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Municipal and School Board Election Biography

The Municipality is sharing the following biography exactly as submitted by each Candidate. We have not edited or revised grammar, spelling, punctuation, or verified any content.

Candidate Name: Ethan Wuerch

Office Seeking: School Board Trustee - Greater Essex County District School Board (English Public)

I was born and raised in Essex County, and my educational career started right here in Leamington, at Queen Elizabeth Public School. Here, I was exposed to new ideas, pushed to think critically, and was supported as I made decisions that shaped my life.

My postsecondary studies led me to the University of Ottawa, where I studied Public Administration and Political Science, furthering my understanding of the governance structures that our society is built upon and the bureaucratic institutions that keep it running. While attending the University of Ottawa, I also had the opportunity to work as a Community Advisor for students living in on-campus housing. As a Community Advisor I supported students through mental, emotional, and physical stresses. I learned firsthand that students excel when they know someone has their back.

At the University of Ottawa, I also worked in a federal MP's office. Conducting policy research and tracking parliamentary business were part of my day-to-day responsibilities. Following my experience in federal politics, I was offered an opportunity to work with Member of Provincial Parliament Anthony Leardi. I had the privilege of seeing every corner of Essex County and forging impactful relationships with provincial and municipal leaders.

My professional experience across various levels of government subsequently led me into municipal government. Currently employed with the Town of Kingsville, I engage with the implementation of various municipal licensing programs, manage vital statistics, and support the municipality in Government Relations efforts.

My history of public service gives me a strong understanding of government operations, constituent service, public policy, and the relationship between elected officials and municipal administration. At each stage, my focus has always been service to others.

My priority as your trustee is to be accessible and accountable to the residents of Leamington and Pelee Island, to our teachers, and to every student in the region. We need education to flourish not just in the classroom but in every facet of our lives. Parents need to know why the school board is making decisions, teachers need to know that trustees hear their concerns and have their back, and students need to know that they are our highest priority

Even if you don't have any children in the public education system, your vote and your opinion matter. Students, even if they are not related to you, will become the doctors, nurses, engineers, drywallers, and lawmakers that you will inevitably come to rely on.

Our students must always have the necessary support and tools to learn and grow, through the support and enhancement of initiatives like the Student Nutrition Program, Specialist High Skills Major and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program. Administrators, and trustees need to work together so that they can empower students and create the atmosphere where they can succeed. Teachers on the ground need to

be respected and routinely engaged to ensure that the school board makes well-founded decisions to serve our education system. Parents must always be partners in ensuring their children's success.