



## **SUZANNE ORGAN**

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### **BACKGROUND**

My name is Suzanne Organ. I am a graduate of Charles O. Dickerson High School, Class of 2006 and a lifelong resident of Trumansburg. After high school, I went on to earn my Bachelor's Degree in Business Management, with a concentration in Human Resources at St. John Fisher College in Rochester. After college I returned home. I am employed by Maguire Family Insurance, where I have worked for over eight years here in Trumansburg.

Community and school involvement were very much a part of my life during my high school career. I was involved in Athletics as a three-sport athlete; a vocalist within the music department; and a contributor to the Student Council as well as the SADD club. My love for community involvement continued into my college years where I was an active member of the Teddi Dance for Love - an organization that raised money for Camp Good Days and Special Time. I continue to enjoy going back and support these groups as an alumnus.

For many years I have been a member of the Trumansburg Ladies Golf League - serving on the league board for five years. I am also a member of the Trumansburg United Methodist Church where I serve the church on multiple committees, helping with outreach and church music groups. In addition, I have been a member of the Trumansburg Community Chorus for the past eight years. I have been honored to serve as a member of the Chorus' steering committee for over four years.

As a part of Team Maguire, I have participated in many different fundraising groups by partaking in 5K's, the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, Women Swimmin' for Hospicare and countless other organizations.

I have always taken pride in being a product of Trumansburg. Our community has helped shape me into the person that I have become today. I enjoy cheering-on the T'burg athletes and I have continued to enjoy the drama productions and musical talents that come through our schools. I fully support the work and purpose that our district provides to our community. I feel that it is important to have an objective and fresh voice on the school board.

It is clear I very much enjoy supporting our community organizations by being involved in volunteer work. Whether it be fundraising, helping to provide opportunities for others, or by offering my leadership skills, I continue to make a difference. As the daughter of a former Trumansburg BOE trustee, an aunt of current students in our district, and as a Trumansburg resident I would welcome the opportunity to work with current board members and administration to continue to build a sustainable future for our school district.

On Tuesday, May 16, vote for Suzanne Organ for TCSD Trustee.



## **STEVEN DALY**

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### **BACKGROUND**

My Name is Steven Daly, I am a local business owner, the father of a sixth-grade student at Russell I Doig Middle School and I am seeking a seat on the TCSD Board of Education.

I moved to the Trumansburg area in 2014 with my wife Rita, an occupational therapist on the faculty of Ithaca College, and our, then three-year-old, daughter, Lilah. The quality of the school system was a major factor in our decision in deciding to make this our home.

I grew up in Buffalo NY where I attended poorly funded inner-city schools. The buildings were old, the books were outdated, and we didn't have things like band, plays or dances, so when Lilah was born, I wanted to be sure she had a more fulfilling school life. I see how fortunate we are to have the schools we do and that is why I have always made it a priority to be involved, volunteer, attend meetings and do whatever I can to support our schools so my daughter, and all our children, will have the best experience possible.

I have made a concerted effort to get to know students, teachers, and administrators by participating in as many events and organizations as possible. I joined the PTO when Lilah entered kindergarten. I have remained active with them since, serving on the board in various roles and I am the current President of the middle school PTO. I have been on the board of the Trumansburg Education Foundation for the last five years where we fund specific needs for teachers that aren't included in the school budget. During the pandemic when staffing issues threatened additional closures, I became a substitute teacher to help ease the pressure and keep the elementary school in person.

Professionally, I am a personal property appraiser and owner of Ithaca Vintage Appraisals on Rt. 96, in the old Ehrhart building. I am a graduate of Buffalo State College with a BA in broadcasting, and I earned a certificate in appraisal studies from NYU. I have been on the board of the Trumansburg Area Chamber of Commerce for five years, where I have held the positions of Vice-President, President and I am the current Treasurer.

I believe in our schools and the direction they are heading. I support our teachers, administration and support staff and I would appreciate the opportunity to serve on the board and support them from that role. I will learn from current board members and work alongside them and with our administrators to ensure we are doing our best to provide a strong future for our students. I ask for your vote on Tuesday, May 16. Vote for Steven Daly.



## **GARY ASTLES**

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### **BACKGROUND**

Hello Neighbors:

My name is Gary Astles. With my wife, Mandy, I reside at 5871 Burr Road in the town of Hector. I would like to earn your vote as a candidate for the Trumansburg Board of Education. Thirty years ago, my family and I moved to Trumansburg for one simple reason, the Trumansburg School District. During those three decades I have been your Middle School principal for 16 years (longer than the past five Middle School principals combined), a member of the Trumansburg Board of Education for nine years, and an Adjunct Instructor in Educational Leadership for SUNY Cortland for thirteen years. More importantly during the past thirty years our two children (Jenn Astles and Doc Shufelt) graduated from Trumansburg CSD; and our granddaughter, Kady Reeves, will be a graduate this June. Wow, how the world has changed in those 30 years. Thirty years ago, Doc and Jenn were told “you are not always going to have a calculator with you to solve this math problem!” Today, smart phones and smart watches not only give anyone the ability to solve the most complex math problems; but they also provide us with instantaneous access to almost every piece of knowledge that exists in the world. Artificial Intelligence (AI) can at the click of a query pass law board exams, write a college level paper on any topic, and beat the best Grand Master Chess champions. While those aspects of education have and continue to change in dramatic fashion, other important aspects not only remain the same but have become even more crucial to providing a complete public school (K – 12 grade) education i.e., critical thinking, teamwork, communication, diversity, lifelong learning, leadership, ethical/social responsibility, and resiliency.

