West Irondequoit Board of Education

An Introduction for Our Community

March 16, 2023
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
- 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 (3/25/23 @ 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 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Mar 16</td>
<td>Business Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>District Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>Apr 11</td>
<td>Budget Presentation at PTSA Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>District Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Audit Committee</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. (Dinner available at 5:00 p.m.)</td>
<td>Dake APR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Study Session</td>
<td>6:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Dake APR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Apr 20</td>
<td>Business Meeting - Budget Adoption</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>District Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon.</td>
<td>May 01</td>
<td>PTSA Board Candidates Night</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>May 04</td>
<td>Study Session/Budget Hearing</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>District Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Business Meeting - Tenure Recognition</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dake APR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues.</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Vote Day</td>
<td>6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>St. Paul Fire Department 433 Cooper Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Jun 01</td>
<td>Audit Committee/Study Session</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. (Dinner available at 5:00 p.m.)</td>
<td>District Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Jun 15</td>
<td>Business Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>District Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Jun 29</td>
<td>Study Session (if necessary)</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>District Office</td>
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Open Discussion and Q & A
Resources

• West Irondequoit Board of Education Meeting Schedule
  • https://westirondequoit.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_228510/File/Board%20of%20Education/2020-21_BOE_Mtg_Schedule.pdf

• Current Members of the Board of Education & contact information
  • https://westirondequoit.org/board_of_ed/members

• West Irondequoit Central School District Mission Statement & Core Commitments
  • https://westirondequoit.org/district/mission_statement

• West Irondequoit Central School District Focus Areas
  • https://westirondequoit.org/board_of_ed/district_focus_areas_key_measures

• New York State School Boards Association information portal
  • http://www.nyssba.org/experience