

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR MCSD BOARD OF EDUCATION

On May 21st, you will have the opportunity to vote for two members to the Board of Education



Kathy Young

Hi! My name is Kathy Young and I am running for the Mechanicville Board of Education this May. To begin, I was born and raised in this wonderful city. I attended school in Mechanicville, and graduated from MHS. I then attended SUNY Cortland, receiving my bachelors degree in Elementary Education. Upon graduation, I returned to my Alma Mater and obtained my first teaching job at the elementary school. I received my masters degree from SUNY Albany in reading/literacy. I taught here for 38 years, teaching grades kindergarten, first, third, and fourth. It was so fulfilling to give back to the school and community that helped me attain my career goals. I couldn't have chosen a more rewarding, enjoyable, purposeful profession.

Presently, I am retired and living in Mechanicville with my husband, Bob, who was a physical education teacher, coach, and athletic director in Mechanicville. I have three children, Valerie, Jillian, and John who are all products of the Mechanicville School System.

I chose to run for the board because I feel I can be an effective member, and an asset to the Mechanicville community. The children of Mechanicville are my ultimate focus and priority. My desire is that the students of this district receive an educational experience that is valuable, productive, safe, and enjoyable. All of the children in Mechanicville deserve that opportunity. My intent is to preserve and improve the quality of education in this district, and the students should have access to programs and services that are suitable for ALL learners.

I will help to guide the district's educational budget to provide a worthwhile and affordable education for all. I will always collaborate as a team with other board members and the superintendent. I encourage and welcome any ideas, suggestions, or opinions from any staff, parents, and community members to ensure you have a voice, and then work together for the betterment of the district.

Mechanicville is a fantastic community to live in and raise children. I feel my knowledge and understanding of the educational system will give our students the best learning experience possible. All in all, I feel that I can make a positive impact on the students, staff, and community if I were to serve on the board of education.



Darren D. Dodge

#DDD4BOE

Hello to all my friends, faculty and staff, students and community members! My name is Darren Dodge. I am the proud dad of two young boys. I would be honored to have your vote in this upcoming Board of Education election. I'd like to tell you a little about myself.

I grew up on a farm in a small town and am an avid sports fan. I played soccer, basketball and baseball. Most recently I have extended my love for sports into coaching Mechanicville Little League baseball and helping to start and coach our local 8U Red Storm travel baseball team. My family and I are passionate about advocating for and raising awareness about animals in need. Over the last few years, we have welcomed 15 foster dogs into our home from a local shelter! My wife, Megan, and I moved into the area after college and I began working at New Country Toyota of Clifton Park where I have worked for the past 15 years. I worked as a sales consultant my first few years at the dealership and I am grateful to have spent the last 12 years in sales management with the company!

In 2013, we bought our first home in Mechanicville. After becoming part of this community, we quickly realized this is where we wanted to raise a family. Our oldest son is in 2nd grade and our youngest son attends the full day pre-K program. Our family has an immense appreciation for what makes this community so unique, and we are truly proud to be a part of it. I would love to be the newest member of the Board of Education. With two children in the elementary school, I feel strongly that providing children with positive experiences and promoting student/teacher support from the very beginning years of learning lay a solid foundation for future successes. Many of us remember our kindergarten teachers which is a testament to the important role the early years play. I want to continue to foster a sense of pride and community by getting our youngest kids involved in our older student's activities and events. The impact the older students have on the up and coming children is truly remarkable, and I'd love to continue to support that in any way that I can. At the end of each day, the faculty and staff, pre-K through 12th grade, are most deserving of our support and recognition. They are guiding our children and supporting them in ways that foster a love of learning as well as teaching them how to show up for themselves and for others, ultimately providing them with the tools needed to succeed.

I would truly be honored to have your support and your vote for the upcoming Mechanicville Board of Education election on May 21. I look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with other Board members to support the Mechanicville community. Thank you for your time and consideration!



Pat Greenhall

Education has always been a priority in our family and that is why I have decided to run for the Mechanicville School Board.

In 1988 my family relocated to Mechanicville when my husband, Frank Greenhall, accepted the position of high school principal, later being appointed to the Superintendent of Schools at Mechanicville. I was an elementary teacher here as well, and our two children graduated from Mechanicville. And, upon my retirement, I served two consecutive terms on the school board.

Currently I have two grandchildren at the elementary school and I would like to assure that they and all children in our school district have a successful educational experience. I feel that my previous terms on the school board, along with my teaching experience will be assets in helping to accomplish these things.

Covid-19 has precipitated many changes in education. I am very interested in what all these changes actually mean, and question their necessity. Upon getting elected, I will represent your interests and concerns. I feel we need to provide a sound education to all the students of our district, while also being fiscally responsible to the taxpayers. These have always been my priority, and will continue to be my priority going forward!