

## Nicole Hinton



Nicole Hinton and her husband Rick joined the Vanguard family in 2021 upon enrolling their three children on the basis of The Vanguard School's classical education program and emphasis on the cardinal virtues. Nicole has been active in the school as a volunteer and head coach of the Landshark's K-3 team for three years.

Now running for a seat on the Board of Directors, Nicole hopes she can contribute her time and energy in protecting and defending the foundation Vanguard was built on 30 years ago. She believes in the classical education model above all others and the virtues of prudence, fortitude, justice, and temperance. Nicole looks forward to collaborating with Vanguard teachers and staff to ensure the strongest decisions are made to keep Vanguard the best school Colorado Springs has to offer.

## Matt Maloney



Matt Maloney is a passionate community leader and devoted family man dedicated to service and making a positive impact. He is running for The Vanguard School Board to enhance communication between families and the school, ensuring every voice is heard. Matt deeply believes in the vital mission of providing students with a solid, classical education while nurturing their character.

Matt moved with his wife Regina, and daughter Mickena, to Colorado to support Regina's career in helping military families and to cultivate a healthier lifestyle together. Their decision to enroll their daughter in The Vanguard Elementary School's program was driven by the school's outstanding reputation, remarkable academics, and emphasis on classical education.

As a parent, Matt has witnessed firsthand the incredible support and resources the school offers to help children thrive. Matt is a level-headed, ethical, and forward-thinking dad. This past year, he volunteered with the school's PTO, helping organize events and assisting teachers and staff. He has witnessed the dedication of teachers and staff, who take immense pride in their work. Their genuine empathy, care, and kindness create an environment where children not only learn but flourish. Matt knows that the joy educators feel when a child succeeds is truly unparalleled.

With a long history of volunteering, Matt has always been committed to his community. As an active member of Civitan International, he coordinated volunteer efforts in the Clarksville, Tennessee community. For ten years, he has collaborated with his wife, Regina, in organizing art exhibits and fundraisers, enriching cultural opportunities for those around them. Professionally, Matt has spent over a decade in the landscaping industry, managing teams and ensuring high-quality results. He also worked as a Natural Gas Inspector at D2 Energy – Kentucky Energy Systems, where he taught operator qualification and safety courses for seven years. His diverse experience includes more than ten years in catering, where he helped a friend launch a food truck through design, recipes, and daily operations.

His hands-on experience and deep commitment to families make him a compassionate and effective board member, dedicated to advocating for teachers and staff and to strengthening the vital connection between families and The Vanguard School. Matt is ready to work diligently to ensure every child has the opportunity to succeed and thrive in a nurturing environment.

## Sheila Schaefer



Sheila Schaefer has an MBA in Finance and has worked in investment banking, project finance, and executive recruiting. She was also an elected Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for many years in Washington, D.C., where she reviewed various zoning variance requests for both commercial and residential developments.

Her two children, now in 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades, have attended Vanguard since Kindergarten and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Sheila has been an active volunteer with the school in various capacities over the years and most recently has served as a member of the School Advisory Committee (SAC). She also assisted Kathy Kiliman as a member of the Benefit Bash Fundraising committee, where she successfully raised over \$6,000 in cash and another \$1,000 in in-kind donations for the school.

Sheila and her husband Paul chose The Vanguard School for its excellent classical education and emphasis on character as the foundation for true success in life. Sheila is grateful to The Vanguard School for helping teach her children to be compassionate, responsible, and respectful of others. She is eager to give back to the school in a new capacity as a member of the Board of Directors.

## Mike Sheley



Mike Sheley and his wife Kelly are blessed with four children all enrolled at Vanguard. Mike grew up in Oregon and has a B.S. in Computer Science and a Master's in Information Technology. He served in a variety of military, civilian, and contractor leadership roles in cybersecurity and warfighter communication systems across Alaska and England before settling here in Colorado Springs in 2010. Mike and Kelly selected Vanguard when considering where to educate their children due to their focus on character development, meeting academic potential, and the rigor and structure inherent in the classical education curriculum.

Mike desires to serve on the board in order to support the amazing team of parents, staff, and volunteers in upholding the values and mission of The Vanguard School in preparing and equipping our children and community to succeed. He believes strongly in contributing wholeheartedly to whatever team one is placed on, celebrating victories together, providing feedback for iterative improvement, and keeping all focused on the goal at hand. Mike hopes to serve alongside others who share a like-minded desire to support the school and its people.

## **Carrie Wieger**



My name is Carrie Wieger, and I am a third generation native to Colorado. I am an Army veteran and a military spouse. I first became a Vanguard parent in 2002 when Vanguard was founded under Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy. I have seven children, and all of my children have attended Vanguard at some point in their education.

My educational background includes Criminal Justice, Investigations, Crime Scene Technician, and Early Childhood Education. I am, and have been, deeply community involved by presiding on multiple community committees or boards. I have also been actively involved with multiple youth organizations. I choose Vanguard above all others due to the character development and classical curriculum that Vanguard delivers and has delivered so effectively, since the founding of the school. My employment has included running youth/family and volunteer programs for the YMCA, paraprofessional at the high school and elementary levels, and working with children in various programs from birth to age 21. I have also worked in law enforcement. I have a passion for the values of The Vanguard School with how the school has helped so many become the best of themselves successfully.

## **Sarah Woolfenden**



Sarah is a dedicated member of the Vanguard community and a strong advocate for education, service, and responsible citizenship. As a parent, she has experienced firsthand the positive impact Vanguard has had on her children, providing an environment where they have been able to grow, learn, and thrive. Her appreciation for the school's mission and community has inspired her desire to serve on the school board.

With a background in education, Sarah brings valuable insight into the systems and structures that support effective schools. She has participated in curriculum committees and contributed to the review and selection of educational materials. She holds a degree in Family Life Science and has worked with numerous families to develop skills in interpersonal communication and time management. She also stays informed on current research related to social-emotional learning and educational best practices, allowing her to offer thoughtful perspective on challenges facing today's students and schools.

Sarah is passionate about supporting Vanguard's continued growth and long-term vision. She is particularly interested in helping the school move forward with key development goals, including facility improvements and the addition of permanent spaces such as a cafeteria, gym, and stage for performing arts. She is equally committed to preserving and strengthening the core character values that Vanguard is known for, ensuring that students not only achieve academic success but also develop integrity, responsibility, and strong citizenship. She is dedicated to helping Vanguard remain a place where students can continue to grow both academically and personally.