

**Name:** Lisa Mills  
**Pledge Class:** Spring 1996  
**Officer Position:** Secretary - BOT Admin Dir.

**As a prospective officer & leader of the ODPAA, what do you consider your greatest strengths? Weaknesses?**

Strengths - Organized, problem solver, good communication skills, I like building relationships with people, efficient (I like improving things), good at generating Ideas, team player, leader when needed, I've organized many events and fundraisers, I love technology and using it to make things easier, I have built three websites and maintain one now for my school.

Weaknesses - I have trouble with working with people who are not open to change and/or improvement and I have trouble saying "no" to people.

**If elected or re-elected to the position you seek, what is your commitment to serving out the full term?**

I am committed to the full term.

**Please describe accomplishments in your career and personal life that would benefit the ODPAA.**

I am currently an Instructional Technology and Innovation Coach at my school. Basically, I coach teachers on how to integrate technology in their classroom with their students. I am always trying to find ways to help make things easier for my staff. I am a part of a larger administrative team at my school and I pretty much run all the communications that goes on at my school, with my principal's blessings and input when needed. I can run a classroom of 32 fifth graders without an issue and they will learn a lot from me.

I am currently an Adobe Lead Innovator and an Adobe Creative Educator. I am also a MS Certified Educator, Nearpod Certified Educator and Nearpod Certified Trainer. I will bring many skills to the board that I feel will be a great asset.

PS - I am also the President of my HOA because I want to help my community.

**What is your vision for the future of the ODPAA? What changes would you advocate and why?**

I would like to bring us more together as a community and try to help the current house in finding creative ways to solve their real-world problems, that they may not necessarily know how to solve without our experience and knowledge. They are young adults that need our help and guidance.

**If elected or re-elected, please describe what you seek to accomplish:**

Honestly, I am the type of person that likes to get things resolved, so I honestly would need to know what is a list of current concerns and issues then begin to prioritize those.

**What does Omega Delta Phi mean to you? Please describe your experience as both an active member and an alumni.**

As an active member I don't think folks really knew me, because I didn't really know myself back then. I have changed so much since then and I mostly remember that folks cared and I cared for them, even if they didn't know it. We took care of each other and look out for one another.

As an Alumni the two other sisters that I see regularly are a great guiding compass and have helped me through many difficult times in my life. They are my sounding board and I love them dearly. We look out and support each other all the time. We are dog moms too!

**How would your sisters describe you?**

Ask Lisa Newman or Suze Carbo - I think they would say I know my mind and I have an opinion. Also, I have a big heart, I care. We laugh a lot and always try to have fun and support each other. They really are the only two that I see regularly, besides my real sister Erin Mallory, who is also in ODP and she'd say the same.

**Please describe your approach to communicating and working with the ODPAA membership.**

I am good at written communication and various ways to get out the word. At my school currently I manage all of that and do it in various forms. So, it'll all depend upon what the membership needs are. There is always room for new ideas and improvement.

**How do you deal with difficult people & situations? Please describe a situation in which you took a position that upset someone else, and explain how you handled it.**

This depends upon again the situation. My best weapon with conflict is active listening. I'm not the best at it, but I sure do try to practice it all the time. I work in an elementary school with over 700 kids Prek-5th grades. I have had many situations with upset parents that are yelling and the majority of them just want to be heard and I've gotten good at standing there and just listening and acknowledging their feelings and then trying to help resolve their issues. They know that I want to help and my over 1200+ parents all know that I will help them as much as I can, if I can or I am going to find out how to help them.

Parents are the most difficult situations to handle and often they blow up, especially in car riders. If you know you know. Car riders is not for the weak of heart. I had a parent pull up, get out of the car, start screaming and cursing as he started coming at me. I told him very firmly, no, get back in the car, and reminded him that he is at an elementary school. I will not tolerate that or allow my students to be in jeopardy because of foolishness. I know this an extreme example, but I deal with many upset parents on the daily.

### **How do you motivate others?**

Trying to stay positive and real with people. I also have an excellent sense of humor and will not hesitate to make of fool of myself to liven up the mood! I am basically Goofy sprinkled with sarcasm.

### **How do you handle criticism?**

Depends upon how it's delivered. If it is coming from a place of love, concern and wish to see growth in me, no problem. I get criticism from 5 year-olds and they are harsh, but I roll with it. If you are being critical just to be critical and not trying to help me evolve, I will not receive it well.

### **What top 3 qualities do you think a leader should have?**

Openness

Ability to build capacity

Active Listening

### **Would you rather be liked or respected? Why?**

A balance of both, because honestly you can be well-liked but not respected and you can be respected, but not well-liked. There is a fine line there and it's a tough walk.

I want to be liked and respected for my contributions, but that can be hard if there is no relationship. At my school I may not be liked by everyone, but they do respect my value and contributions. They also all know that I help them no matter whether they like me or not. That really doesn't matter, it's about helping them in their time of need. I work on the liking as I go along. I really try hard to build a relationship with my people, so that I can strike a balance. Some people will never like you and I can't always help that, but I can accept it and work with it.

### **How do you spend your free time?**

Stain Glass, Photography, Cuddling up with the fur babies I have 5.

### **For Fun: What's your 'superpower' or 'spirit animal' and why?**

Spirit Animal - Wolf - They take care of the pack and work together to get things done.

Superpower - Technology & Creativity - I love being creative with technology, it's fun for me!

### **Is there anything else that we haven't already covered/asked that you would you like to share with your sisters?**

Nope, you can ask me whatever you like and I'll be straight forward and honest no matter what.