**TEN BOARD OF EDUCATION QUESTIONS**

**2023 Candidate Ed Potrzeba, Jr.**

**1, Why are you running for the Board of Education? If elected, what will be your priorities?** I believe that in order to facilitate positivity for our kids and community, we all need to do our part…I want to do my part. My priorities would be transparency and common sense governing along with creating a more positive environment in all of our schools for our children to learn and grow.

**2, What particular experiences or skills have prepared you to serve as a board member?** I have experience with New York public schools and BOCES for over 30 years in my previous business and have developed strong relationships with superintendents, assistant superintendents, faculty and board members across New York State. I have also served 10 years on the Mohawk Valley Regional Postal Customer Council and currently serve as an Executive Board member for Strata Plan 41, Turks and Caicos Island which oversees a development worth more than 50 million dollars. I currently have two boys in the Sherburne-Earlville School District. I have a lot of ideas, I have no problem talking in front of people and solving issues through communication, including sitting down face to face and dealing with issues until they are resolved.

**3, What is a school board member’s role and responsibility? How does that differ from the role of the superintendent or administration?** The school board member’s role and responsibility includes enforcing board policy and making sure the administration follows those policies. The Superintendent is a paid employee of the District which is different than being a board member.

**4, What is the best way to address differences of opinion on the board or between the board and administration?** We need to be transparent and apply common sense to all issues or differences of opinion. Sitting down and communicating face to face is sometimes the best way to resolve issues.

**5, What should your school district do to better prepare students as citizens?** We need to ensure that we do our best to help our students become productive members of society after high school. We should help facilitate better communication between the students, parents, and community members. Verbal communication alone is a life skill that is so important to our kids and our kids need our help with this.

**6, What is the role of schools in teaching children about topics such as sex education, cyber-safety, wellness, and bullying?** I believe that the traditional model health class that we have seen for generations and teaching safety is important to kids.

**7, What are your thoughts on your school districts programs for special education students, English Language Learners (ELL), and gifted students?** I believe we need to support our special needs children, ELL students and gifted students.

**8, What do you see as the major issue(s) facing your school district? Public education?** I feel that one major issue facing our school district is the lack of common sense managing, communication, and transparency with the students, parents, and community.

**9, How would you determine your budget priorities?** I would prioritize the budget based on the items that have the largest impact on the success of our students in our district.

**10, Do you have specific suggestions for improvement in our district?** Yes, I would like to bring in common sense managing and transparency to help improve our school district. We need to keep ALL of our children happy, healthy, and safe in a positive and fun environment in our school.