

**Meet the Candidates for the Carmel Central School District Board of Education**  
**On May 21, 2019, registered voters will select three candidates. Here is a brief introduction of each candidate.**



**Tim Murphy**

I am married with two daughters and have been a resident of the Town of Kent for 17 years. I have a degree in Criminal Justice from Iona College and am a retired New York City Police Officer. My current “occupation” is stay-at-home dad! I also serve as the Vice President of the Putnam Youth Hockey Association, where I help to oversee the budget, ensuring strong fiscal management for our children and their families.

I am running for the Carmel School Board because I want our children to have the best possible tools to maximize their education, and to help every child become his or her best self while remaining committed to keeping our community and our property values strong and competitive.

I believe we can do this by applying sound spending practices that ensure that the capital and human investments in our district prioritize safety and learning.



**John Cody**

My wife, Ann and I have been married for 25 years and we have resided in Patterson for 23 of those years. We raised our 3 children in this community and they all have attended/attend Carmel Schools. Our oldest, Jack (22 years), graduated from Carmel High School (CHS) in 2014 from St. Bonaventure University in 2018. Brendan (20years) graduated from CHS in 2017 and is currently in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Clemson University. My daughter Claire (17years) will graduate from CHS this June and will attend Southern New Hampshire University in the fall. We have strong roots in CCSD and I believe that a thriving, vibrant school district is essential to our community.

Over the last 23 years, I have volunteered with several community organizations. I began coaching with the Carmel United Soccer Club in 2002 and served on its Board from 2003-2006. I was involved with St James CYO basketball program from 2003-2017 serving as a coach and Co-Director of the program.

I have been on the CCSD Board of Education since 2013. As a business owner with one of my offices in Patterson, I bring a different perspective to the BOE. Over the past 6 years, my focus has been to ensure that we put the student first but to also be fiscally responsible with the district’s budget. I believe a quality education is essential for our students, so they can become productive citizens in society. It has been both a pleasure and a privilege to serve as a trustee of CCSD. If re-elected, I promise to continue to meet challenges head on and help implement the 6 C’s within our district.



**Matthew G. Vanacoro, Jr.**

I have 25 years of experience in education including both the public and private sector. As a proud graduate of the Carmel Central School District, I am grateful that my children are now experiencing the same high quality education that I had access to.

I have been active in teacher contract negotiations for over a decade, and I am known for my problem solving skills, along with patience, collaboration, and efficiency.

I am also a published author and sought-out guest lecturer on technology integration in the modern classroom.

As a 30 year resident of the Carmel Central School District, I am aware of our challenges, priorities, and what makes Carmel a top school. With a strong background of community advocacy and service, I believe empowering parent and student voice is the key to success for all stakeholders in the CCSD.

I would like to see a modernized communication structure where all residents, students, parents, and educators feel connected and able to work towards our goals.



**Eric Mittelstadt**

I have previously served on the Board for 6 years and I am looking to regain a seat. I have been a resident for the past 35 years and have had my 3 sons graduate from CHS. In addition, I coached the Kent Knights football team for 10 years, coached Saint James CYO Basketball and was the president of the Carmel Football Club for 7 years. As a board member, I made a promise to “listen to the people, and be their mouthpiece to the Board.” I can proudly say that I kept that promise. As a result, we saw positive change in regards to transparency and delivered 6 consecutive budgets under the tax cap.

I am running again because I feel that I can (once again) be a positive influence on the Board and in the community, in a time of some disconnect between voters and the Board. As a Board member, I will remember that I am there to serve the community and, most importantly, ensure our children get the best possible education.

In a time of the harsh realities of new individual tax laws and the tax cap our money MUST be invested wisely. All new projects will be thoroughly investigated so that in the end we gain more than we spend. Union contracts and medical plans must be scrutinized so that we can create a sustainable level of spending while retaining great staff and excellent benefits.

In the end, it is our job to ensure our money is spent wisely and that our children get the best education possible. It is a win-win for all of us.



**John C. Curzio II**

My name is John Curzio. I am a lifelong resident of the Carmel Central School District and a graduate of Carmel High School. I am also a graduate of Iona College, where I earned my bachelor’s degree. I believe that education is the backbone of society and that it is our responsibility to preserve it. I am respectfully requesting your support of my candidacy for re-election to the position of Trustee on the Carmel School Board in the upcoming May 21, 2019 election.

In my first term as your School Board Trustee, I can report that I have worked tirelessly to fulfill my campaign promises to fight for fiscal responsibility, fight against Common Core, and to fight for and stand with our students to ensure that they receive an exceptional education in the Carmel Central School District. As a member of the Carmel School Board's Education and Assessment Committee, I have reviewed curriculum changes and relevant district policies. I have also ensured that the annual "Constitution Day" is held in our schools to educate our students on one of our Nation's most beautiful and important governing documents while also inspiring patriotism amongst our school community.

We have achieved a lot together over the course of the past three years, but there's more work to be done. I would be honored to earn your support and your vote as I seek a second term on the Carmel School Board. I believe in Carmel Schools and hope you do too. Thank you and I look forward to speaking with you on the campaign trail!