



Who Do I Ask?

Kim Blasiak
NYS PTA Outreach Coordinator



Background

- Mom of 4 children
- PTA since 2009
- Current VP of Council
- Current Board of Education (BOE) member
- Numerous PTA positions
- Special Education Advocate
- Research junkie

Board of Education Elections

The one thing that unites all of us -
PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
They belong to **EVERYONE.**

Support school board candidates who put our public schools as the center of our communities.



Katie DiPierro
#1 on ballot



Kimberly Blasiak
#3 on ballot



Kelly Person
#7 on ballot



Gloria Towle-Hilt
#9 on ballot

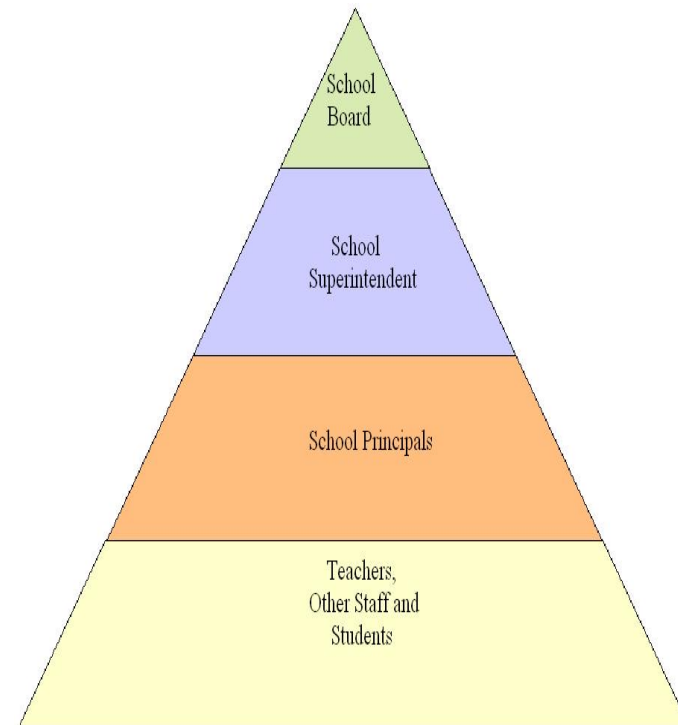
THE PRO-PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE AGENDA:

- Making sure our tax dollars are spent fairly and in a way that benefits our community.
- Ensuring that every child has the right to learn in a respectful, safe, and supportive environment.
- Fighting for our fair share of state and federal funding.
- Safeguarding our tax dollars by spending our funding in the classroom, not on bureaucracy.



Chain of Command

- What is the issue?
- Who do you speak to?
 - How did you contact them?
 - Was it a respectful conversation?
 - Did you ask questions?
- Did you skip a level in the chain of command, or go over someone's head?



Example:

Your student brought a note home from school about a unit in health that will be covering sex education. You have concerns about the curriculum, and if it's appropriate for the grade level.

Where do you start?

Curriculum Questions

1. Ask the teacher.
2. Speak to the Principal.
3. Administrative Positions.
4. District website.
 - a. <https://www.guilderlandschools.org/academics/elementary-curriculum/>
5. NYSED Website.
 - a. <http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction>
6. Superintendent.
7. Board of Education.

This is the same chain of command that should be followed for most questions in your District.

Social Media is Not a Resource!!



What Do School Boards Do?

- Employing the superintendent.
- Developing and adopting policies, curriculum, and the budget.
- Overseeing facilities issues.

The BOE does not control the day to day operations of a District. Do not assume a BOE knows the issues going on in every school.

Contacting the BOE

If you have gone through the chain of command and you still have an issue, you can and should contact your BOE. Do not assume they know what's going on. Keep in mind that a Board works as a unit; no member can make individual decisions.

- Letter to the Board.
- Public Comment.
- Email to Board president.

What's Going on?

- Ask questions.
- Partner with your child's teacher.
- Attend PTA meetings.
- Volunteer (If you can).
- Participate in District/School events.
- Attend BOE meetings.
 - Board Docs.



Thank you!!

Questions??