

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

EXETER COOPERATIVE -
EAST KINGSTON, BRENTWOOD, KENSINGTON,
EXETER, STRATHAM, NEWFIELDS

EXETER ELEMENTARY

STRATHAM ELEMENTARY

EAST KINGSTON ELEMENTARY

NEWFIELDS ELEMENTARY

KENSINGTON ELEMENTARY

FOR COMPLETE CANDIDATE RESPONSES, PLEASE VISIT:
EXETERPACT.ORG

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates
East Kingston – 1 yr. Term



E.A. "TED" LLOYD



KIM CASEY

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- *Improved academics*
- *Be accountable to the taxpayer*
- *Finish my final year of my vacancy and re-run for 3 yr. term*

Did not respond

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- *Address academic decline*
- *Balance academics with social justice initiatives*
- *Improved parental involvement in child's education*

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Budget driven by board not the administration*
- *More transparency*

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- *Make masks optional*

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- *Communication between the board, administration, parents and taxpayer must be improved*

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- *Available department of education metrics*
- *Fine tune with supplemental data*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates
East Kingston – 1 yr. Term



E.A. "TED" LLOYD



KIM CASEY

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

- Yes

Did not respond

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- No

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- *Continue practice of being responsive to communications from parents*
- *Improve communication between board and administration*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- *Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- *6 months current board experience*
- *Business background and public service experience*
- *Ability to lead board toward needed changes*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates
Kensington – 3 yr. Term



JENNIFER MARR



ROBERT HALL

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- *Passionate about the education and mental health of our children*
- *Improve academics*

Did not respond

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- *Decline in enrollment and rankings while taxes rise and our children's mental health declines*

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Thorough review of overall budget*
- *Clear explanation to community on how the budget process works*

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- *Administration did not follow majority of parents wanting kids back in school*
- *Ensure parents have a voice, particularly regarding masks*

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- *Lack of transparency, communication and respect between the school board and parents*
- *Bring back compassion*

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- *Need more than just standardized testing*
- *Real world curriculum*
- *Review retention and graduation statistics*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates
Kensington – 3 yr. Term



JENNIFER MARR



ROBERT HALL

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

- Yes

Did not respond

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- No

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- *Pledge to always listen to the parents and have an open mind*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- *Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- *A parent within the community*
- *Care deeply about our children's education and their mental health; children come first*
- *Promote civility*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates Brentwood – 3 yr. Term



MELISSA HANLON



SCOTT DENNEHY



MELISSA LITCHFIELD

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- *Improve quality of education*
- *Increased transparency*
- *Children’s interests in decision making*

Declined to participate

Did not respond

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- *Prioritize actions and interventions that can impact the gaps in learning*
- *Recognizing and addressing the unprecedented stress and anxiety facing our kids*

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Scrutinize budget to determine possible cost savings*
- *No ad hoc cuts given the academic challenges students face however, be mindful of taxpayer burden*

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- *The memorandum of agreement, that the board and administration passed, barred students from a full return to school when data showed it could be done safely was a mistake*
- *Must have flexible Covid policies and procedures based on changing information*

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- *Perception that the board and administration do not listen to community concerns*
- *Board and administration feel underappreciated and stressed*
- *Pledge to listen carefully to all concerns and respond accordingly with transparency*

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- *Comparative look at standardized test scores and average grades*
- *Gather preparedness data on transition from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school*
- *Seek information on post high school endeavors and our kids succeeding in their chosen paths*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates Brentwood – 3 yr. Term



MELISSA HANLON



SCOTT DENNEHY



MELISSA LITCHFIELD

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates
Exeter – 3 yr. Term



JOSEPH CAHILL



KIMBERLY MEYER

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- *Concerns about declining academic standards*

Declined to participate

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- *Declining academic rankings*
- *Declining enrollment*
- *Disproportional administrative spending*

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Spend appropriately*

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- *Ignoring parental surveys and input resulting in a waste of time and resources*

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- *Perception the parents are being ignored*
- *Need a balanced perspective on the board with members willing to question the recommendations of the administration*

