

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



### **Michael Guido**

Republican Party

#### **Biographical Statement**

I have lived in Weston for over 6 years with my wife, my 6-year-old daughter, a first-grade student at Hurlbutt, and my 4-year-old son, who will enter Hurlbutt in fall 2024. Professionally, I lead Investor Relations programs, serving as the primary representative to Wall Street investors on behalf of publicly-traded and pre-IPO companies, and private equity funds. I hold an MBA from MIT Sloan, Bachelor of Science from Boston College, and the CFA designation.

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

Among the issues facing Weston today, security is of primary significance to the town and its schools, particularly at Hurlbutt Elementary and Weston Intermediate where the level of security remains below that of Weston's upper schools and neighboring towns.

Providing a safe environment for Weston's vulnerable school population – children, educators, and administrators - is foundational to the success of the school district. While the adoption of an 'all-of-the-above' approach to safety – e.g., hardened exterior structures, mental health services, educator training, and security officers - is necessary, Weston has fallen short in providing adequate protection for the youngest among us.

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

I am running as a candidate for Weston's Board of Education to promote a safe and nurturing environment for our children and educators, improve academic results, and enhance board transparency to the community.

I bring a relevant professional skill set and personal attributes to the Board of Education. Professionally, I bring an *ability to simplify and communicate complex topics to enhance understanding and build consensus*, an *analytical perspective* to help guide decision-making, and *experience in high-stress, results-driven environments*. Personally, I bring a *passionate voice* and *the perspective of a concerned parent with very young children in the school system*.

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

A critical issue related to the Board of Education is its lack of transparency when engaging with the Weston community. This has resulted in insufficient discussion of pressing topics, actively avoiding the inclusion of important items on meeting agendas, and disincentivizing open debate.

Given the central importance of the schools as the town's greatest asset and primary expenditure, greater outreach to the community is warranted to promote discovery, understanding, and participation. As a passionate voice who views the Board as a representative of community interests, I will support the inclusion of important topics in meeting agendas and open, healthy debate.