

Voting Guide

2020 Sedgwick County Extension Council Election

October 7, 8, and 9, 2020

Online Voting

Opens on Oct. 7 at 8:00 a.m.

Ends on Oct. 9 at 5:00 p.m.

In-person Voting

Oct. 7, 8, 9, 2020

Vote between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Voting Link:

<http://bit.ly/mycommunityvote>

Sedgwick County Extension
Education Center - Extension Lobby
7001 W. 21st St. North
Wichita, KS 67205

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Sedgwick County



*Sedgwick County...
working for you*



The Program Development Committees each consist of six elected members that represent the community. The election is held each October, and every eligible voter in Sedgwick County may vote. PDC members work together with extension agents to develop local programming throughout the year and promote K-State Research and Extension's mission. Kansas extension county laws require four program development committees, with six or more members serving on each committee. In counties, members of the committees are elected, and additional members may be appointed.

There are four PDC areas: Agriculture and Natural Resources, Community Development, Family and Consumer Sciences, and 4-H Youth Development. Each of the four areas hosts six elected PDC members with a term that lasts two years. The role of each committee is outlined below.

4-H Youth Development

Empowering youth to reach their full potential by working and learning in partnership with caring adults is at the heart of 4-H. This PDC works to develop programming that best fits the needs of kids through after-school programs, school and community clubs, and 4-H camp.

Community Vitality

Building a strong community is essential to the mission of Extension. The CV PDC strives to create a vision across traditional geographical, sociological, and political boundaries by promoting Extension activities and creating program opportunities that assist civic leaders in Sedgwick County.

Agriculture / Horticulture

This PDC works to establish programming that serves area producers, growers, farmers, and individuals interested in community beautification.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Creating healthy and sustainable families is central to the work of family and consumer sciences. Members of the FCS PDC aim to develop programs that meet the needs of today's families when it comes to health, nutrition, family resources, adult development, and personal growth.

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. K-State Research and Extension is committed to making its services, activities, and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision or hearing disability, please contact: Dr. Brantley, PhD, Extension Director, Sedgwick County 316-660-0105

**YOU MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE AND A RESIDENT OF
SEDGWICK COUNTY TO VOTE**

2021 Candidates - Sedgwick County Extension Council



Marquetta Atkins
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Community Vitality



John Hecht
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Agriculture / Horticulture



Ana Lopez
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Family and Consumer Science



Chris Baalman
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
4-H Youth Development



Martina Holmes
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
4-H Youth Development



Donna Pearson-McClish
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Community Vitality



Rex Best
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
4-H Youth Development



Travis Inskeep
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Agriculture / Horticulture



Jeff Molello
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Community Vitality

2021 Candidates - Sedgwick County Extension Council



BreAnna Monk
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Family and Consumer Science



Giselo Peña
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
4-H Youth Development



Donielle Watson
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
4-H Youth Development



Jeff Otto
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Agriculture / Horticulture



Libby Pritchett
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Family and Consumer Science



Heidi Wells
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Family and Consumer Science



Aaron Pauly
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Agriculture / Horticulture



Mendie Vicin
Sedgwick County Extension
Council Election Candidate
Family and Consumer Science

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2021 Candidates - 4-H Youth Development Program Development Committee



Chris Baalman, Goddard

I own and operate Protection Shelters, LLC. We build Tornado Shelters. I grew up in 4-H and currently have two kids involved in Ninnescah Valley Club. I have been the co-community leader there for the last 3 yrs. I have been on the 4-H advisory board for the last two years. I am involved in my church and our Knights of Columbus council as well. My goal is to make a better community with all the resources and programs that the extension office offers.

Rex Best, Mount Hope

I work in agricultural research in Sedgwick County. I have been involved with the 4-H program for approximately eight years and have been a shooting sports coach for four years. I have assisted with local 4-H chapters in the Colwich and Andale areas and have been a part of the Mt. Hope PRIDE committee for the past six years. The PRIDE is a community program designed to help local communities instill pride in their towns through assistance with building projects, community events, and seasonal celebrations.

