



Letters to the Editor

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Republicans failed

To the Editor:

In response to the Radnor School District board candidates (Armstrong, Dougherty, Michaelson and Miles) who would “roll up their sleeves and work for you,” they are right to be worried about fiscally responsible school-board directors’ financial policy to cut the status-quo school budgets and provide affordable educational excellence.

While they are not incumbents, they forgot to mention that they are Republican candidates who represent a continuation of the single-party rule dominating school board budgets for many years, which have provided taxpayers with unnecessarily expensive construction projects (the new middle school with AstroTurf playing fields) instead of more modest improvements to the solidly constructed existing middle-school property, \$23,000 per student costs with 30- to 40-percent administrative overhead (depending on whether or not you include the cost of construction and transportation), and a mediocre leadership in Radnor High School that puts sports in front of academics (as Carter Fisher observed in the July 15 Main Line Suburban Life), which cannot enhance the future of our kids or our community. It is admirable that the current school board has held a 3.9-percent budget increase below the Pennsylvania State Act 1 cap of 4.1 percent; but trusting the party who has routinely run 7- to 9-percent budget increases over the last several years (without measurable increases in educational excellence) to make the fiscally responsible decisions needed to preserve high-quality education is tantamount to trusting the last national administration to bail us out of the recession without adding to the deficit.

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