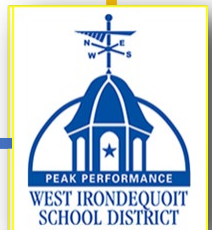


# West Irondequoit Board of Education

An Introduction for Our Community

March 21, 2024



# Topics for Discussion

- Guiding Principles
- Role, Responsibilities, Commitments
- Running for the Board of Education
- Upcoming Events
- Open Discussion and Q&A
- Resources



# Guiding Principles



# Guiding Principles of the Board of Education

- **The Constitution** of the United States of America
  - Oath of Office taken at the beginning of each term
- **The Constitution** of the State of New York

- 2021-2026 **Strategic Plan**
- The West Irondequoit Central School District **Mission Statement**
- The District's **Core Commitments**
- District **Focus Areas & Key Measures**
- Our **Students, Faculty, Staff, and Community**

All can be found on the West Irondequoit CSD website.



# West Irondequoit Central School District Mission Statement

“The West Irondequoit Central School District partners with our community in providing a comprehensive educational experience that balances high expectations, diverse opportunities, intellectual growth, and personal responsibility. Our community welcomes each child, nurtures each mind, and inspires each other to peak performance.”

*District Mission Statement*



# Role, Responsibilities, and Time Commitment



# Responsibilities of the Board of Education

“Boards of Education members are elected local officials who are directly accountable to their constituents for the public schools in their communities.”

*Monroe County School Board Association Position Paper on Democracy and Public Education, 2013*



# Role of the Board of Education

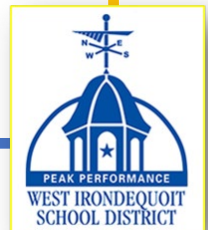
- The Board of Education is the official policy making body for the school district.
- In this role, the Board:
  - **ESTABLISHES** and **MAINTAINS** the District educational philosophy
  - **SETS** and **ADOPTS** policies that guide the operation of the school district
  - **PARTICIPATES** in an ongoing review of policies to provide for their timely updates and additions
  - **SETS** long and short-term goals and objectives
  - **SETS** benchmarks in the annual Focus Report that supports the District
  - **MATCHES** the financial needs of our District to the funding sources available through local, state and federal sources
  - **SETS** the yearly tax rate
  - **HIRES** and **EVALUATES** the Superintendent





# WICSD Board work is an individual and collective endeavor requiring:

- Your **time** and **talent**
- Your **commitment** to develop collaborative relationships
- Your **readiness** to share your expertise
- Your **desire** to continue to grow professionally in your role as a Board member
- Your **willingness** to increase your knowledge
- Your **continuous work** towards the GOAL of a QUALITY, COMPREHENSIVE public education for every child.



# A Great Board of Education...

- **OUTSTANDING BOARD MEMBERS** understand their role and **RECOGNIZE** the importance of public education in their community
- **SEEKS** to ensure that every child receives an appropriate education that allows avenues for achievement and fulfillment at the highest level
- **SUPPORTS** the District's mission, goal and policy objectives
- **SERVES** as a liaison between the school district and the community
- **PRIORITIZES** the best interests of many vs. their own personal interests
- **UNDERSTANDS** that individual Board members have no authority
- **SUPPORTS** the decisions of the Board



# A Great Board of Education...

- **ADVOCATES** on behalf of our students, faculty, staff, and community
- **UTILIZES** and **REFERS** to the Superintendent to gain/access greater information
- **RECOGNIZES** and **RESPECTS** the individual strengths and differences of Board members
- **SUPPORTS** Board members' rights to express opinions
- **RESPECTS** the need for confidentiality on issues pertaining to personnel, pending litigation, ongoing contract negotiations and all that occurs in Executive Session
- **FOLLOWS** the District Code of Conduct
- **LISTENS**



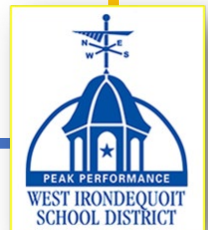
# What does it take to be an effective board member?

- Your service will require:
  - Reading
  - Asking questions
  - Attending meetings/events locally and countywide
  - Serving in liaison positions
  - Developing relationships
  - Supporting or participating in leadership roles
  - Becoming an advocate for public education on local, state and federal levels
  - Working for the good of our West Irondequoit Community



# Time and effort required: **Preparing**

- **Reading about 4 - 6 hours per week**
  - Email: District, every school, NYSSBA, MCSBA, etc.
  - BoardDocs readings for every vote preparation at every meeting
  - District finances (spreadsheets, financial reports)
  - District Policies
  - Newspapers: ONBOARD, NYSSBA e-clips
  - Informational copies of articles and supportive reading from Superintendent and District staff
  - Textbook reviews



