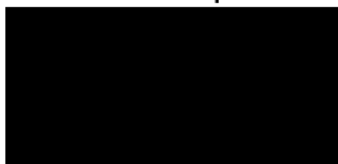


Andrew Tipton



Mishawaka, November 15, 2021

To P-H-M Board of School Trustees and Superintendent Dr. Jerry Thacker,

My name is Andrew Tipton and I am writing to you to express my interest in serving as a PHM School Board Member.

I am a father of 3 children who are all attending different levels in PHM schools: Prairie Vista Elementary, Schmucker Middle School, and Penn High School. Our family moved from Berrien Springs, Michigan to Mishawaka in the Spring of 2013. When my wife and I researched the area, one of the biggest factors that quickly narrowed down the neighborhood we wanted to settle in was our finding of the PHM school district. Through that research and with the 9 years of living in Mishawaka, we have become a family of 4 different schools in the PHM district: Walt Disney Elementary, Prairie Vista Elementary, Schmucker Middle School, and Penn High School. My children have loved every single one of their schools, and my wife and I have been invested and involved with their school activities through PTO since their attending of Walt Disney Elementary. Our family is a believer and proponent of the quality of education and service that PHM School District offers to the community.

I have over 20 years of nursing experience working in critical care such as the Emergency room, Surgical Heart Recovery unit and the Critical Care unit. I have been working at the Saint Joseph Medical Center of Mishawaka for the past 9 years. Over the past 9 years I have seen my role at St. Joseph changing from a staff position of bedside nursing to a management position as a Nursing Supervisor. While working as a supervisor I received my Masters of Science in Nursing as a Nurse Educator and I just recently took the position of Critical Care Educator for nursing. Prior to becoming a nurse, I served time in the NAVY on submarines and after leaving service became a Paramedic. All through my professional career, I have always advocated for public interest, be it for my patients, my community, or my country.

One of the most important aspects as a critical care nurse and supervisor is the ability to keep calm and direct care as best fitting the patients and the situations. With my years of experience in stressful roles I have honed these skills and feel they will serve me well as a member of the board. As a nurse, a leader and now as an educator it has always been my job to advocate for what is best for my patients and our communities and I see the board as advocating for what is best for our students and the community.

My wife, Vera Tipton, has been involved with the schools through her involvement in PTO ever since our oldest daughter stepped foot in the school system. She served as Vice President and Co-President of PTO for Walt Disney Elementary for a total number of 4 years. She participated in the mentoring program and mentored a student at Walt Disney Elementary and was active as parent helper in Prairie Vista Elementary until the COVID conditions stopped permitting her to come volunteer at the schools. Even though she or I are not currently serving as an official PTO officer, our family is always active in participating in any events our schools have going on. School volunteering has become part of our family schedule and always will be. Our family had participated in Walt Disney's Cultural Night for several years to represent my wife's country of origin, Indonesia, and our children always look forward to that event so they can show their multicultural background.

I believe my vested interest in the PHM school district for my children, our family background, along with my ability and experience in working with people of different backgrounds and opinions are an asset that I can contribute to continue the success and good reputation of the PHM School District in these challenging times.

Should you have any questions or other inquiries, feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] or email me at [REDACTED]. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your decision about this exciting opportunity.

Sincerely,

Andrew Tipton

Enclosure:

- Resume
- Copy of Passport and Indiana Driver's License
- Copy of proof of voter registration in St. Joseph County
- Copies of proofs of Penn Township residency
- Reference letters

# Andrew Tipton

## Critical Care Educator

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### Skills

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I have been working as a nurse since graduating with my ADN in 2003. I have experience in Emergency nursing providing care for patients at every stage of life. I have experience in critical care of the inpatient through my time in ICU and SICU where I worked as a charge nurse, mentor and educator. I currently work in Hospital Administration as a Nursing Supervisor. I enjoy my work greatly. I have my Master's in Nursing Education and I am looking forward to working with our next generation of nurses. I have worked well with staff and administration providing collaboration with the Chief Nursing Officer, Administrative directors and the Executive Administration officers within the hospital and the community. Projects I have worked on include improving Throughput, Managing hospital resources, Community Disaster preparedness and High Census management. Management skills include Coaching, Mentoring, Hiring, Discipline, Policy generation and enforcement, staffing and record keeping.

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### Experience

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#### Critical Care Educator

St. Joseph Regional Health System  
2021 - PRESENT, Mishawaka, IN

- Staff training and compliance
- Professional Nursing development through planning and organizing of competencies based on learning needs and duties of staff and departments
- program outreach with entities affiliated with Trinity Health
- Team leader with focus on process improvement based on performance models
- Member of various management council groups within the organization focused on implementing organization's goals and values

### **Nursing Supervisor, Nursing Administration**

St. Joseph Regional Health System  
2016 - 2021, Mishawaka, IN

- Administration leader providing staffing coordination and dispute resolution for daily operations
- Staff and administration liaison between the higher levels of management and the staff
- Management of float pool staffing, training and scheduling
- Maintain policy updates and Hospital safety as required for accreditation

### **RN, ICU/SICU**

St. Joseph Regional Health System  
2013 - 2016, Mishawaka, IN

- Staff Nurse and Charge Nurse of critical care units providing care for Post-surgical open-heart patients, CRRT, Balloon pump management, Ventilator support, Hypothermia and providing care to patients with multiple medications and needs
- Provided Educational support to nursing students as a DEU (Dedicated Education Unit) clinical instructor in ICU
- Preceptor for new graduate nurses and staff in ICU

### **RN, Emergency Room**

Borgess lee Memorial  
2011 - 2013, Dowagiac, MI

- Staff and Charge Nurse in the Emergency Room providing care for patients of all ages and at all levels of need including but not limited to Cardiac arrest, Trauma, Obstetrics and Pediatric emergencies

### **RN, Emergency Room / Pediatric Emergency**

Various hospitals  
2006-2011, Los Angeles, CA

- Worked as a Travel Nurse and staff Nurse in many hospitals in the Los Angeles California Area. Providing care as a staff and Charge Nurse providing services for all ages including care as an Emergency Department Approved Pediatrics (EDAP) certified RN and as a Mobile Intensive Care Unit RN

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## Education

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### Master's Nursing Education with Distinction

2017 - 2019 Chamberlain University

- Master's Thesis, How Mentorship Affects the Confidence of High-Risk Students in Nursing.
- Member of Sigma Theta Tau International, Phi Pi Chapter

### Bachelor of Nursing, Cum laude

2014 - 2015 Ferris State University

### Associates of Nursing

2000 - 2003 Southwestern Michigan University

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## Certification and Educational Experience

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ACLS, PALS, BCLS, Stroke Certified

RN License – Indiana – ACTIVE

RN License – Michigan – ACTIVE

DEU Instruction in the ICU as a clinical instructor for Indiana University South Bend,

Student Faculty instructor of First year BSN students in the Basic Assessment course at IUSB

Student Faculty Instructor at IUSB for Fourth year Capstone students.