

## Representative Heather Bishoff

20<sup>th</sup> House District

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Heather Bishoff's commitment to a tradition of public service stretches back to her great grandfather, who sat on Worthington's City Council. Her grandfather provided security to members of the community as an insurance salesman for JCPenney's, and Heather's grandmother worked for Western Electric in the building on Broad Street that later became Lucent Technologies. The eldest child of union workers, Heather learned from them at a young age the value of hard work. At the age of 12, she earned her first paycheck delivering *The Columbus Dispatch* to her neighbors in Reynoldsburg.

After her family moved to Sunbury, Heather attended Big Walnut High School, where she participated in basketball, softball, cheerleading, drill team, and student council. In 1995, Heather went to basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. She graduated at the top of her class, earning Distinguished Honor Graduate. In 1996 she was named Ohio Soldier of the Year and moved with her unit to the newly built United States Army Reserve Center in Whitehall, where she was honored with cutting the ribbon. She also earned the Army Commendation Medal and the US Army South Achievement Award for her service in the Panama Canal.

Heather earned a B.S. in Finance from Franklin University. After graduating, Heather began her career in finance at a hometown bank. She began opening bank accounts and originating loans. Heather's excellent work ethic quickly landed her in the investment area of The Private Financial Group, where she worked with some of the bank's top clients.

Heather and her husband, Eric, opened a franchise of a financial planning firm in Gahanna in 1997. Three years later they started their own company, The Bishoff Financial Group. For the past 12 years they have helped dozens of families and small businesses with comprehensive financial planning and investments. Heather has managed all aspects of the business, including hiring and staff development, process management, bookkeeping, and marketing, which has given her firsthand insight into the needs of business owners in Ohio.

Since her oldest daughter started school in 2000, Heather has been a tireless volunteer throughout the school district, serving in every leadership position in the parent-teacher organizations, coaching 3 sports, and leading a Girl Scout troop for the past 6 years. She also co-chaired two school levy campaigns. Immediately thereafter,



Heather decided to take what she learned from her community and continue serving the public by running for office. In November 2011 she was elected to the Gahanna-Jefferson Board of Education, winning 33% of the vote in a 5-way race for only two seats.

Heather believes that the best way to make a difference is by simply being engaged. Heather has never shied away from a challenge, and it is her courageous spirit that has helped her succeed at every level. Heather is a natural optimist, and her passion spreads to everyone around her. She believes in the power of citizens coming together to make a positive difference in their own community. Heather will roll up her sleeves to work on their behalf in the Statehouse and right alongside them in their neighborhoods.

With her financial background, Rep. Bishoff has been named Ranking Member on the House Insurance Committee for the 131st General Assembly. She also serves on the Armed Services, Veterans Affairs, and Public Safety Committee as well as the Health and Aging Committee.

Heather and Eric have been married for 15 years. They live in Blacklick with their 4 children, one cat, and one dog.