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- *Stable or growing enrollment*
- *Improved academic rankings*
- *Greater proficiency scores*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter COOP Board Candidates
Exeter – 3 yr. Term



JOSEPH CAHILL



KIMBERLY MEYER

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

- Yes

Declined to participate

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- No

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- *Respond and take into consideration all parental concerns*
- *Give parents a podium to voice their concerns*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- *Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- *Two daughters in the school district*
- *Over 25 years of experience managing people and budgets*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter Elementary
School Board – 2 yr. Term



CATHY MACKAY (WRITE IN)



HEATHER IKEMIRE

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- *Make positive change*
- *Bridge the communication gap between parents, teachers and school board*

Declined to participate

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- *Negative perceptions of school board and administration*
- *Want to bring better communication to the board*

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Believe in responsible spending that prioritizes students' and teachers' needs*

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- *Policies need to be updated as soon as new scientific information is received*
- *Policies from two years ago are outdated today*

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- *Poor communication*
- *Will listen to all parties to help make the best decisions for our kids*

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- *We need to achieve the high standards of education we had pre-Covid*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter Elementary School Board – 2 yr. Term



CATHY MACKAY (WRITE IN)



HEATHER IKEMIRE

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter Elementary School
Board Candidates - 3 yr. Term



SUSAN DRINKER



GREG COCHRAN



PATRICK O'DAY



TALIA KING



LAURA KNOTT

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

Declined to participate

- *Three children attending Exeter elementary schools*
- *Want to support policies, connect students & teachers*

Did not respond

- *Want to position the students of SAU16 for success in a global world and make education fun again*

Declined to participate

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- *Negative perception of the district and school board*
- *Improve transparency and communication from the board to the public*

- *Improve how the board interacts with the community and its teachers, administrators, parents and students*

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Reestablish trust*
- *Shift in spending to appropriate funds based on childrens' and teachers' needs*

- *An informed public on budget line items*

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- *Allow parents choice in the health of their own children*
- *Prioritize mental health*

- *A majority of the public surveyed on the return to school was not heard*
- *Need transparent decision making rather than excuses*

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- *Lack of transparency responding to parental concerns*

- *Lost trust*
- *Need honest conversations and decision making*

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- *Supplement test scores with an evaluation of individual students as a whole as they are not one dimensional*

- *Raise academic standards*
- *Introduce competitive curriculum at the elementary school level*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter Elementary School
Board Candidates - 3 yr. Term



SUSAN DRINKER



GREG COCHRAN



PATRICK O'DAY



TALIA KING



LAURA KNOTT

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

Declined to participate

- Yes

Did not respond

- Yes

Declined to participate

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- No

- No

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- *Full parental involvement and transparency as it relates to how their child is doing in the classroom*

- *Respond!*
- *Promote engagement and discussion at board meetings*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

- *Representative of the community*

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- *Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

- *Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- *Support teachers*
- *Years of experience in communication and teaching*

- *Will speak up for community and ask hard questions*
- *Managed and mentored global teams and projects*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Stratham School Board
Candidates - 1-3 yr. Terms



KEN OTTO
(3 YR TERM)



JENNIFER SCRAFFORD
(2 YR TERM)



JAMES BOLTON
(2 YR TERM)



RACHEL JEFFERSON
(1 YR TERM)



ERIK HERRING
(1 YR TERM)

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- Bridge communication gap
- Foster critical thinking
- Improve academic performance

- Re-organize boards' priorities
- Focus on budget students and supporting teachers

- Will have four children go through SMS in next 11 years and I'm committed to its excellence

Did not respond

- Create measurable goals
- Concerns about administration's judgement
- Return kids to school

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- Transition out of an emergency mindset to fact based and critical thinking/decision making
- Improve negative tensions in community

- Covid crisis
- Define how to move out of crisis response
- Plan upgrades to SMS building
- Enforce academics

- School rankings are falling
- Monitor curriculum
- Maximum transparency to public on all aspects relating to the school
- Correct rising cost of schools

- Making up for lost ground academically
- Carefully evaluate every spending request that does not align with improving academics

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- Better budgeting by understanding how previous budget worked and make adjustments as necessary

