



## Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter

Association for Education and Rehabilitation of  
the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)

[www.penn-delaer.org](http://www.penn-delaer.org)

### Proposed Penn-Del AER Board of Directors 2024 Nominations Slate

The 2024 Nomination Slate of [Officers](#) and [Directors-at-Large](#) details are included in this document. Nominations from the membership floor will be accepted at the General Business Meeting, which is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024, after the Midnote session. Penn-Del AER members will vote at the General Business Meeting.

#### Nominated Officer – Secretary

##### **Ashley Popojas, 2<sup>nd</sup> term, Western PA District**

Ashley Popojas is the Outreach Program Coordinator, Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments and Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist at Western PA School for Blind Children (WPSBC) in Pittsburgh. She develops, facilitates, and coordinates special programming for students served in WPSBC's Outreach Program, and supports a staff comprised of 15 TVIs and COMS. Ashley also provides direct services for students from birth to age 22 throughout Western Pennsylvania. Ashley provides instruction for the University of Pittsburgh's Visual Impairment & Blindness Department of Teaching, Learning, & Leading. She proudly earned her bachelor's degrees in Corporate Communications and Business Management from Carlow University, followed by an M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education. Ashley graduated from the University of Pittsburgh's Vision Studies Program with dual TVI and COMS certifications. Ashley resides in Greensburg, PA, an eastern suburb of Pittsburgh with her husband, son, daughter and two puppies.

#### Nominated Officer – Treasurer

##### **Vince McVeigh, Extend Term, Eastern PA District**

Vince McVeigh has been involved providing both educational and rehabilitative services to persons with visual impairments for forty years and throughout much of that time have been actively involved in professional organizations serving these populations including AER and CEC. He has served as an officer at the national level for CEC-DVH, the state level for Pennsylvania

CEC and has been an active Penn-Del AER member for many years. Vince is retired from Chester County Intermediate Unit.

## **Nominated Directors-at-Large, Terms Ending June 30, 2027**

### **Deb Miller, 1<sup>st</sup> Term, Western Pennsylvania District**

Deb Miller is a Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments and a Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist at the Western PA School for Blind Children in the Outreach Program. She received a BA in Elementary Education from Westminster College and her M.Ed. through the Vision Studies Program from the University of Pittsburgh. She will graduate with her second master's degree from the University of Utah in May 2024 and will be certified as a Teacher of Students who are Deafblind. Deb began her career in Colorado Springs, CO as a TVI/COMS and worked as a Certified Low Vision Therapist as a part of the Colorado Low Vision Clinic team. She was also a board member of the Colorado chapter of AER. She has been employed with the Western PA School for Blind Children since 2010 as a TVI/COMS. For the past 11 years, Deb has collaborated with the Western PA School for the Deaf where she developed her interest in teaching children who are deafblind. Deb is also passionate about making the Expanded Core Curriculum meaningful to students educated in their home districts. She helped to create the Expanded Core Together program at WPSBC to build a community for students who are blind and visually impaired.

### **Shawn Musgrove, 1<sup>st</sup> Term, Delaware District**

Dr. Shawn Musgrove has been a teacher for the visually impaired for 23 years. She currently is the Coordinator of Vision Services for the Indian River School District in Delaware. She recently received her doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction where she completed her research on the Expanded Core Curriculum. She also serves on the board of directors of the Tether Foundation, which supports health and physical education for youth with visual impairments in Delaware, and is the Expanded Core Curriculum coordinator at Camp Abilities Delaware.

### **Ashley Spinden, 1<sup>st</sup> Term, Delaware District**

Ashley Spinden works as the Independent Living Services Manager for the Division for the Visually Impaired for the State of Delaware. Her career in Human Services started in 2008 when she began working as a Direct Support professional in residential group homes, supporting adults with physical and mental disabilities, providing them with the tools necessary to be independent at home, in the community and at work. Ashley's commitment to always being person centered when working with her clients helped her career grow to working at the State of Delaware's Division of Development Disabilities Services, as an Assistant Program Director in the Day Transition Unit. Ashley is first a wife and mother of two compassionate, intelligent, and hardworking adult children. Outside her compassion for working in Human Services, she enjoys cooking, gardening, and reading at the beach or anywhere the sun is shining. Ashley strives to make the lives of those she meets better.