My experience with the 4-H programs has been gratifying. Using my experiences to help young children grow into responsible adults provides a sense of accomplishment and pride in our future. Most of my interactions with Research and Extension have been through shooting sports, but I have also helped local clubs through volunteer work leading programs. With the trying times that we are in right now, it would make more sense to develop more virtual type courses

Martina Holmes, Wichita

Before having children, I worked for several years as a quality control chemist in several fields, including petroleum, environmental, and pharmaceutical. Once we had our first child, I decided to stay home and devote my attention to our family and volunteer work. For the past 23 years, I've been an active volunteer in the community and our church. Our family became involved in 4-H in 2005 when our oldest child was eligible to join. All of our five children have grown up with 4-H since that time. For the past 11 years, I have served as our club's Community Leader. I will be stepping down after this 4-H year in September 2020. During my years in 4-H, I have also served as a project leader to all age groups of the foods project and the beginner sewing project. At the county level, I have served for several years and continue to serve as superintendent of the foods project judging for the 4-H division of the Sedgwick County Fair.

I feel very blessed to have the Research and Extension programs available to us in our community. Our family has personally benefited tremendously from the 4-H program, and have also utilized the resources available from the horticulture program. Any opportunity to educate citizens to be more knowledgeable about local resources and personal life skills benefits the whole community. I would love to see the 4-H program grow into more clubs in different areas of the county. I believe a wealth of human resources is waiting to be tapped to grow more of our youth into well-equipped citizens. Our youth are our future.



Giselo 'China' Peña,

I am the owner of Actxas Boutique, and I am originally from Mexico City but have made Wichita my home for the past 11 years. I have spent most of those 11 years serving the community, most recently, helping with the 4-H Latino community's start. I want to bring resources and information to my community and set a positive example for my children.



Donielle Watson, Wichita

Through my work with the police department, I have partnered with Pre-Schools, Elementary, Middle, and High Schools through USD 259, TOPS early childhood centers, Boys and Girls Clubs, Rise Up for Youth mentoring program, and Story Time Village (Literacy Program). Through those partnerships, I promote good behavior and challenge youth to set goals. Promoting literacy at a young age decreases the chance of criminal behavior in the future. From my experience working with the aforementioned organizations, kids from low-income families and lack family structure tend to receive discipline while in school. Such behavior can be deterred by working with the entire household.

My goal for Extension is to Extension to reach a demographic that Extension has not reached before. I am an outward thinker and love to enhance programs with my ideas. Networking is very important to me and expanding resources while fulfilling my ultimate goal of having fun. These are all key components to making my community a better place to live.

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2021 Candidates - Agriculture / Horticulture Program Development Committee



John Hecht, Wichita

I have been an Agronomist with CropQuest and ServiTech since 1979, division manager currently special crops manager for CropQuest. I lived in Great Bend from 1979 to 2001 and was the president of the board's extension council and member. I spent ten years in New Mexico before coming to Sedgwick County in 2008. I have been involved in many University Extension programs since I'm involved in the AG field.

I have been involved with 4-H in Barton County. I have also been involved in many of the coop producer programs that Extension puts on. Being an information source for people in the state, dispersing information methods may change, but people need an unbiased source to be able to access.



Travis Inskeep, Wichita

I am a production manager at Countryside Lawn and Tree Care. I have enjoyed almost 24 years at Countryside. I started as a lawn technician, moved to a tree tech, residential sales, and then into management. I am also certified in category 5, 6, 7, and have previously held 3a and 3b certifications. In addition, I am also a certified arborist with the K.A.A., in charge of all certifications and licensing at Countryside, and help Sedgwick County extension with re-certification day in November.

I regularly attend all re-certification days, field days, and arborist re-certification days. I have also helped the Girls Scouts earn badges in the tree/plant growth and development fields. I want to help improve and strengthen partnerships with the county extension professionals and staff to better serve the community.



Jeff Otto, Wichita

I am an arborist with Longhofer Lawn and Tree Care in Wichita. I am certified by the Kansas Arborist Association and the International Society of Arboriculture. I have been a member of the Agriculture / Horticulture PDC for 2 years. I have attended the Pesticide Recertification training programs at the Sedgwick County Extension office for many years. The goal I envision for Extension is to continue providing current relevant information to Sedgwick County citizens based on university research.



Aaron Pauly, Wichita

I am a co-owner in a 4th generation farm located in Sedgwick County. Through the years, I have attended many different Extension programs to gain knowledge of the latest research being conducted at Kansas State University. I currently serve on the Kansas Dairy Commission board, and in July, completed serving ten years on the Farmers Coop board of directors.