- Student focused budget
- Review of past budgets and what changes should be made to the following years

- Review excess of funds unused
- Timely review to the public of draft budgets
- Public review of budget advisory committee meetings

- Need and gather more information and educate myself on the budgeting process

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- As facts changed, the SAU did not change with them
- Need a balanced approach to pandemic that relaxes some restrictions while getting our kids back on track

- Must be data driven
- Kids cannot be denied important developmental opportunities
- Covid response must be on every meeting agenda

- Board failed to provide oversight for loose decisions made by administration
- Failure to address the public perception that parent concerns were ignored

- Ineffectual measures were put in place and maintained even after the data indicated otherwise
- Empower parents to make choices for their kids

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- Community members feel unheard
- Lack of public discussions
- Must listen to public and all input when important decisions are made

- Division due to Covid response
- Board meetings must recognize importance of parents and taxpayers
- Administrators must be transparent

- Needed weekly public meetings with parental input to discuss decisions made and determine if adjustments were needed
- Lack of humility and communication

- Failure to properly communicate with each other
- Advocate for long form conversations, round tables, transparency, and responding to all communications received

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- Unsure
- Need to determine how to best measure success, why we use certain metrics and are they appropriate

- Reduce achievement gap
- Review mental health referrals
- Review retention rates of students moving on to CMS

- Lack of two way conversation at meetings
- Lack of meaningful responses to parent concerns

- Objective measures such as standardized testing and proficiency scoring

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Stratham School Board
Candidates - 1-3 yr. Terms



KEN OTTO
(3 YR TERM)



JENNIFER SCRAFFORD
(2 YR TERM)



JAMES BOLTON
(2 YR TERM)



RACHEL JEFFERSON
(1 YR TERM)



ERIK HERRING
(1 YR TERM)

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Did not participate
- Yes

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- No
- No
- No
- No

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- Inform public of topics before board meetings
- Appropriate time for public input as topics are discussed, not before or well after
- Digital forum?
- Rearrange meeting agendas where parents can be heard first
- Respond promptly to parent emails and phone calls
- Prompt acknowledgment and timeline for response to any parental concern
- Meaningful response to all messages
- Long form public conversations (more than 3 min) between all stakeholders

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- Representative of the community
- Representative of the community
- Representative of the community
- Representative of the community

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- Yes, I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing results
- Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results
- Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results
- Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing results

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- Have two kids in the district
- Management of people and budgeting experience
- I volunteer, attend and listen
- Understand how to analyze budgets
- Prior, extensive board experience holding many different responsibilities and roles
- Have daughters in our district
- Have coached and served on zoning board

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Newfields School Board
Candidates – 3 yr. Term



JENNIE BISHOP



JANE WALSH

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- Time for a change to the board
- Prioritize the fundamental education of our children

Did not participate

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- Need more transparency, quality leadership and accountability by our administration
- Declining rankings and no plan on how to rectify the situation
- Need to prioritize where funds are spent from the budget

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- The school board must listen to and take into consideration the recommendations from the budget advisory committee

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- Lack of listening to public input and lack of transparency on how to work through challenges created by Covid
- Communication with parents and making decisions that take voter input into account

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- Not listening to parent concerns about academics and prioritizing polarizing issues
- Board meetings should be open discussions from various perspectives
- Full transparency

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- Testing is important but only as a baseline
- Review of monthly and quarterly assessments from the classroom to gauge student progress

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Newfields School Board Candidates – 3 yr. Term



JENNIE BISHOP



JANE WALSH

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

- Yes

Did not participate

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- No

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- *Approach parent questions and concerns with compassion regardless of my personal opinion*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- *Yes I'm committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- *Mom of three children who have attended Newfields elementary and one of the few who attend board meetings*
- *Currently the sole member of the Newfields budget advisory committee*
- *Served on principal hiring committee*
- *Serve on the Newfields Youth Athletic Association*
- *Have worked closely with the PTO and teachers to raise money for the school*
- *Dedicated community member with independent views*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

