

Six seek seats on Hinsdale Library Board

Three incumbents, three newcomers will be elected April 4 to three four- or two-year terms

None of the six candidates running for a seat on the Hinsdale Public Library Board in the Tuesday, April 4, election are contested.

Three are seeking three open four-year terms and three are running for three two-year terms.

The Hinsdalean reached out to the candidates to find out a little more about who they are and what they hope to accomplish.

Four-year terms

Who is John Bloomfield?



Bloomfield

Bloomfield is a retired consultant with Blue Yonder software company who was elected in 2019 to the library board, of which he is treasurer and chairman of the strategic planning committee.

An 18-year Hinsdale resident, he holds an MBA in finance from the University of Chicago and a bachelor's in accounting from the University of Illinois. He has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and served as the webmaster for Hinsdale Central girls lacrosse club and as a youth lacrosse coach. He is a past trustee of the Illinois Teachers Retirement System, past treasurer and board member of the Illinois Branch of the International Dyslexia Association and past president and treasurer of the Central girls lacrosse club.

What are his priorities?

1. strategic plan implementation — continuing to work with the board and library management to implement and measure the results and increasing utilization of all library resources
2. fiscal responsibility — increasing value provided per dollar of expense and increasing partnerships to broaden the library's value to the community
3. library satisfaction — serving the needs of all Hinsdale residents, making transactions as frictionless as possible and increasing residents' and employees' satisfaction with the library

Who is Megan Davia Mikhail?

Mikhail is a former attorney who was appointed to the library board in



Mikhail

the summer of 2021 to fill an open seat.

The 43-year-old holds a bachelor's degree from DePaul University and a juris doctorate from St. Louis University School of Law.

After working as an attorney for the U.S. Department of Energy at Argonne National Laboratory, she decided to pause her practice to raise her children full-time. She has been working as a substitute teaching and as a consultant for a strategic planning firm.

She has been an active volunteer with Hinsdale Community Preschool, Madison School and Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital.

What are her priorities?

1. to implement the HPL's new strategic plan successfully alongside the excellent leadership of Executive Director Karen Keefe and the fantastic library staff members who bring so much joy to our community
2. to continue the success of the HPL programs by supporting new initiatives in programming
3. to oversee to completion the various facilities projects planned for the upcoming years

Who is Magda Sokolowski?



Sokolowski

Sokolowski is a community volunteer who holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from Gdansk Technical University in Poland.

The 55-year-old mom of three has held a variety of PTO and other positions at Madison School, Hinsdale Middle School and Hinsdale Central. From 2013-20 she was a regional commissioner for AYSO. She has 18 years of volunteer experience working with students, teachers, coaches, administrators, support staff and contractors and has been an HPL cardholders since 2004.

What are her priorities?

1. contribute to the implementation of the new HPL strategic plan while utilizing her volunteer experience and engineering background
2. create opportunities to restore

pre-pandemic social connections in the community (e.g. programs for continuing learners, including "What's Your Hobby?" and, for teens, "Meet the Professional")

3. promote HPL as a community space to meet/make friends, expand horizons, deepen knowledge and have fun

Two-year terms

Who is Kim Kiyosaki?



Kiyosaki

Kiyosaki, a retired IBM executive, was appointed to the library 18 months ago and is president of the Hinsdale Book Study Club, a library "super-user."

The 66-year-old has a bachelors from Miami University, Ohio, whose experience with IBM prepared her to work across various groups of people, enhanced her strategic thinking and sharpened her financial skills.

What are her priorities?

1. With the recent completion of the three-year strategic plan, the top priority is now to execute the plan and to give patrons the materials they want when they want them — usually very quickly.
2. Support the village's wonderful schools and create more "lifelong learning" opportunities for our older adults.
3. Make sure everyone knows all the resources in the library that are readily available, such as 3D printing!

Who is Chun Ye?



Ye

Ye is a graphic designer and art instructor who has 11-year-old twin daughters.

The 51-year-old graduated with a degree in commercial art from Guangzhou Yniversit in China and with a degree in web and graphic design at College of DuPage. She also studied fine arts at the School of Art Institute.

She has more than 10 years of experience working with children in preschool through high school. As a mother and educator has developed an understanding of what children need



and what can help them learn and grow.

What are her priorities?

1. provide more help to teens and preteens to reduce pressure and prevent depression
2. bring more fun art projects to kids in the community
3. listen to the community about what they want and need from the library

Who is Ying "Lucy" Zhou?



Zhou

A former professor in bridge engineering from 1999-2008 in China, Zhou is a stay-at-home mom and tutor.

The 52-year old holds a doctorate in engineering and also worked as an online professor from 2008-10. She has been an active volunteer at the library, The Lane School and The Chapel Church. She is a board member of the Association of Chinese-American Scientists and Engineers, a workshop leader of the teen department of ACSE and director of the Department of The President's Volunteer Service Award of Asian-American Education and Culture Center.

What are her priorities?

1. promoting multiculturalism, such as having some multicuture festivals open to the whole village as a tradition from now on.
2. expanding services for teenagers, such as more volunteer activities/clubs for teens to take part in, decreasing their struggles in finding enough volunteer hours; and taking a leadership role in certain activities, rather than simply serving. This will enable them to showcase and develop their leadership skills.
3. executing the strategic plan, such as giving support to immigrant families who may not be familiar with English, culture, or the school system, and whose children may be experiencing significant difficulties in school