

# VOTERS

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE: ONE-Y

### Lisa Gibbs

My name is Lisa Gibbs, and I am running for a one-year seat on School Committee.

I just want you to know a little bit about my family and me. We have lived in Reading for ten years and have two sons, five and four who attend the RISE preschool, and a daughter, two and a half who will be enrolled at RISE when she turns three in June. Our daughter has Down Syndrome; my husband and I founded with the help of very good friends a non-profit organization that raises awareness for people with Down Syndrome by supporting various organizations, one of which is the RISE preschool in Reading. Others are the Department of Cardiology at Children's Hospital, Boston, the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress and our local early intervention program where Samantha currently receives services. We also provide scholarships to professionals in the field of education.

A quality education for our youth is something the whole town benefits from. Raising and teaching our children to be responsible and respectful citizens of the world is, I believe, of the utmost importance. I am running for a seat



on the School Committee because, with my personal and professional experience, I can help continue the momentous progress the current members of the School Committee have made to this end.

I am aware of the rewards and challenges faced by teachers because of my experience as a teachers' assistant. I know the factors taken into account when budgeting because I worked with the Director of Facilities at Lexington Public Schools. Contract negotiations, bid processes, personnel and building maintenance were things I was directly involved in. As a member of the management team for Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, I understand the importance of collaboration and the efforts of many people needed to

reach common goals.

I support the building projects that the overwhelming majority of the residents of this town voted for. I am excited at the prospect of a new high school, a brand new elementary school and a renovated and refurbished elementary school. My family has a longstanding commitment to education in Reading — my grandfather and father's corporation built the field house and the math and science building at RMHS, both of which will be renovated during construction. These facilities and many others like them are testimonies to my family's appreciation and understanding of an environment conducive to teaching and learning.

If you want someone to keep evaluating and investing in the future, then I'm your candidate. Let's provide a safe place to learn and discuss issues and have a culture that creates celebrating diversity by opening up communication and talking about feelings. This all goes back to the mission statement of Reading Public Schools where we want to educate, challenge, and encourage all students in the skills of knowledge and attitudes necessary to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

"Continue Reading's progress in education..."

# Lisa ★ GIBBS



## For Reading School Committee

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There are so many people in Reading who do so much for the town and the schools. I feel the Reading School Committee is an area where my skills could be used best; it would be an honor to serve.

### Qualifications:

- School facilities administrative assistant - directly involved with budgeting, bid processes, management and contract negotiations.
- Special education assistant and tutor
- BS in Business, worked for the Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts
- EMARC Board of Directors
- Co-founded SAMANTHA'S HARVEST, a non-profit organization raising money and awareness for people with Down syndrome.

### Goals:

- Contribute my experience with facilities planning for successful completion of Reading's School Building projects.
- Support Reading's Special Education inclusion programs, which benefit ALL students in addition to being fiscally advantageous for Reading.
- Support policies which have led to Reading's MCAS statewide top 20 results.

As a Reading resident with three children, I've spent the last ten years watching and cheering the educational progress realized through the efforts of the teachers, administrators and School Committee. I feel it is now my turn to give up my role on the sidelines, and contribute to quality education in Reading.

I'd appreciate your **VOTE** on **TUESDAY, MARCH 2.**

Please encourage your friends and neighbors to vote.

Every VOTE counts!

<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>FOR ONE YEAR</b>	<i>Vote for not more than one</i>
<b>LISA GIBBS</b> 59 Mirror Street	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>LINDA PHILLIPS</b> 42 Willow Street	<input type="radio"/>