

## Trustee Candidate: Alison Harter



### **1. Please tell us about yourself, including how long you have lived in the community and your educational and professional background.**

I have lived in this community for 38 years and have developed a deep connection to the people, schools, and library that make it such a special place to live. My husband and I both grew up in Florida and went through the school system. I am now a mom of two, raising my kids in the same community that raised me. Professionally, I am a fourth-grade teacher in the Cornwall Central School District, with a masters in Literacy. I have been teaching for eighteen years and have taught second, third, and fourth grade.

### **2. What civic or professional activities or associations are you involved with?**

I am an active member of the Golden Hill PTA. I am also the Pack Leader for the Cub Scouts in Florida.

### **3. What special talents or expertise will you bring to the board of trustees?**

My background in education allows me to have first-hand knowledge of community educational needs, literacy trends, and current educational technology. As a mom, I am able to wear many hats, and I think that will help with the future planning for the library's needs. My work in education has strengthened my skills in communication, problem-solving, and collaboration, and it has given me a strong appreciation for the importance of listening to different perspectives.

### **4. Please describe your past and current involvement and/or experiences with FPL.**

The Florida Public Library has always been a special place for my family. When I was a young girl, my parents used to take me to the library weekly when it was in the basement! Then, we would visit while it was in the trailer. Today, I bring my children weekly to the kid's programs and to check out books. We visit once, twice, sometimes three times a week. It is still their favorite place to be.

### **5. What is your favorite thing about the library?**

My favorite thing about the library is that whenever I walk in, we are greeted with smiles and joy. In a world where everything costs so much, it is wonderful to have somewhere to go where everything is free! We actively use the library of things, check out books, and attend programs that allow my kids creativity to shine.

### **6. How do you see the library and its programs and services evolving to serve the community?**

The current library connection to the community is unmatched in how wonderful it is. The programs and resources are constantly growing and changing to the community's needs. I would continue to encourage the library to adjust as the times see fit, but I would love to hold on to the current small-town charm that it has.