East Kingston School Board
Candidates – 3 yr. Term



TIFFANY DABRIO



ABAGAIL MILLS

<p>What are your reasons for running for school board this year?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>For the kids in my community and their education</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>School finances</i> • <i>Working parents</i> • <i>Academic reporting</i> • <i>Focus on education</i> • <i>Develop policies that require goals and objectives for non-standard academic items</i> • <i>Build environment of conversation, compromise and respect</i> • <i>SAU16 start time & pride</i>
<p>What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Unfinished learning and academic growth</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Funding challenges</i> • <i>Different ideals for child's education</i> • <i>Declining enrollment</i> • <i>The "system"</i> • <i>Cultural change</i>
<p>The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Scrutinize the budget particularly the SAU central office</i> • <i>More transparency</i> • <i>Sufficient funding for teachers paras and students</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Better educate the public</i> • <i>Annual survey</i> • <i>Make administrator's contracts available to public</i> • <i>More state funding</i>
<p>What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Immediately move to update the current policies</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lack of consistency and information from the administration</i> • <i>Lack of support for kids who are out due to Covid</i> • <i>Slow response from administration to acknowledge student gaps in learning</i> • <i>Relax Covid restrictions</i> • <i>Must listen to one another and our differences</i>
<p>Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Communication in order to have transparency and accountability</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lack of effective communication</i> • <i>Mutual respect</i>
<p>What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Test scores</i> • <i>Report academic benchmarks monthly and/or quarterly and provide to school board for review</i> • <i>Parent and student input</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No one model to gauge success</i> • <i>Placement exams/assessments have their place combined with competency/status exams</i>

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

East Kingston School Board Candidates – 3 yr. Term



TIFFANY DABRIO



ABAGAIL MILLS

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

- Yes

- *Did not answer*

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- No

- *I believe we have a top-heavy administration (financially) and a comparison should be done with other similar sized district*

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- *Parents' concerns should be addressed properly and thoroughly*

- *Respectful reading and response of communications*
- *Input from EKES families and taxpayers is vital for a budget and policies*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

- *Did not answer*

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- *Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

- *Did not answer*

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- *I am a doer*
- *I have filled a need at EKES as a substitute and then paraprofessional*
- *Served on the EKES PTO as chair and co-chair*
- *Currently have three children in the school district and one graduate*
- *Worked to get a math interventionist in the current proposed budget*
- *Understand the importance of strong communication*

- *Experience in municipal finance and procedure*
- *Hope to bring a level head and measured view*
- *Open to listen to all points of view*
- *Currently have two children in the school district and one graduate*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Kensington School Board
Candidates – 3 yr. Term



JOSH GOULD



UNCHALLENGED

What are your reasons for running for school board this year?

- *Want to help my community and plan on sending children through the public school system*

What do you see as the main challenges facing the school district and what do you want to change?

- *Need to learn more*

The School District Budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Need to learn more*

What is your opinion regarding the SAU16 policy responses to Covid and what, if anything, would you change?

- *Focused on learning about KES And how to best complete duties as a board member if elected*

Why do you believe animosity has increased during in interactions between the school board, the administration, and the public, and how can the current climate be improved?

- *Respecting opposing views is a lost art*
- *Can be improved with common sense decisions with the best interest of children in mind*

What would you use as a model to gauge academic success?

- *Need understanding how it is currently gauged before forming an opinion*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Kensington School Board Candidates – 3 yr. Term



JOSH GOULD



UNCHALLENGED

Would you support the addition of more teachers and para positions?

- Yes

Do you believe our SAU has the appropriate number of administrators?

- Yes

If elected, what approach will you take in responding to parents' questions and concerns as it relates to their children's educational experiences inside the classroom?

- *Respectfully do what I can to respond to concerns raised*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or as a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

Are you committed to a yearly survey of families, students, community residents, and school staff about what they see as major strengths and shortcomings of the district and its schools? Are you committed to publicly sharing the results?

- *Yes I am committed to a yearly survey and yes, I am committed to publicly sharing the results*

What makes you the most qualified person for the school board?

- *Father of two children*
- *15 years experience in the financial services industry*
- *Want the best for my children and community*

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter Region Cooperative Budget Advisory Committee Candidates
Newfields- 3 yr. Term



PATRICIA COX (TRISH)



DONALD CARDINALE

What are your key reasons for running as a candidate for budget advisory committee this year?