As a youth, I participated in several different programs and projects. Currently, I try to attend the various educational programs and meetings provided by the extension office. It is an asset to our farming operation to have a source of local unbiased research. My goal for extension is to continue providing local unbiased research and information and make the general public aware of the wealth of knowledge available to them. As a youth, I participated in several different programs and projects. Currently, I try to attend the various educational programs and meetings provided by the extension office. It is an asset to our farming operation to have a source of local unbiased research. My goal for extension is to continue providing local unbiased research and information and make the general public aware of the wealth of knowledge available to them.

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2021 Candidates - Community Vitality Program Development Committee



Marquetta Atkins, Wichita

Marquetta Atkins is a community educator who brings her passion for working with youth of and her creative energy to the table as a facilitator. For years she has dedicated herself to ensuring young people are equipped with the tools for a better future. She was born and raised in Wichita, KS, and graduated with a degree in Communications from Wichita State University. Her passion for youth development is rooted in her conviction that youth are the change-makers we need to transform our communities, both today and in the future.

In 2015 she founded Camp Destination Innovation to expose young people to a variety of career options, encouraging them to create their own future. The camp also helps youth explore strategies for entrepreneurship and civic engagement, grounding their professional development in a larger vision for whole and healthy communities. Striving to eliminate the barriers facing young people and women as entrepreneurs, she created Women Entrepreneurs of Kansas (WeKan!), an initiative to support women entrepreneurs' growth and power. Marquetta's talented facilitation challenges people to question their own assumptions and dig deeper into critical awareness. Marquetta is a member of the Entrepreneurship Task Force, Evergreen Curriculum Committee, Juneteenth Committee, Wichita State University Innovations Committee, and a member of Urban Professionals, where she was honored in 2017 for her Civic Engagement work. October 2018, Camp Destination Innovation received a best in Innovation honor. Marquetta was honored with the Wichita NAACP Ron Walters Leadership award for her work with Camp Destination Innovation and youth.

She is also the Communications and Youth Programming Director at the non-profit organization-The Seed House, where she is developing the youth-led group Progeny for youth that have been touched by the juvenile justice system, assisting them in finding their voice and the leader within themselves and advocate on their own behalf to change policies that affect them within the system. Inspired by Maya Angelou, Marquetta seeks to challenge dominant narratives and create the kind of world she wants young people to thrive in.



Donna Pearson-McClish, Wichita

I am owner and CEO of the Common Ground Producers and Growers, Inc., which is a network of growers who, through Common Ground, provide fresh, healthy produce to food deserts and food insecurity areas. I am also an Education Consultant, writer, and author. Serving on the Extension Board has been an invaluable learning experience, and working with Extension staff over several years has broadened my scope of what the K-State Research and Extension contributes to the community-at-large. I am involved with the ICT Food Circle, the Department of Aging, and several community groups.

My mother was a master gardener in the 1970s and worked with the former director of the Extension. I have worked with the Growing Growers project, Demonstration Garden, and the SNAP program. My goal is to continue to assist K-State Research and Extension in expanding services to different communities and help those communities become acquainted with the services K-State Research and Extension - Sedgwick County offers.



Josh Molello, Valley Center

I am a local, urban farmer in Valley Center, Kansas that believes that fresh, naturally-grown produce is essential to our communities' success. As the father of three young boys, I feel obligated to educate the next generation about wholistic food, environmentally-sound processes, and economic sustainability. My business, Strong Roots Healthy Farming LLC, exists to represent and teach these principles.

I've been a part of the Community Development PDC for two years now. I attend the Kansas Grown Farmer's Market as both a vendor and a consumer. I also attend the Regional Farmer's Market Workshops hosted by Extension. Last but certainly not least, I participate in the Growing Growers Apprenticeship Program as a host farm. As part of the Community Development PDC, my goal has been and will continue to be, to communicate the importance of local, organic farmers in our neighborhoods. Our physical and mental health as people depend upon

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2021 Candidates - Family and Consumer Science Program Development Committee



Ana Lopez, Wichita

Passionate about her community, Ana enjoys being involved in various groups and currently serves as a Young Latino Professionals member. As a Delano resident, Ana spends her time visiting local coffee shops exploring her neighborhood by scooter, and visiting parks with her family.