The reasons I am a candidate for the Board of Education are numerous, but the most compelling reasons are: my passion for education; my desire to see Trumansburg schools provide the best educational, athletic and artistic programs of any school district in our area; and my belief that as good as we are, we can do better. Frequently, the word “competition” is said with a touch of negativity or disdain and suggesting changes or the need to improve is viewed as criticism of what’s been done in the past. I don’t subscribe to either of those views. The changes I will work for on behalf of your students and our community are the changes needed to have Trumansburg CSD be among the best schools in our area academically, athletically, and artistically. Like it or not, our graduates will have to “compete” with the rest of the world; together let’s make sure they are as well prepared as possible. We should not have students getting A’s and B’s during the year and routinely failing Regents exams. We should not have winless athletic teams year after year. We can do better. While the original “Three R’s i.e., Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic” are still essential, we also need to incorporate the new “Three R’s i.e., Rigor, Relevancy, and Relationships” into our academic and athletic programs. With your support I will work tirelessly to have your child(ren)’s academic and athletic experience be among the best in our BOCES and in New York State.

Sincerely,  
Gary C. Astles



## TANYA GROVE

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### BACKGROUND

As a member of the Trumansburg Community, I am excited to be considered again to take on one of the most important civic responsibilities; contributing to setting the school district's direction to achieve the highest possible student performance. We do this by developing a culture that supports continuous improvements and high educational and extracurricular standards within a balanced budget.

My husband Scott grew up in Trumansburg. Hearing about his time as a student in the Trumansburg Central School District, the caring teachers, the outstanding education, and the exceptional extracurricular and athletics programs made it an easy decision to become part of this community. We moved to Trumansburg when our oldest children, twins Colby and Bryce, entered kindergarten. I quickly realized that what Scott had experienced at Trumansburg benefited my sons. Last spring, I was privileged to watch my two oldest sons walk across the stage and proudly receive their diplomas. The education they received at Trumansburg helped prepare them for the rigors of post-secondary education. And while they have moved on, I am excited to watch my younger two boys, Lucas, 10th grade, and Aidan, 6th grade, continue to grow as students.

As a parent and engaged community member, my volunteer experience has prepared me for serving in the capacity of a member of our School Board. I have served many roles within the school and the broader community over the years: Elementary School PTO president, Volunteer Coach for the Trumansburg Lego League, President of Trumansburg Robotics Inc., Current President of the Trumansburg All-Sports Boosters Club; and a Board Member for Trumansburg Community Recreation, Leadership Tompkins and Ithaca Montessori School.

### SO WHY RUN FOR SCHOOL BOARD NOW?

Last year I was elected to fill a one-year vacancy, and I realized this was the best possible opportunity. If I disliked the work, I only had to do it for one year. But, on the other hand, if I found it rewarding, I could run for re-election, which is what I decided to do.

Serving on the board of education is complex and challenging, especially for someone quick to act and a doer who likes to roll up their sleeves and get things done, someone like me. That said, when I joined the board, I found a group of dedicated individuals working in partnership with teachers and administration to provide a robust educational experience for our students. A school that encourages students to be their authentic selves, promoting the diversity of thought and experiences through curriculum, extracurricular activities, and programs.

In my professional capacity, I have served as a three-term Chair of Cornell University's Employee Assembly. In this role, I built connections between a broad and diverse employee constituency and partnered with senior leadership to meet the needs of all employees. Throughout my career at Cornell University, I have had roles that have given me skills and perspectives that will serve me well as a member of the Board of Education.

While managing the Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts, I used my skills as a theatre professional to engage with students, faculty, and staff to provide a regional theatre experience in an academic setting. In this program, I worked tirelessly to advocate for the importance of the arts within the educational experience. At Trumansburg, I have been impressed with the emphasis on student opportunities to engage in the Arts through NYSSMA, school plays, musicals, and various vocal and instrumental curricular programs.

At Cornell, I serve as the Assistant Director and Senior Management Consultant in Organizational Development and Effectiveness. In this role, I have a broad impact on the Cornell community, providing training on topics including Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, communicating across differences, leading and managing others, and giving and receiving feedback. I also develop and facilitate programs to develop future leaders, consult on the development of strategic priorities, and help restructure organizations and their work. My professional experiences and skills align nicely with the work of the Board of Education.

The landscape of public education is constantly evolving and faces significant challenges in this post-COVID world. The board needs members excited to dive in and work across differences to solve them in ways that show we are committed to helping our students and community thrive. I am one of those people.

A board of education member should be someone who isn't afraid to share and consider perspectives that may be new or different and that will work with others to build consensus to achieve our goals, continuing to support the best educational experiences for all students in our district. I need you to support my candidacy for a seat on the Board of Education by voting for me on May 16, 2023. I welcome you to call or email me to ask questions and share your thoughts on what you hope I might accomplish if I'm re-elected to represent you.