



Josie S. Shumake

Board Secretary



A native of Columbus and a product of its public school system, Josie Shumake returned to her hometown after retiring from the U.S. diplomatic service where she served for 25 years helping promote U.S. foreign policy internationally.

Since coming home in 2009, she has actively volunteered at the national, state and community level. Governor Haley Barbour appointed her to the board of the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service where she served as Chair from 2014-2015. She has been a member of the National Advisory Board of the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) since 2013, serving as one of its twelve non-governmental members. Locally, her volunteer focus revolves around literacy issues.

She is a summa cum laude graduate of Mississippi State with a B.A. in history and English and holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. in English literature from the University of South Carolina. She has taught English composition at MUW, EMCC, the University of South Carolina, and Columbia College in South Carolina.

She was appointed to the Board of Trustees in March 2016 and reappointed in 2021 and believes that “working together with the CMSD administration, faculty, students, parents and the community, we have the ability to make this district one of the best in the state.”