as a function of participation on subcommittees. For information on current board subcommittees, please visit the [board webpage](#).

Board terms are typically three years, from July 1 of the year selected through June 30 of year three. However, **we are currently accepting applications to fill a partial one-year term, beginning September 26, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.**

**Application Requirements:** For your application, please answer the questions below. Please also submit a **cover letter** or **résumé** (no longer than two pages) that highlights your interest, experience, and skills that would contribute to the work of the board. Names of up to three personal and/or professional **references** are recommended, but not required. Submissions may be electronic (Word or PDF) or handwritten and must be received by September 13, 2024.

Handwritten version – Print, complete, and mail to the Board Chair: Kemp Watson-Ormond, c/o The Hawbridge School, PO Box 40, Saxapahaw, NC 27340

Electronic version – Download, complete, and email to the Board Chair, Kemp Watson-Ormond: [kwatsonormond@hawbridgeschool.org](mailto:kwatsonormond@hawbridgeschool.org)

**Eligibility Requirements:** In order to be nominated to serve on the Hawbridge Board of Directors, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Ability to pass a background check in accordance with school volunteer guidelines
- Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age
- Cannot be a current employee of The Hawbridge School
- Cannot be the spouse, domestic partner, or significant other of an employee of The Hawbridge School
- A Hawbridge student may not have more than one parent on the board at a time.

**Statement:** By typing my name and date below, I certify that I meet the requirements above and commit to upholding the charter and mission of The Hawbridge School. <http://thehawbridgeschool.org/mission-vision/>

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**[If Hawbridge parent] I currently have children in the following grades:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**[If prospective Hawbridge parent] I intend to apply for the following grades for my children:**

\_\_\_\_\_

### **Application Questions:**

In 2024, we are especially seeking new members with experience in any of the following areas. Please keep this in mind as you are completing your application:

- Organizational leadership
  - Human Resources
  - Strategic Planning
  - Supervising and evaluating leadership
  - Public education administration
- Diplomacy
  - Collaborative leadership
  - Communications and public relations
  - Community building, experience working with diverse stakeholders
- Finance and accounting
- Justice, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusivity
- Board experience
- Fundraising
  - Large donor solicitation

- Planning successful fundraising campaigns
- Event planning

**Please answer the following questions.**

1. Please explain what the Hawbridge mission means to you and why you would like to serve on the Hawbridge Board.  
<http://thehawbridgeschool.org/mission-vision/>
2. Describe your relationship with The Hawbridge School and/or Saxapahaw. You may include any volunteer experience you have with the school and/or other activities demonstrating your commitment and connection to Hawbridge and its surrounding community.
3. Please tell us about 2-3 core strengths, talents, areas of expertise, and/or skills you would bring to your service on the board. If you have experience in any of the areas listed above, please describe it in detail and how it might benefit the Hawbridge Board.
4. The Hawbridge Board officers include Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. Each board subcommittee also has a Chair position. Keeping your own skill set in mind, is there a particular seat in which you would be willing to serve?
5. (If applicable) Describe any other relevant volunteer, professional, or board experience not listed in your resume, cover letter, or this application.