**TEN BOARD OF EDUCATION QUESTIONS**

**2023 Candidate Thomas M. Jusianiec**

**1, Why are you running for the Board of Education? If elected, what will be your priorities?** I have been in public service for 25 years and would like to contribute more to the local community/school district. If elected, my priorities will be to listen to the school district members, the faculty, and staff to promote unity.

**2, What particular experiences or skills have prepared you to serve as a board member?** I believe my experiences as a Resident Agent in Charge of the AFT Syracuse field office have prepared me in areas of conflict resolution, planning and collaboration. As a school board member these skills will allow me to better serve the community.

**3, What is a school board member’s role and responsibility? How does that differ from the role of the superintendent or administration?** The role of a board member is to set policies and evaluate the proficiency of the districts operations. The superintendent/administration works for the school board and manages the day-to-day operations of the district.

**4, What is the best way to address differences of opinion on the board or between the board and administration?** Communication is crucial in better understanding all differences between the board and the administration. Having positive formal discussion on differences between the board and the administration.

**5, What should your school district do to better prepare students as citizens?** To better prepare students as citizens the district should have a better collaborative effort between the students, parents/care givers and the school district.

**6, What is the role of schools in teaching children about topics such as sex education, cyber-safety, wellness, and bullying?** It is important however, there needs to be a cohesive exchange and involvement of information and methods provided to parents/students.

**7, What are your thoughts on your school districts programs for special education students, English Language Learners (ELL), and gifted students?** It is extremely important to have these programs in place to provide equal opportunity learning.

**8, What do you see as the major issue(s) facing your school district? Public education?** The major issues I see facing our school district are budgets, financial hardships, and the need to create unity and comradery within the students, parents/care givers, faculty, and staff.

**9, How would you determine your budget priorities?** My budget priorities as a board member would be to focus first and foremost on the needs of the students both academically and socially. My second priority would be to ensure the School District has the necessary resources needed to effectively provide the students with a positive learning experience.

**10, Do you have specific suggestions for improvement in our district?** Students need to be given a safe platform to communicate all concerns and suggestions involving all aspects of their learning experiences. Students need to know their voice can make a difference.