# Time and effort required: **Being Present**

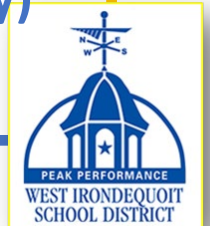
- **Attending Meetings and Workshops**

- Training opportunities
- New Board member orientation with District Office staff (full day)
- New Member Governance Training (NYS Mandate) – 1 session, 6 hours
- Fiscal Training Workshop (NYS Mandate) – 1 session

- **Meetings**

- Scheduled Business Meetings/Study Sessions (avg. 2-3 hrs.)
- Audit Committee Meetings (avg. 1 hour/approx. 4)
- MCSBA Committee Meetings (avg. 1-2 hours, mid-day and evenings)
- BoE meetings and functions which are not planned for in advance
- WI BoE Workshops (1 full day in August - 8 hours average)
- Committee & School Liaison Meetings/Visitations

- **Opportunity for advocacy trips to Albany (1 overnight, 1 all day)\***

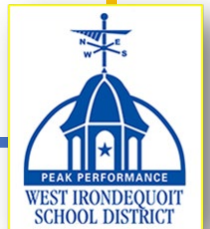


An Equation for Success:

**Board +  
Superintendent =  
Team of 8**



# Running for the Board of Education





# Qualifications (according to NYS law):

- United States citizen
- Age 18 or older
- Able to read and write
- Current resident of West Irondequoit for at least one year prior to election
- Not a district employee
- Only one family/household member can be on the BOE at once
- Not simultaneously holding another incompatible public office
- Must not have been removed from school district office within one-year preceding election.



# Requirements & Recommendations

## Requirements

- Pick up a “**Board Packet**” from the District Office
- Complete the “**application**” with required information
- Secure the requisite number of **signatures** on your candidate petition

## Recommendations

- Attend **School Board Meetings** leading up to the election
- Participate in the West Irondequoit PTSA sponsored **Candidates’ Night**
- Speak with **stakeholders**: Board members, Administration, Faculty/Staff, Students
- Attend the Monroe County School Boards Association **Prospective Candidates Seminar** (4/13/24 @ 8 am @ Double Tree in Henrietta)



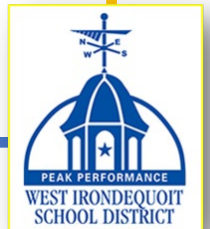
# Know Your “Why”

- We all have our reasons, our “why” that motivated us to run for the West Irondequoit Board of Education

What’s *your*  
“Why”?



# Upcoming Events



# Important Dates

## Board of Education Calendar– March, April, May, and June 2024

Day	Date	Event	Time	Location
Tuesday	April 9	Budget Presentation at PTSA Meeting	7:00 p.m.	District Office
Thursday	April 11	Study Session	7:00 p.m.	District Office
Wednesday	May 01	New Teacher/Mentor Celebration	3:30 p.m.	IHS Small Cafeteria
Thursday	May 09	Study Session/Budget Hearing	7:00 p.m.	District Office
Monday	May 13	PTSA Board Candidates Night	6:30 p.m.	IHS Small Cafeteria
Tuesday	May 21	Vote Day	6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	St. Paul Fire Department 433 Cooper Road
Thursday	May 30	Business Meeting/Code of Conduct Hearing	7:00 p.m.	District Office
Thursday	June 06	Audit Committee/Study Session/Safety Plan Hearing	6:00 p.m./7:00 p.m.	District Office
Thursday	June 20	Business Meeting	7:00 p.m.	District Office



# Open Discussion and Q & A



# Resources

- West Irondequoit Board of Education Meeting Schedule
  - [https://cdnsm5-ss8.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_228510/File/Board%20of%20Education/2023-24\\_%20BOEMtg\\_Sked.pdf](https://cdnsm5-ss8.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_228510/File/Board%20of%20Education/2023-24_%20BOEMtg_Sked.pdf)
- Current Members of the Board of Education & contact information
  - [https://westirondequoit.org/board\\_of\\_ed/members](https://westirondequoit.org/board_of_ed/members)
- West Irondequoit 2021-2026 Strategic Plan
  - <https://www.westirondequoit.org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=228594&pageId=96392170>
- West Irondequoit Central School District Mission Statement & Core Commitments
  - [https://westirondequoit.org/district/mission\\_statement](https://westirondequoit.org/district/mission_statement)
- West Irondequoit Central School District Focus Areas
  - [https://westirondequoit.org/board\\_of\\_ed/district\\_focus\\_areas\\_key\\_measures](https://westirondequoit.org/board_of_ed/district_focus_areas_key_measures)
- New York State School Boards Association information portal
  - <http://www.nyssba.org/experience>

