

RE-ELECT

ERIC ALMANZAN

MARCH 12TH

SCHOOL BOARD

I am humbly asking once again to represent ALL residents of Strafford, in the governance of our school district. The school board has made great strides in improving the outcome of our district's students, now is your chance to keep the momentum rolling, as Strafford moves into the future.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, SURVEY DRIVEN GOALS

The school board worked with the superintendent last spring to conduct a climate and culture survey parents, teachers, and staff. Based on the results, steps have been taken to improve student achievement and behavior through the hiring of grant funded consultants. These consultants are working towards uniform expectations in their respective areas, with the initial focus being on math and behavior. I have supported these steps through productive collaboration between the board and administration as a renewed focus on the core subjects has taken place. **NEW MATH CURRICULUM** is being researched by subject matter experts, K-4 teachers are taking advantage of grant funded Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) training, and the proposed budget for next school year includes an **ADDITIONAL PART TIME GUIDANCE COUNSELOR** as well as a **7-8 GRADE MATH TEACHER** and a **WHOLE SCHOOL MATH INTERVENTIONIST**.

RETURNED OVER A MILLION DOLLARS TO THE TAX PAYERS

During my time on the school board, we have returned over a million dollars in fund balance to the residents of Strafford. This was largely due to utilizing ESSER grant funds (not cutting corners). We did this all while adding teachers where necessary to maintain the small class sizes that Strafford has come to expect.

SUCCESSFUL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT PROCESS

I am probably most proud of my involvement in a successful negotiation cycle between the board negotiations committee and the Strafford Education Association. We worked together to craft a contract that makes Strafford School much more competitive at being able to attract and retain talented teachers. In March, The town overwhelmingly, and positively voted to support this contract that provides an overall cost of living adjustment of 11% over three years, removes the bottom four steps from the pay scale, and introduces a replacement to an archaic health insurance plan that is more affordable to all involved.

(more on reverse side)

RESPONSIBLE OVERSIGHT OF SCHOOL FACILITIES AND PROPERTY

Strafford School District buildings and land are worth millions of dollars. I have been on our board's facilities committee as we have taken critical steps to ensure that the board can properly plan for the future needs of our physical plant, and stay up to date on necessary repairs, by participating in the creation of our facilities charter, which clearly states the steps the board is taking to continue our responsible stewardship of Strafford's greatest investment.

GOVERNANCE BY POLICY

A school board's main function is to create policies using law, available resources such as the New Hampshire School Board Association, and it's strong understanding of the characteristics unique to the district's residents. My attention to detail, as well as my work as a refueling mechanic, nuclear quality assurance inspector, and most recently as an instructor for nuclear inspectors gives me familiarity with the importance of and need for clearly written words. Concise policies provide guidance and expectations to the school board, administration, and staff, that are used when handling everything from the every day operations, to the difficult situations that a school district faces from time to time. In my three years on the policy committee, and board, I can often be found opening our policy book, or quoting a policy when we encounter situations that need to have a decision made. The policies of a school board are its agreement with the town, that it will govern the school district as laid out in writing. This TRANSPARENCY and consistency exist to assure the people of Strafford that it's school board is conducting itself in the manner in which we have agreed.

STILL THE BALANCED CHOICE

In 2021, I ran for the school board as the candidate for balance. I have lived up to that, as I work diligently to make decisions in the best interest of our district's children, in a manner that does not alienate any of our townspeople. I stand on my record of hard work, clear vision and ability to collaborate with board members, past and present. I love this town, and will always do my part in making it a better place. **I ask for all of Strafford to come out and support my re-election for school board on March 12.**

ERIC ALMANZAN

FROM STRAFFORD, FOR STRAFFORD