

Tewksbury Township
Board of Education Election 2023
Candidate Bios

*Candidate Bios compiled by the Tewksbury Twp PTA
In preparation for:*

‘Meet the Candidates Night’
October 19th, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Old Turnpike School APR

Please join us!

www.tewksburynjpta.com

Andrew Fingerman

Vote: Ballot Line #4

A big hello to all our wonderful Tewksbury neighbors! My name is Andrew Fingerman and am a Tewksbury Township resident with two terrific kids, Lev and Simone, both of whom attend our fantastic school system. My wife Rachel and I count ourselves as lucky to live in this amazing place and believe in doing what we can to keep this community strong for all students and residents. My aim in running for Board of Education is to preserve and enhance our school system, with a focus on efficient and excellent operations, including fiscal responsibility and strategic investments that will reap the highest reward for our beloved students and community. While an advertising executive by day, I come from a family of educators and I'd love the opportunity to serve our community and our schools in a more meaningful way. You may see me out running on Rockaway Rd, Water St, or Sawmill Rd, so please stop me as I'd love to meet you. More on my platform:



For Our Kids

Our children are our most important asset, and I believe each generation of parents has the responsibility and opportunity to do all we can to support the younger generation. The foundations for this are family and education, and I am running to ensure all of our kids have what they need to succeed. I ensure I am talking with families at every opportunity to hear their experiences, concerns, and hopes for their children, and use this to inform any position I may take.

For Our Educators

Our children cannot have the best possible education without supporting those that make it happen: our beloved educators, teachers, and administrators. We need to keep politics out of our schools and let the experts lead unabated. I have regular conversations with as many of our Tewksbury educators as I can so I know what is most pressing and urgent for them and their needs for our schools and classrooms. My promise as a board member is to support them first.

For Tewksbury

In Tewksbury we are very fortunate to have achieved the status of being a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence for both our schools. I believe our educators are the reason to thank for the achievement, and that it needs to be protected on an ongoing basis by the community. It is the responsibility of the Tewksbury community, through the school board, to keep our budget focused purely on education and not wasted on frivolous aims.

Michael Infusino

Vote: Ballot Line #3



MICHAEL INFUSINO

Candidate for Tewksbury Township
Board of Education – BALLOT LINE #3

HELLO TEWKSBURY!

I am Michael Infusino, a father of two, who moved my family into this great town two and a half years ago, because I wanted to give my children the opportunity for a safe environment and receive a great education.

SOME HOBBIES & PASSIONS:

- Love spending time with my boys – playing baseball, football, chess, Cub Scouts...
- I volunteer for our awesome local Cub Scout Pack - Oldwick 199.
- I enjoy martial arts, currently training with our own local area Karate hall of fame!
- I enjoy a wide array of music: Beethoven/Mozart, Classic Rock, EDM, Country, Lindsey Sterling - love the violin/cello.
- I love the game of chess or any other good strategic game.

Mike4boe.com

PROFESSION

I work as a Video Management System Engineer in the public safety sector for the past 17 years. I install and troubleshoot security cameras, VMS software, servers, and networking equipment for school districts, municipalities & police departments (local and county), government agencies, and the gaming industry across N.J. & internationally.

PLATFORM ON WHY I AM RUNNING

PARENTAL RIGHTS

I believe that allowing parental participation and open communication of our children's experiences at school will only help them be supported in the best ways possible. I believe we have the right to be informed of our children's mental and physical health status while at school; as well as, the right to opt them out of curriculum that may be age inappropriate.

CURRICULUM TRANSPARENCY

We should have the ability to view any curriculum with ease and see what is being taught to our children.

SAFE, HEALTHY & FAIR ENVIRONMENT

I pledge to assist and help with solutions against all types of bullying and to keep the classroom a safe environment for all.

This is who I am – a straight forward concerned parent looking out for our children. I am looking to uphold and support the top tier education Tewksbury offers.

LETS GET THE FOCUS BACK TO EDUCATION

Suleyka Muñoz

Vote: Ballot Line #1

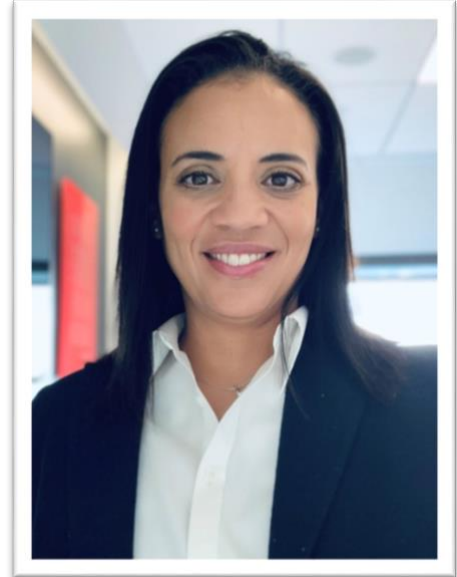
My name is Suleyka Muñoz, and I'm running for re-election to the Tewksbury Township Board of Education (BoE). My motivation to be part of the Board of Education continues to be my love for education and the desire to be engaged in service of my community.

