

October 23rd^h, 2018

Dear ETEA Members,

I am writing to ask for your support in the upcoming Board of Education elections in November. As you know, the Board of Education makes important decisions about students and educators every day. It is imperative that you choose candidates who are independent and brave to fight for you when things go wrong. At the same time, it is pertinent that BOE members operate from a place of integrity and empathy — where they make decisions considering what they would want to be done to them, if they were in your shoes. Above all, it is important that BOE members must understand that it's mutually beneficial when educators come in to work – happy. This can only happen when the workplace environment does not feel threatening, and everyone is free to be themselves. They should not feel someone is scrutinizing their each and every step. Only then will they have a zing in their step and a motivation to go above and beyond. All this will ultimately benefit our students.

We all know that work life affects not only your health and wellbeing but also that of your family. Both are intricately connected. I will share one of my favorite quotes on this topic by Jeff Bezos.

“If I am happy at work, I come home with tremendous energy.

And if I am happy at home, I come to work with tremendous energy.

You never want to be that guy who,

as soon as they come to a meeting, they drain all the energy out of the room...

you want to come into the office and give everyone a kick in their step.”

So I will tell you this. I understand where you are coming from and you will always find a listening ear in me. What affects you affects me as well because that's the type of person I am. I am extremely supportive of educators. I received an endorsement from ETEA when I ran in 2015 and hope that you will continue to have faith in me.

As background, I have a master's degree in Public Administration from NYU and have been working as a policy analyst at a New Jersey focused think-tank for the last nearly 15 years. I am a parent with three children who have attended/are attending schools here. I am running for BOE to bring in more funds from the state and private entities, so we can address our falling infrastructure and be that 21st century school that we all deserve.

Thank you for reading.

Best Wishes,



Shivi Prasad-Madhukar
9 Allison Court, Edison NJ 08820

October 2018

Dear Colleagues,

I am running for the Edison Board of Education because I feel we may have lost sight of what matters- the children! The children MUST come first- their education, their needs, their safety and their futures should always be our biggest concerns. The BOE has had too much focus recently on the business of running the Board of Education and they need to get back to what really matters – our children and their schools! The goal of the district has always been “Nothing less than Excellence” and I would like to help make sure that continues!

Even though the hiring of a superintendent and the overcrowding of the schools are monumental focuses that need to be addressed, I would like to focus on the curriculum, in particular on the curriculum of the Special Education Department. It has changed so drastically since I started teaching in the district nearly twenty years ago. Children with special needs’ curriculum has been watered down and I feel that this needs to be addressed.

On November 6th I am requesting your support for my candidacy to become a member of the Edison Board of Education. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at: conway4BOE@gmail.com. I would gladly respond to you in a timely fashion.

Thank you, in advance. for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Conway