



Michigan Association for the
Education of Young Children

Candidate Name: **ROSEMARIE RIDEOUT**

Employment Information: **Assistant Teacher, Early Head Start @ Mott Community College
Early Childhood Learning Center (Since 2016)**

1) *Why are you interested in serving on the Michigan AEYC Governing Board?*

- a. My strengths in ECE are in the core of our profession: hands on teaching and working with children and the adults in their lives. I bring daily classroom knowledge of day to day issues to the Governing Board, and can represent the perspective of the teacher for our profession.
- b. In addition to being a classroom teacher, I am also a woman who grew up in a different culture; restarted her education journey at age 23 and 15 years later at age 38 has just earned her BAA degree. I have life experiences that allow me to understand many different things about the family, the role of the teacher, and how culture affects everything.
- c. As a native of the Philippines, English is my 3rd language. I grew up in a different world than the American culture. This gives me a unique vision on our profession. I can view issues from the perspective of a family with limited economic resources and relate to the struggles we all endure.
- d. I learned the importance of our profession from Day 1 of my American education journey, when my mentor at MCC told me “you have to join NAEYC”. Now, having just completed my Bachelor’s In Early Childhood Development from CMU, I feel ready to take the next step and be more than a “member in good standing”.

2) *Please share any relevant professional and/or volunteer experiences within the past five years that would be applicable for this role.*

- a. Served on the steering committee for our ECLC since 2017.
- b. Invited personally by Governor Whitmer to attend and participate in sessions related to her initiative “Pre-K For All” in 2022/23.
- c. Regular attendee at MiAEEYC Annual Convention and MiAEEYC Infant and Toddler programs.

3) *Please share your knowledge, skills and abilities that would contribute to serving on the Michigan AEYC Governing Board.*

- a. One thing I do very well is listen before I speak. I am a person who will think before I act, and this quality is one that is important for any Governing Board member to have.
- b. My day to day work on the floor of our center (literally) equips me to understand the current issues of the profession from the child’s perspective and that of their parent/guardian.
- c. Because I am from a different part of the world and a different culture, this gives me the unique ability to see things differently and add a perspective that can improve decisions.

4) *Please share your experience related to governance and leadership applicable to this role.*

- a. Working with parents, staff, and children on a daily basis is a leadership and governance skill that all of us have. I will transfer this ability to the team setting of the MiAEEYC Governance Board where we are all working together to improve our profession.