

Bettendorf Community School District  
**2017 Board Candidate Profile**



<b>Name</b>	<b>Richard Lynch</b>
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<b>Address</b>	4315 Aspen Hills Circle, Bettendorf
<b>Occupation</b>	I currently teach as an adjunct professor of philosophy (at St. Ambrose) and am a freelance translator. (I taught at DePauw University for a decade before we relocated to the Quad Cities.)
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BA, University of Texas at Austin;</li> <li>• MA, Northwestern University;</li> <li>• PhD, Boston College</li> </ul>
<b>How long have you lived in the district?</b>	3 years
<b>Family</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My wife, Stacy Klingler, is the Executive Director of the William Butterworth Foundation. We moved to the Quad Cities three years ago, for her to take this opportunity.</li> <li>• Daughter at Hoover (3rd grade)</li> </ul>
<b>School/District activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hoover PTO</li> <li>• SIAC (School Improvement Advisory Committee)</li> </ul>
<b>Are you a Bettendorf High School graduate? If so, what year?</b>	No
<b>Other experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coach, Youth Sports, Bettendorf Parks and Recreation</li> <li>• Mediator, Quad Cities Mediation Services (Sudlow Intermediate &amp; Small Claims Court)</li> <li>• Troop Leader, Girl Scouts</li> <li>• Judge, National History Day</li> <li>• I have served on non-profit boards in the past, and founded and ran an academic professional society for 10+ years. I bring many years of college-level teaching, emphasizing critical thinking as well as ethical business.</li> </ul>
<b>What motivates you to want to become a board member?</b>	Bettendorf schools are on the verge of a very exciting few years. We are in a position to make past-due investments in our elementary schools, the middle school is developing new and engaging classes, and new collaboration (with PLCs) is helping teachers at all levels give extra attention to those that need the most help and to those that are especially gifted. But to fully capitalize on these exciting opportunities in order to achieve our potential, we need a board that makes timely decisions, is transparent, and will articulate a long-term (10+ years) vision and plan. It is a time for fresh perspectives and new voices on the board.
<b>What skills or experiences qualify you to serve as a school board member?</b>	As a university professor, I am committed to the value of education and I understand what our students need to be college-ready, as well as to be ready for careers and citizenship in our complex world. I can digest lots of details while articulating a big-picture perspective. Serving on the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC), as well as volunteering for the Hoover PTO, I have gained a good sense of the challenges and opportunities that our board and our district will address in the coming years. Once I had decided (early in the spring) to run for the board, I visited every school in the district, to learn firsthand about where and how we educate our kids, and what the schools' needs are.

**What specific strengths would you bring to the board?**

I intend to work with other board members and our staff to articulate a long-term plan for the district. I want to work to make district budgeting more transparent. I will make timely decisions. I am a mediator, and can listen to all sides of an argument and articulate good solutions. I understand the legal and fiscal responsibilities of the board and its role in setting a district vision. I care deeply about giving \*all\* of our students the best education we can.