- Lifelong commitment to public education
- Background in handling finances

- Students first
- Focus on academics
- Responsible budget ensuring most positive academic outcomes for the student

The school district budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- Current board members assure me questions can be asked if issues arise

- Smaller surpluses needed
- Reduced budget with excess funds returned to taxpayer
- Focus on academics and teachers

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or a representative of the school system?

- Representative of the community

- Representative of the community

If elected, how will you ensure accountability and transparency in the budgeting process?

- This process allows for complete transparency
- Will ask hard questions if needed
- Ensure meetings encourage respectful civil disobedience

- Testing budget numbers
- Dig deeply into budget
- Be an independent auditor

What particular experiences or skills do you have that makes you the most qualified candidate?

- Bachelor of science degree, M.S.Ed and MSW
- Served on Ritchie MacFarland board for 6 yrs
- President of Friends of Newfields Public Library for five years
- Current Trustee of the Trust Funds for Newfields
- Board of Director & Treasurer for 2 years of ACLP
- Served on NH-NASW for 6 years; appointed to National Board 2 years ago

- Worked in an industry where executives prioritized their needs over employees and customers

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter Region Cooperative Budget Advisory Committee Candidates
Exeter- 3 yr. Term



ROB DELORIE



MARGARET BATEMAN

What are your key reasons for running as a candidate for budget advisory committee this year?

- Served in committee for six years
- Appreciate needs of community's schools while providing objective assessment of spending requests

- Interested in running for school board since I moved here 10 years ago
- Decided to run for BAC because decisions are made here before they get to the school board
- Appreciate current hard work but want to bring fresh perspective

The school district budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- Great Bay Charter School funding concerns
- Large favorable variances each year
- Declining school enrollment
- Must control costs accordingly while maintaining support for educational programs

- More information distributed to public would help them understand how and when to make their voices heard

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or a representative of the school system?

- Representative of the community

- Representative of the community

If elected, how will you ensure accountability and transparency in the budgeting process?

- As Chair, introduced measures to increase communication with community
- Emphasized importance of communication with community, the BAC, the SAU and School Board

- Diligently review reports made available at end of year
- Question when items don't line up or make sense

What particular experiences or skills do you have that makes you the most qualified candidate?

- Finance and accounting professional for over 30 years
- Extensive experience working with schools, teachers and parents
- Treasurer of Exeter Elementary PTO
- Supported expansion of Coop Middle School

- Critical thinking and negotiation skills from 20+ years as a lawyer
- Will ask hard questions and collaborate with other members to determine best recommendations to the School Board
- Experience with financial statements as a corporate finance attorney and as treasurer of the Children's Museum of New Hampshire
- Want to ensure district spends taxpayer money that benefits the student

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

Exeter Region Cooperative Budget Advisory Committee Candidates
Stratham- 3 yr. Term



PAT GILLIS



HEIDI HANSON

What are your key reasons for running as a candidate for budget advisory committee this year?

- *Skill set to uncover where funds could be deployed more efficiently*
- *With grown children have the time and ability to serve community*
- *Concerned about increasing budget with declining enrollment and SAU16 rankings*

Declined to participate

The school district budget is always heavily discussed and debated. What changes are necessary to the budget and the budget process if any?

- *Must be a better way to communicate budget to the public in an easier to understand format*
- *Important for the community to know why the BAC may or may not support the budget*

Do you see yourself primarily as a representative of the community or a representative of the school system?

- *Representative of the community*

If elected, how will you ensure accountability and transparency in the budgeting process?

- *Hold people crafting the budget accountable*
- *Will determine where tax dollars are being spent and make suggestions for improvements if necessary*

What particular experiences or skills do you have that makes you the most qualified candidate?

- *I've been a financial professional for 14 years*
- *Have run my own practice for the past 8 years*
- *Work daily with individuals' and businesses' financial plans and budgets*
- *Resident of Stratham for 21 years w/three children having gone through SAU16 by Spring 2022*