



As They See It: Radnor School Board candidates ask for your support

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We have chosen to become candidates for the school board because we want to volunteer our time and effort to preserve the educational excellence of Radnor's schools during this time of economic uncertainty. In the 2010-11 school-year budget, it is estimated that \$3 million will have to be cut. These cuts could be detrimental to quality student programs and affect class size. If all of us are elected, we will institute a greatly needed curriculum audit that will allow the school district to target resources to activities and personnel that have a direct interface with and impact on students. This audit will flush out wasteful and redundant expenditures. We can no longer accept a culture of rubber-stamping higher tax increases to pay for unproductive and unnecessary expenditures. We can no longer afford business as usual.

Our slate, "Leaders for Radnor Excellence," has the skill set and knowledge to confront our budgetary challenges. We have held and continue to hold numerous leadership positions in the schools and in the community, and we are highly informed on the range of issues facing our schools and taxpayers. Collectively we have 11 children who range in age from 5 to 27 who attend or have attended Radnor schools. Our election would change the culture of the School Board so that it would reflect and respond to all community members. We are ready to serve the Radnor community on day one.

Our opponents cannot make these same claims. Institutional knowledge is an essential component of a school board. As enormous budget cuts and teacher-contract negotiations loom ahead of us, Brucie Rapoport has the institutional knowledge and experience on the board to provide our district and taxpayers with the best possible outcomes. Lydia Solomon has served as the PTO president and vice president at all three levels of the school district and has a strong background in economics and finance. Rob Armstrong is currently serving his second term as PTO treasurer at Ithan Elementary. He also has a strong operational and financial background. Rob was one of two community members who volunteered to help the district during the last budget process. PTO leaders have already demonstrated the interest and commitment to the schools by giving their time. In addition they have a proven track

record of leadership, success in rallying stakeholders to action and specific knowledge about how to get things accomplished in the schools. Finally Doug Blazey brings years of government management and legal experience as well as extensive involvement in community activities. These are just a few of the many skills and experiences we will bring to the job. Together our leadership brings extensive knowledge and support during this critical moment in our school district's history.

As a community interested in maintaining the quality of its schools, we cannot afford on-the-job training for new school-board directors. As experienced and trusted leaders, we know how the district operates, where the shortfalls will be in the budget and how to identify wasteful spending. We plan to navigate the upcoming teacher-contract negotiations towards a solution for all stakeholders that strikes a balance between having good teachers and what we as a community are willing to judiciously spend. We are the slate that is focused on the issues that best serve the education of our schoolchildren and the use of taxpayer money. We are committed to offering the best education possible at a cost below the limits mandated by Pennsylvania state law under Act I, which caps the allowable expenditures of school districts annually. Our tax dollars need to be spent wisely with a goal of achieving excellent results for Radnor Township.

To learn more about our campaign and what we hope to accomplish for Radnor residents on the School Board, please visit our Web site at www.RadnorExcellence.com and be sure to watch our YouTube campaign message posted there.

Please vote on Nov. 3. Speak with your vote!

Thank you for your consideration.

Democratic School Board Candidates: Brucie Rapoport, incumbent; Rob Armstrong; Doug Blazey; Lydia Solomon