

HEATHER WATSON



TREASURER

ABOUT

LHS CLASS OF 1995

Heather (Pesek) Watson joined LREF in 2019 because she wanted to make a difference for her daughter's future in Lakewood City Schools. She is currently a lead powertrain Manufacturing Engineer supporting programs at Ford Motor Company's Cleveland Engine plant.

Heather is a Lakewood High graduate of the class of 1995, and attended Michigan State University where she received a bachelor's degree in Materials Science & Engineering in 1999. She then began her career at Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, MI in their Materials Engineering department, focusing on failure analysis and metallurgical support for prototype programs. Heather received her master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from University of Michigan before moving back to Lakewood in 2005 to work for the aerospace industry. She was a metallurgist for Alcoa, and later transitioned to application engineering where she supported product technology, research & development, and worked to develop and commercialize advanced alloys and tempers. In 2017, Heather became Quality Manager for Arconic (formerly Alcoa, which later became Howmet Aerospace in 2020), where she was a key member of the forging plant's leadership team supporting business strategies and helped her team achieve high scrap/rework improvements. In 2021, she returned to Ford Motor Company.

Heather has over 22 years of experience in metallurgy, process materials engineering and quality assurance. She is a STEM advocate and has had the opportunity to present to LHS's Watters Science Seminar group several times over the years. She has also held several leadership roles with the Cleveland Chapter of ASM International, a materials professional organization.