Prior to her time with the Community Services Team, Ana worked as a Customer Service Clerk in the Mayor and City Council Office, a Legal Secretary for Kansas Legal Services, and an Administrative Assistant for Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department. Ana has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice and is currently working towards her Bachelor's Degree from Wichita State University. A few of her hobbies are drinking coffee, reading, yoga, photography, traveling, supporting local businesses, meeting new people.

With more than 15 years of customer service experience, Ana is excited to continue serving her community.



BreAnna Monk, Wichita

I have worked in the healthcare and education field for over 18 years. In the last four years, I have extended my passion into the role of Senior Services/Transportation Director for the City of Derby. I have been involved with K-State nutrition, Dining with Diabetes, and various services that assist seniors and have worked with senior agricultural volunteers at the Oaklawn Community Garden.

Kansas Research and Extension has taught various classes in my facility to help seniors on a daily basis with diet and healthy food choices and provide resources to all in need. I have worked hand in hand with senior extension office volunteers and Kansas Research and Extension staff at community events to produce a bountiful garden in the community.

I envision a diverse way for all seniors in every area of Kansas to be able to receive food that will help sustain our communities in a healthy way. Through growth and our abilities to teach and provide resources, no one should go hungry.



Elizabeth 'Libby' Pritchett, Wichita

I am a homeschooling mom who has called Wichita home for the past ten years. In that time, I've been very involved in both the local homeschool community and volunteering within our church. Currently, I serve as a unit leader with the local American Heritage Girls troop.

My husband Jeff (a retired US Air Force veteran) and I have three children. Our two oldest are adults living out of state, and our youngest is eight years old. She is the creator of a card game, and we enjoy sharing her game at local craft fairs and flea markets. I love Wichita, and I'm very passionate about the homeschooling community here. I truly believe there isn't a better place to be raising our child.

As a homeschooling mom, I am very familiar with the youth educational offerings in our community. I've taught classes within our homeschooling co-op, and we've enjoyed many educational field trips and classes in the area. Our family loves to participate in the Bonding Thru Board Games events at the Extension office.

The homeschooling community in Sedgwick County is HUGE, and I would love to see the Extension more involved in providing resources and information to those families.



Mendie Vicin, Wichita

I am a Principal at Cloud Elementary in my 24th year in education. I have been a classroom teacher, an instructional coach, and an administrator. I have loved each of these roles, as teaching is not just a job but a passion. I have had the opportunity to bring the work of Stephen Covey to elementary students and got the first Leader in Me school to Wichita Public Schools. I have served on various department workgroups at the district level. I have enjoyed working to bring extension programs into schools where I have served. I have served on the Arts Partners board of directors and worked with many community partners throughout my tenure as an administrator in USD 259. My goal for extension is to help create pathways to connect with schools to provide families with learning opportunities..



Heidi Wells, Milton

Extension plays a significant role within communities, providing many learning opportunities to residents at an affordable cost and many free programs. Programs like SNAP-Ed, EFNEP, health and wellness programs, answering Medicare questions and educating communities about where their food comes from all help strengthen communities' health. Healthier communities lead to thriving communities for years to come.

The marketing of current programs is important. We have some wonderful programs through our extension, yet many people throughout the county are unaware of them. I think expanding outreach by reaching out to smaller communities throughout our county and bringing the classes to them is important. Also, providing increased support for 4-H Project leaders and locating project leaders throughout the county.

Registered Dietitian (16 years); 4-H alumni and current leader; Kansas Farm Bureau and Sedgwick County Farm Bureau member (12 years); Cheney Recreation Commission Board member (7 years); previous member of Wichita Health Coalition Food Policy team; Kansas Dietetic Association member and leader (10+ years); Wichita Dietetic Association member and leader (10+ years); We All Eat event volunteer

Born and raised a farm kid in Northeast Kansas, graduated from Kansas State University with degrees in Human Nutrition, Exercise Science, and Dietetics, and moved down to Wichita for my first job out of college. Reside outside of Cheney, Kansas, near my husband's family dairy farm. We have five children, and I am passionate about nutrition, exercise, agriculture, and KSU athletics.

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