

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### **Taffy Miller**

Democratic Party

#### **Biographical Statement**

Taffy (Stephanie) Miller spent 25 years in the field of education philanthropy, recently retiring from her role as Executive Director for Trust for Learning. She and her husband now operate their own business, [Homefront Farmers](#). Taffy received her MA from McGill University. She sits on various Boards: Weston BOE; Norfield's Board of Outreach and Social Action; and the Weston Community Fund. She and John have 5 children and have lived in Weston for 13 years.

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

Weston is more politically and socially divided than it has ever been. Following years of a highly charged political climate across the country, along with the isolation and fear brought about by the Covid pandemic, Westonites are hungry for peace and progress. We need to raise up our greatest assets (our people, our natural surroundings, our peaceful environment and our potential for growth and creativity). We need to identify and celebrate our common ground.

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

I am running for the Board of Education because our children and staff are the greatest assets in this town. We have extraordinary talent in our schools and though we are a high performing district, we cannot take that for granted. We need to lead – to be vigilant in our ability to assess what is working well and where improvement is needed. We need to continue to push ourselves to think about these children's future roles as global citizens – which begins with curiosity, inspiration and joy for every one of them, every day. I bring 25 years of education experience.

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

The two most important issues facing the district right now are related to 1. Covid and 2. questions related to diversity, equity and inclusion. The Covid questions are about SAFETY. We are focused on keeping our children and staff healthy, and keeping the children's social/emotional and academic well-being top of mind. We must follow science and state governance, while leading with creative local solutions and support. The DEI issue is less complicated – we invite and welcome staff and students from all backgrounds; and our curriculum, policies and practices needs to infuse, represent, educate and celebrate that diversity at all levels.