



## Frankfort Public Library District – 2025 Trustee Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate: Jeffrey W. Otway

1. Describe your qualifications for the position of Frankfort Public Library District Trustee:

I believe my background in finance, education, and community involvement makes me a strong candidate for Library Trustee. I earned my bachelor's degree in Secondary Education from Saint Xavier University and spent time as an educator, which gave me a deep appreciation for the role libraries play in learning and personal growth. As a financial advisor, I also bring experience in fiscal responsibility and strategic planning — skills that can help ensure the library continues to grow and serve the community effectively. I've spent countless hours in libraries, from my school days to earning my professional certifications, and now as a parent watching my kids discover the joy of reading and learning. I'm committed to helping the library thrive as a resource for everyone in Frankfort.

2. List your motivation for seeking a position as a Library Trustee:

I'm motivated to run for Library Trustee because I truly believe the library is more than just books — it's a hub that empowers our community with resources, technology, and events that help us grow together. I've experienced this firsthand, from studying there throughout my life to now watching my kids light up when they find a great book or join a fun program. The library has been a constant source of support for me, and I'm excited about the opportunity to help shape its future and ensure it continues to be a valuable resource for everyone.

3. What do you see as the Library's role in the community, both now and in the future?

I see the library as a place for everyone, evolving alongside Frankfort's growing and changing community. With more families moving to Frankfort each year, the future really lies in how our kids — and all of us — engage with the library. It's not the same as when I was a kid; technology now plays a huge role in our lives, and the library should continue moving in that direction. Modernizing the library is a step-by-step process that takes time and strong collaboration — both within the board and with the community. A fresh board this April could be the perfect starting point. I believe in advocating for the library's mission, fostering partnerships with local institutions and government, but most importantly, getting out there, talking to residents, and really listening to what they need.

4. Do you currently have a Frankfort Public Library District library card?

Yes, and I am proud to say I have a digital version of the Frankfort library card. I can't recall ever not owning a library card.