

Dear School Board Colleague,

I am excited to announce that I am a candidate for the Area One NYSSBA Board of Director's seat. I wanted to reach out to you to ask for your vote and support. My name is Matthew Kennedy, and I am the current board of education president in the North Tonawanda City School District. This is my fifth year as a board member and my third year as board president. During my tenure in North Tonawanda, I have continued to advocate for students via all NYSSBA events and direct calls with our legislators and stakeholders. I also serve as the Vice President of the Niagara – Orleans School Board Association. My number one priority if elected as Area One Director will be to put our students' needs.

I am a life-long resident of North Tonawanda and reside here with my wife and our two dogs. We chose North Tonawanda to build our family because of the caring community and outstanding school district. I work for Ingram Micro in Williamsville, NY as a Manager of Solution Design & Services. I am responsible for managing a group of technical professionals who design cloud environments, network security, and technology solutions. I think this gives me a unique perspective in this ever more technical school environment.

During my tenure, I have proudly supported the expansions in art, counseling services, and completed a capital improvement project. I have also supported school safety improvements that include the addition of two school resource officers. Our district has passed four budgets during my board service under the tax cap and gotten creative about how we can do more with less.

In closing, we have uncertain times ahead as the COVID-19 pandemic continues into the 2021 – 2022 school year and will need someone at NYSSBA who can bring a new perspective as your Area One Director. I would be honored to earn your vote and to be your voice on the NYSSBA Board of Directors. If I am, I will work tirelessly to provide every student with the tools they need to be successful and go out to change the world. Thank you for your support and please cast your vote via the Survey Monkey link sent to your board president and district clerk no later than **5 p.m. on Thursday, September 30, 2021.**

Thank you,

Matthew Kennedy

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matth / K", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.