



Candidate Biography: Rodney Kruse

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What position are you running for? School Board

Is this your first time running for Public Office? Yes

If not, how many terms in current/previous position?

What is your current profession/occupation? Senior Manager, Project and Portfolio Management

Please list public offices previously held: N/A

Candidate Information:

O'Fallon is a wonderful place to live and I consider OTHS to be the crown jewel of this outstanding community. My family has been truly blessed by amazing teachers, outstanding opportunities, and a culture of excellence witnessed throughout the school. I was inspired to be a candidate for the school board by a tradition and history of achievement and compelled by the challenges that are sure to come.

I have lived in the Metro East for 22 years and in the OTHS school district for 6 years. I moved to the area after graduating from Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO). I have worked for the same company since that time serving in the functions of Finance, Information Technology, and Project/Portfolio Management. The experience and knowledge I have gained through professional associations, managing corporate budgets, and leading complex projects along with an understanding of operational governance will bring a different perspective to the school board. I will bring experience in prioritizing investments and strategic planning which will be critical at this stage of the overall post-pandemic recovery. Ensuring the school district has a strong financial foundation will be a top priority for me.

Another critical priority for me will be to ensure a return to the classroom for regular full day attendance. As I collected petition signatures an overwhelming majority of O'Fallon constituents want the students back in the classroom and regular activities. A return to full day in-person attendance is essential to student academic and social development. This will require creative solutions from all within the district (board, staff, parents, community) and benchmarking of other school systems that have successfully made similar transitions. The challenges ahead will require diverse backgrounds and perspectives but by working together the best days for OTHS and O'Fallon lie ahead!