

City Council Application

Reference #	11788265
Status	Complete
First Name	Dauida
Last Name	Russell
Phone Number	██████████
Cell Phone Number	██████████
Email Address	████████████████████
Street Address	██████ Fenley Rd
Place of Employment	South Euclid Lyndhurst Board of Education
Position	Transportation/Substitute Teacher
Length of residence in Cleveland Heights	37 years net of 5 years in East Cleveland
Are you a registered Cleveland Heights voter?	Yes
What special qualities, abilities, skills, insights or perspectives do you possess which would be of value in serving on Cleveland Heights City Council?	<p>As a thirty-seven- year second generation resident of Cleveland Heights, I deeply care about the vibrancy and success of this community and am very motivated to serve the residents as a Cleveland City Council Woman. I would bring to this position an ability to listen to and learn from others, analyze issues, problem solve and make decisions. I am a dedicated team player who has a talent for bringing people together to facilitate compromises to get the job done.</p> <p>I possess strong communication skills and through my communication skills, I have the ability to motivate others to engagement and action. This is a great part of my leadership qualities, along with my ability to organize people to set and accomplish goals and objectives. This is evidenced by the many projects I have completed.</p>

What educational training (formal or informal), employment and other life experiences have helped you develop the qualities, abilities, etc., described above?

Education: Graduate of Collinwood High School, a B.A. degree from George Meany National Labor College and countless certificates in labor and leadership programs and seminars such as the Cleveland State Labor- Management Relations Center Program and Leadership Cleveland Class of 2004. I also received my Ohio Teaching certificate and have subbed in Warrensville, Shaker and South Euclid-Lyndhurst.

Employment: Thirty-five years in Transportation with the CCBDD where I became Union President of the Transportation employees of OAPSE/AFSCME 4/AFL-CIO Local 744 (the last 25 years), and through this position rose to be the OAPSE NE Ohio District President (2006 to present), a OAPSE State Vice President (10 years), OAPSE State Executive Board Member (1996-present) and a Vice President of the Ohio AFL-CIO. I am currently working in Transportation and substitute teaching for the South Euclid-Lyndhurst City Schools.

Please list your recent community, professional or charitable involvements. List the most recent first.

Operated and Manage in Northeast Ohio, the largest canvassing operation in the State, since 2000, for my International Union and other various organization. The 2018 and 2016 election cycle I again operated and manage in Northeast Ohio, the largest canvassing operation in the State, for the Four Our Future Fund

a people driven canvassing operation focused on educating individuals on issues and candidates who support community and family values and voter turnout.

Volunteer Positions: State President of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, Executive Board Member of the Gateway Economic Development Corp of Greater Cleveland as appointed by Mayor Jackson, member of the Cuyahoga County Charter Review Commission as appointed by Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish, Vice Chair of the first Cuyahoga County Charter Review Commission as appointed by then County Executive Ed Fitzgerald, served on the Board of Commission of MR/DD's Futures Study Committee for the State of Ohio as appointed by then Governor Ted Strickland and served on President Clinton's Women's Round Table of Greater Cleveland. I previously served on the Cleveland Heights Reaching Heights Board. Through my involvement in these various activities, I have donated and continue to donate a substantial amount of my time to provide funding for and support of services/programs aimed at resolving issues and bettering the lives of people at the national, state and local levels.

What are your goals for our community and are there areas in which you believe the City needs improvement? How would your service on City Council help achieve those goals and improve the City?

I am committed to seeing Cleveland Heights continue to thrive in all dimensions: diversity, culture, education, and economics. I am strongly bonded to this community in that many of my family members, including my parents, sister and countless aunts, uncles and cousins call Cleveland Heights home. I have many friends and a large number of labor colleagues here too for the same reasons. That said, there are areas of concern. The key issue to me is economic viability. I want to address the problem of deteriorating, vacant and abandoned property that has the effect of lowering the value of all our properties, thereby adversely affecting the revenue stream we count on for the many City services. I want to see our schools improve. Schools are the magnet for attracting young residents. I want to see more coordinated, aggressive pursuit of businesses, especially at Severance, Noble Road and Cedar-Fairmount. Finally, I would like to see more recreation programs, for our seniors and our over all community especially for our youth and especially after school and in the summer. I strongly believe that my wide range of experience is an asset for analyzing these issues and developing some strategic plans. I have the ability to reach out and engage the many residents I know, motivating them to get involved in our community. I also believe that my wide range of contacts at the national, state and local levels would be invaluable in networking to resolve these issues.

