



Brendan McCafferty: Some real hope for our schools!!

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Summer Message

Good afternoon!

Thanks for sharing your private email address. I am reaching out today as a Manchester native, a private citizen, and like you, someone who is trying anything and everything to make things better in Manchester, especially for our schools.

Two outstanding things happened this week. We learned that current BOSC member Rich Girard will not run again and will be done at the end of this year! And we learned that super advocate Jim O'Connell will be running for BOSC At Large in the fall. As I hinted at in my previous email, this really is great and exciting news. And as we're not used to these types of shifts/opportunities, we really do need to stop and think about it.

I am very proud to work with so many smart, selfless, thoughtful and hardworking people across this city, and amongst this group of great people I have not met a smarter, more consistent or more relentless advocate for you, our kids and the city of Manchester than Jim O'Connell.

Several years ago, Jim and a few others created the non-profit, Citizens for Manchester Schools. Jim tirelessly researched, engaged, advocated and traveled throughout the community and beyond to bring to light what is missing, what is needed and more.

Jim's four kids have gone through our schools, with one still in high school. Jim is very intelligent, well informed and solutions-oriented. Jim is getting involved to make a difference, and has been for years.

I am not a political person, and I am not reaching out to you in that vein. Frankly, I feel most of our shortcomings as a district and city can be directly traced to our politics, past and present. I am reaching out to ask the following:

1. Realize this is a rare opportunity.
2. Help in any way you can.
3. Attend a kickoff for Jim in early September, likely 9/4 or 9/5.
4. Put a sign up in your car at school during the fall, high visibility to other staff members, parents, etc.
5. Put a sign on your lawn, or elsewhere.
6. Promote Jim, his candidacy and our schools on social media.
7. Send me the names and personal addresses of colleagues, friends and community members who will get involved.
8. Understand with the primary coming on 9/17, we have a very short window to get involved and make things happen.
9. Commit to Jim the way he has to you. We're always asking how we can make things better. Well, Jim is one of the answers, I've seen him in action for 10 years now.

Again, please know this is apolitical. Whether you are a democrat, independent or republican, Jim has fought for you, your students and your schools. To make things better. Jim's running for the at large seat, so let's each commit to getting some colleagues, friends and neighbors involved. We need people from all wards, schools and neighborhoods.

Hey, thanks for listening, please think about this, and let me know your thoughts and how you can help.

Brendan