

My name is Brian Ota and I am running as a candidate for the Marblehead School Committee. I was honored to be the Assistant Principal at Village and then the Principal of the Glover School. Being an administrator taught me so much. My work with such an incredible staff, students, and parents has rewarded my life in so many ways. When I retired, I wanted to find a way to give back to Marblehead and running for the School Committee certainly fits the bill. I have a Masters Degree in Special Education and a Bachelors Degree in Psychology. I have been in the field of education for slightly more than twenty years. My experience as a teacher and an administrator provides me with a background that will enhance the School Committee's working knowledge of how the schools operate and what the students, staff, and parents, want and need in their schools.

My goals as a candidate for School Committee:

1. Be involved in and continue to build a collaborative approach to problem solving. Today governing bodies from municipal committees to Congress are faced with serious difficulties in solving problems. Collaborating as a team to reach workable solutions together is the key to success.
2. Improve the budget process by working with the administration to develop long range financial planning and communication plans. This plan must include 5 Year Student population projections. This is essential to understanding staffing requirements, balancing school populations and programs, and reviewing building needs. We must review them periodically. A comprehensive plan must include the budget requirements essential to develop long range educational goals. A thorough review of the growing funding is needed to fully support our special education students. Our budget process must include salary comparisons to similar districts for teachers, support staff, and administrators to ensure Marblehead is paying a competitive rate to ensure we can hire and retain the "Best". We must begin long range renewable green energy plans which may include solar panels. We must make energy sustainability and conservation a long term priority. Lastly, we must develop comprehensive plans to keep all parties informed in a timely manner of the state of the budget.
3. Ensure the Marblehead School Safety Plans are the best in class and reviewed and updated to ensure our schools employ the latest safety practices. Critical safety drills must be practiced routinely and monitored for compliance and coordinated with Marblehead Emergency Services (Police and Fire Departments).

If you have any questions, or would like a lawn sign please feel free to contact me at brianota945@gmail.com. Thank you for your time and on June 20th, please consider me as the best candidate to become a member of the Marblehead School Committee..