

Hello Friends, Neighbors and Community Members,

Twenty three years ago when I began working with children, my father said to me, "Never forget, you are working with the most precious resource on the planet, other people's children." These words of wisdom have been my guiding principle and will continue to be if I am elected to the Babylon Board of Education.

I had the pleasure of meeting many of you when I ran in 2016, and I was struck by the level of passion and pride in the Babylon community. Today, we face extraordinary challenges that will take all of us as a community to solve. As a father of four children currently in the 3rd, 6th, 7th and 9th grade, I understand the many issues we all face.

It is clear that we need to deliver instruction to our students and support their social-emotional well being during this trying time. Today, as our schools transition to full in-class instruction, it is important that next year Babylon continues to educate the whole child while maintaining a safe environment. It is also important that sports and extracurricular activities continue to provide students with the opportunities that are key to nurturing their education.

Spending much of my life in the field of education, I have developed the necessary experience and skills to be a successful member of the school board. Having served on the negotiating team for three contracts, I understand the many aspects of contracts and their fiscal implications for our community. Additionally, I have served on policy committees which has taught me the importance of balancing the needs of students, staff, and community members.

Last summer, I served on the Bethpage Schools re-opening committee, which was focused on increasing communication and developing successful instructional models for virtual, hybrid, and in-person instruction. These experiences render me well-qualified to facilitate the successful re-opening of the Babylon schools this fall.

Civic duty in support of our great country has always been one of my priorities. In fact, the only break in my professional career has been a tour of military service where I was stationed for one year in Iraq as part of my Army Reserve duties. My sense of pride and civic duty in support of our country and community will allow me to continue my service for our most precious resource, our children. Voting will take place at the Babylon High School gymnasium on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 from 6 a.m. - 9 p.m.

I respectfully seek your support for my candidacy so that I may bring our children a quality education at a cost that we can all afford. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at robertverdi77@gmail.com. With all best wishes, I remain

Very truly yours,

-Robert Verdi