
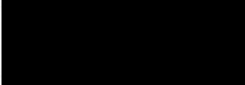
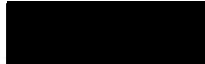


## Candidate Nomination Form

City of Aurora Boards and Commissions

*As a resident of Aurora, you are invited to use the form below to nominate yourself for membership on up to two boards, commissions, councils, or task forces. The information we collect will be used by the Mayor's Office in considering your interest in an appointment. It will be kept confidential and protected from disclosure to the extent permitted by law. If you have problems completing the form, please contact Jenette Sturges, Community Relations, at 630-256-3364 or [email her](#).*

Name	Todd Nardone
Email Address	
Address	
City	Aurora
State	IL
Zip Code	60506
Primary Phone Number	
Work Phone Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Home or Secondary Phone Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Employer	N/A
Your title, or type of business	Student
Business Address	WCC
City	Aurora
State	IL
Zip Code	60506

Board or Commission Sought

*Choose up to two boards or commissions on which you'd like to serve, in order of preference.*

First Choice                      Advisory Commission on Disabilities

Second Choice                    Advisory Commission on Disabilities

Qualifications

Organizational affiliations    School District 129 Accessible Advisory Committee 2009-2013

What unique characteristics, qualifications, or experiences would you bring to a board or commission?

Our family enjoyed reviewing the Facebook live event June 1, 2017, and reached out to Chuck Nelson immediately thereafter and asked how our disabled adult son Todd could be involved. We would like to be involved in any disability committee or forum which is established. Todd was a huge advocate in District 129 and also actively participated in the district committee for accessible improvements. Here's some information put together about Todd's impact on District 129: When our disabled, wheelchair-bound son started middle school (2006), the cross country coach (one of Todd's 6th grade teachers) asked us if Todd could blow a whistle. When we said he could, the coach asked him to be on the cross country team! Todd Nardone blew the whistle for 3 seasons to start all the home matches for Herget Middle School in West Aurora; you may remember the front page story Denise Crosby wrote about him and his team in the Beacon-News. Todd has left behind a lifetime of improvements for students with disabilities who will journey through the hallways of West High. Through his four years at West Aurora High School, Todd was involved with the district's operations assistant superintendent and a small group of parents and teachers to assist in suggesting ADA improvements to the building, athletic arenas and classrooms. Some of the noticeable improvements made between 2009 - 2013 include new handicap accessible/family bathrooms at the auditorium, near the gymnasium as well as outside at the football field so disabled visitors or students have dignity and accessible accommodations for their comfort. Accessible parking by the gymnasium as well as cut out curbing to door 22 which helps for the many public events held at the high school - all of that due to Todd's involvement. Even communication from the high school for public events gives directions for ease in entrance to the school building for those in walkers or wheelchairs. In 2011 the high school installed new accessible paved exits out onto the courtyard from within the building which replaced drop-off steps. New signage

pointing visitors and students to accessible bathrooms and exits were installed. Accessible doors into the school building at the main entrance, basketball court and the nurses office were installed; all which prior to his arrival at West Aurora High School in 2009 were not available. At the beginning of his junior year (2011), Todd took the time to meet with the new principal (to discuss over several meetings) the parking lot in front of the building and the need for additional accessible spaces and asked him to review the bus drop off/pick up locations for disabled students. Reconfiguration of the parking area can be found now when you pull up to the Main Entrance of West Aurora High School and a safe location secured for disabled students to get on and off the accessible busses was created. Todd didn't forget where he began his West Aurora education, either. Todd advocated for an accessible door and door bell position at Fearn Elementary School in North Aurora years after he struggled with his own independence as a fifth grader trying to enter the building (the brick stoop prevented him from being able to ring the bell for entrance to the building). He even remembers going to a public forum at Freeman and how they needed an accessible entrance to their public events (the wheelchair ramping is now in place!). Even though the building was still in its infancy in 2006, after his arrival at Herget Middle School, he assisted with the installation of an accessible front door and bell ringer to allow him access to the school building to start his school day as he knew he would not be the last wheelchair-bound student educated at this new school building. As one might suspect, these modifications and improvements would not be possible without the dedication by West aurora's district's administration, facilities consultant Steve Nourse and most importantly, the West Aurora School Board. Graduation marked an accomplishment for the entire class of 2013; however, Todd's accomplishments will "roll-on" (school song is "ROLL-ON" roll <http://ow.ly/kUqzP>) with each disabled student, visitor, theatre or athletic guest who journeys into the halls of West Aurora High School for years to come. Todd's awareness of his disability isn't limited to accommodation needs, he spoke freely about his disability to help educate students and allows them to even ask questions they may be curious about relating to his disability. He began speaking to 8th grade health classes when he was only in sixth grade. Mrs. Eastlick asked him if he'd be interested in sharing his experiences when the students have a chapter on disabilities in her 8th grade health class at Herget Middle School. Todd gave his presentation for five years to the eighth grade students (2006 - 2011). He was also asked to Washington Middle School to talk about his disability when an English class was reading a book whose main character was

disabled. It was an important venture since these middle school students would be peers one day when they would meet up in the halls of West Aurora High School. In 2012 & 2013 Todd spoke to Ms. Rutigliano's "Childcare and Family" course about living with cerebral palsy and how he's just like the other students at West High; the difference, he uses a wheelchair and needs more assistance at times than they may need. He even points out, during his dialogue with the students, how he gets into arguments with his younger brother, Jacob. He quickly points a similarity he shares with fellow students, "I bet you all have disagreements with your siblings, don't you?" When asked, "Doesn't his suck to be stuck in a wheelchair all the time?" by a quickly reprimanded eighth grade student, Todd replies very matter-of-factly, "No, I've never known it to be any different. It's who I am!" Want to know even more about Todd? He made this YouTube video (CEREBRAL PALSY REPORT By Todd Nardone at: <http://ow.ly/kUIZP> ) in 2009 for his 9th grade health class project and the video went on to win the 2010 West Aurora YouTube Best Documentary category. We hope this provides a significant background of Todd's advocacy efforts and speaking engagements and how one persons input, with the support of a committed community, can make accessible accommodations for all. We look forward to hearing from you as the city moves to make Aurora a "city for all of us"! Best Regards, Jamie, Debbie & Todd Nardone 119 S Hanks Rd 630-888-4403

Why do you want to be on a board or commission?

As a disabled life-long Aurora citizen it's pertinent to provide a voice to the commission of those living daily with obstacles and provide insight to help Aurora become the city that sees with disabled eyes as it moves to become a shining city of lights in our state.

Attach a current resume or personal bio.

text.txt

Section Break

#### Demographic Information (optional)

*The following questions are optional, and may be used to solely for the purposes of ensuring the diversity of the City of Aurora's boards and commissions. Note that some boards have certain requirements for the diversity of their membership based on one or more of the following criteria. (For example, the Aurora Veterans Advisory Council requires that a certain number of members on the board be veterans.) If you have questions concerning any of the following questions, contact Assistant Chief of Staff Alex Voigt at 630-256-3010 or [avoigt@aurora-il.org](mailto:avoigt@aurora-il.org).*

Date of Birth

