

Board of Education Candidate Michael Carbonneau

Occupation: Retired Teacher

Educational/Occupational Background: BA in Music Education University of Hartford, Masters in Education CCSU. Past positions in K-12 Teaching, Manufacturing, IT Systems, Music Festival Planning, Small Business

Current Community Work: Vice President of The Bethlehem Land Trust, Serves on the Bethlehem Historic District Commission, board member of The Woodbury Bethlehem Community Music Foundation.

What are your ties to Region 14?

Bethlehem resident since 2017. 39 year teaching career (K-12 Grade Levels) in three different Connecticut School Systems, two of which were extremely similar to Region 14. Grandson currently attending Bethlehem Elementary School.

Nominated by Leonard Assard. Nomination seconded by Carol Ann Brown

Why would you like to serve on the Region 14 Board of Education?

I strongly believe in providing a quality public education for every young person in the community. My varied background has prepared me well for serving on the Board of Ed, and I am eager to get involved with the nuts and bolts of what really counts, establishing a well attended, well funded, well staffed, and well maintained school system.

What do you feel are Region 14's strengths and weaknesses, and how do you feel Region 14's weaknesses can become strengths?

Region 14 has done an exceptional job of providing for the needs of its local students while establishing itself as a regional destination for Agriscience and Art programs. Challenges face us, especially in the areas of local declining enrollment and determining the uncertain future skill-needs of our 21st century students.

If you are elected, how would you make Region 14 the best public school system it can be?

First things first I would meet the ever-present, though often mundane, day to day detailed needs of the system, addressing issues of concern without getting mired up in pet projects or culture war tangents. At the same time, I will encourage the board to listen to and respect the many different voices within our community, always prioritizing our students' future in every decision.