My family has called Tewksbury home for twelve years and my daughters have grown up in the Tewksbury district since pre-school; my youngest is in 6th grade and my oldest graduated from Old Turnpike School (OTS) last summer.

I've had the opportunity to be part of the board for the last three yrs contributing to making our schools a great environment for our children to learn and thrive. My Business education (MBA) and work experience in healthcare and technology have been assets to the BoE during decision making, helping address COVID and staffing challenges, financial matters, contracts, and policy reviews.

One of my goals when I first joined the BoE was to help develop a long-term vision and strategy for the district. That work is starting as the BoE engages in a strategic planning process with the community next year. I would like the opportunity to be part of establishing the strategic plan, and work towards making that vision a reality during another term; in alignment to the community goals and priorities.

I am passionate about inspiring and enabling the next generation of students to believe in themselves, seek continuous learning and challenge themselves as they grow to be the future leaders of our community and our society at large; with your vote I am excited to bring that passion to the work of the BoE.



William Simon, Ph.D

Vote: Ballot Line #5

I have been a Tewksbury resident since 2012. My wife and I moved here before we had children, and we could tell at that time that this place is special, and was where we wanted to raise our family. One of the things that makes this place special, in addition to the natural beauty of the town, is the sense of community and involvement of all the families. After my first son entered TES, I saw how truly wonderful the schools are and decided that was where I wanted to volunteer, and the school board was the natural place. My personal and professional experience has developed a number of skills that contribute productively to the board. By profession and personality I am an engineer, I bring an analytical approach to the board. I thoroughly review the budget and financial statements, and look at how small decisions and priorities in the facilities plan can have implications in the school budget and resulting taxes. My skills let me look at the budget and financial health of the schools from a macro-view, and dig into the details of what we are spending money on.



This approach is reflected in my platform as a candidate and how I have served on the Board for the last 3 years.

First and foremost, I feel we have to support all of our students, and give them the best opportunities to learn and grow. Each student learns a little differently, and being able to give them different opportunities and ways of learning should be a goal of the board and district.

Second, to help our students learn and grow, we have to provide teachers with the training and materials needed. Supporting our teachers so they are prepared to teach our students as effectively as possible is how we will achieve the first plank of my platform.

And third, how do we support our teachers? With a fair and balanced budget. We have to be judicious with the school budget. But we have to be pragmatic as well. This means careful review of our expenses and long term capital plan, but also dealing with rising health insurance costs, etc. and finding the budget that can achieve the first two items without breaking the bank.

I am passionate about education, and the ways we can teach the interplay of science and technology with the arts. I feel curriculum is often too broken into silos, and a broader picture that can tie chemistry and art, physics and history can lead to a better understanding of the world we live in. I am proud to have served on the board for the last 3 years and would be honored to continue in this capacity.

Connie Wygera

Vote: Ballot Line #2

My name is Connie Wygera and I am running for the Tewksbury Township Board of Education. I believe that parents, students and teachers need an advocate who supports parental rights, curriculum transparency, a safe & fair environment, and academic excellence we can all afford. As your advocate on the Tewksbury Township Board of Education it will be my commitment to you.

I have resided in Tewksbury Township with my family for over 25 years. Our son attended Sawmill and OTS schools. For those years I was active in district events, chaperoning field trips, serving as homeroom "Mom", participating in the PTA, Cub Scout leader, coaching soccer and attending Board of Education meetings.

I hold a Master's degree in Education from Rutgers University-Certified to teach Social Studies K-12 with an undergraduate degree in Political Science from Rutgers University.

My greatest insight into the Tewksbury Township school system comes from the 20 years I have substitute taught at Sawmill, OTS and Voorhees High School. This multifaceted experience has given me a great understanding of our local education system which serves me well today.



PLATFORM:

Parental Rights

- Right to be informed of their child's mental & physical health status while at school
- Right to opt their children out of inappropriate curriculum
- Right to ask questions & voice their opinions to the school board & administration without fear of retribution

Curriculum Transparency

- Easy accessibility to our students' curriculums including additional online resources being used
- Openness in what is being taught to students
- Full transparency when parents are asked to opt-in or opt-out of any curriculum

Safe, Healthy & Fair Environment

- Our students deserve to learn in an academically stimulating environment that also provides for basics such as safe drinking water, healthy food and a secure building
- Protections from all types of bullying

Academic Excellence That We All Can Afford

- Careful and thoughtful spending to ensure that all funds entrusted to the school district's care are used responsibly

LOCAL VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS:

- The Tewksbury Township Scenic Road Committee
- The Tewksbury Township Historical Society
- The Women's Club of Tewksbury Township
- Working with the Tewksbury Township Committee to improve cell phone service throughout our community
- Attending Tewksbury Township Board of Education meetings

I have always valued community service whether in Tewksbury Township, Hunterdon County or my church. This service has centered on education, charity work and the environment. Education is the key foundation for our students and community. Only by working together can we implement what is truly best for the parents, students and teachers of the Tewksbury Township school district. I will be your advocate. It is my commitment to you.

Connie4boe.com