Do you have other responsibilities which would prevent you from participating in City Council and Council Committee work during certain hours or on certain days?

Right now, my work and other commitments do not conflict with your Monday time demands.

State any additional information you would like to have considered.

Not at this time.

Would you like to upload a Resume?

Yes

Resume or CV Upload (5 MB Limit)

[Davida_Russell_Biographical_Revised_12-16-2018_with_picture_.doc \(531k\)](#)

Item # 23	I agree to electronically sign this form.
Signature	Dauida Russell
Last Update	2019-01-02 15:01:53
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IP	
Browser	Chrome
OS	Windows
Referrer	https://www.clevelandheights.com/1085/City-Council-Application

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



Davida Russell
[REDACTED] Fenley Rd.

Phone: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Cleveland Hts., Ohio 44121

Davida Russell is the State President of the Coalition of labor Union Women, a Vice President of the Ohio AFL-CIO, State Executive Board Member and President of the Northeast Ohio District of the Ohio Association of Public-School Employees OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4/AFL-CIO), Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the North Coast Area Labor Federation, and Trustee of the Cleveland North Shore Federation of Labor AFL-CIO, In these positions, Davida represents more than 180,000 members across Ohio and 11,000 just in Northeast Ohio.

Davida is a Commission Member of the Cuyahoga County Charter Review Commission appointed by Cuyahoga County Executive Armond Budish and Executive Board Member of the Gateway Economic Development Corporation of Greater Cleveland one of two single appointment of Mayor Frank Jackson

Davida served as president of the Ohio Association of Public-School Employees OAPSE/AFSCME Local 744 for 20 consecutive years, representing Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCBDD) Transportation workers until her retirement. Davida was appointed by Governor, Ted Strickland to the Board of Commission of MR/DD to serve on the Futures Study Committee for the state of Ohio. Davida also served as the Vice Chair of the first historic Cuyahoga County Charter Review Commission appointed by Cuyahoga County Executive Ed Fitzgerald and served on the Cleveland Heights Reaching Heights Board. Davida served nationally on President Clinton's Women's Round Table of Greater Cleveland and has been invited to the White House on three separate occasions. Davida represented public employees in Sao Paulo Brazil where she received an **award from the Ambassador of Italy**;

Davida also served as State Vice President of the Ohio Association of Public-School Employees (OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4/AFL-CIO) for over 10 years until her resignation in 2015 to focus more of her time in Northeast Ohio.

Well known for her dedication to working people, she has been in the forefront of organizing, educating, training, increasing political awareness among workers, campaigning for pro-labor politicians and issues and operating and managing the largest canvassing operation in the state of Ohio since 2002. Every few months Davida continues to be featured on America's Work Force Radio WERE 1490 the only daily labor-radio program in America. ***Davida been entered in several editions of Who's Who as One of The Most Influential Black Women in Cleveland Celebrating African American Achievement.*** She has also been a co-host on a local television show located on cable public access station called "Another Look."

Davida has been featured in union sponsored radio commercials She have wrote, produced and directed a union play called "We May Be Getting Old... But We Ain't Dead Yet"! The play was presented in Cleveland's downtown Music Hall for the OAPSE/AFSCME Convention.

She's the author of the book "***The Birth of a Union: The Legacy of Noridean McDonald***" published in 2007. She is a graduate of Cleveland State Labor-Management Relations Center Program a graduate of Leadership Cleveland Class 2004.

She graduated from the George Meany National Labor College with a double major Bachelor's in Labor Studies and in Union Leadership and Administration.

Davida is also a Substitute Teacher and bus driver for South Euclid Lyndhurst City School Districts. Davida also holds an Ohio Department of Education Aide Permit HQ Paraprofessional, State of Ohio Commercial Driving License Class (A) endorsement and a First Aid and CPR Certificate

Davida has been the wife of Carl Russell for 40 yrs. and the proud mother of two daughters Domonique Nicole Russell-Turner (Son-n-law Reuben) and Brittany Lynne Russell and a Grandmother to 9-year-old Dionna Renee Turner and 3-year-old Reuben James Turner the second.

Additional Awards:

Southern Christian Leadership, Martin Luther King Jr. award mine eyes have seen the glory excellence in labor.

United labor agency unsung heroes of the labor movement award.

Ohio NAACP salutes to labor award.

Women in labor award (from the Black women political action committee)

Leadership Cleveland Growth Association award in Labor

