

BOARD OF EDUCATION



David Felton

Republican Party

Biographical Statement

David has lived in Weston since 2001 with his wife Hilary and two sons. He is the owner of Canaan Technology, a Managed IT Service Provider which he founded in 2002. At Canaan Technology, David is responsible for the development and execution of the Company's strategy, day-to-day management, evaluating new products and services, and working closely with clients and staff during the entire project lifecycle. He is frequently called upon by trade publications to provide expert commentary and analysis of tech industry trends and events.

In your opinion, what is the most significant issue facing Weston today?

Amplified by the pandemic due to fewer opportunities to interact in-person, there has been a gradual and persistent breakdown of community and togetherness, much of it directed at the Board of Education. Our willingness as members of the community to listen to others with an open mind, especially when their position differs from our own, has greatly suffered, leading to unnecessary confrontation and battle lines. As a small community we need to ensure all community members have a platform in which they are comfortable sharing their thoughts and ideas, without the fear of retribution or retaliation.

Why are you running for this specific office and what do you bring to it?

I am running for the Board of Education because I want to hear from other community members on how we are doing educating their children, and the issues that are important to them. While positive feedback is always nice, criticism provides an opportunity to improve. I bring to the Board of Education a disciplined problem solving approach with the ability to consider elements of an issue that are not necessarily obvious. I seek out opinions from both like-minded and dissimilar peers, and independently research an issue until I am confident I have the knowledge to take a position.

What is the most important issue your board/commission faces and how would you potentially address it?

I believe the most important issue the Board of Education currently faces is better community involvement, communication, and transparency. This can be achieved by actively engaging with members of the community through improved dissemination of information such as when meetings occur, encouraging community involvement (both as listeners and active participants), and transparency in how and why curriculum and policy changes occur. Issues can be dynamic, and may require re-prioritization at times. However, communication and transparency must remain a core principle of the Board.