MEET THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES

TWO AVAILABLE SEATS

THE ANNUAL VOTE WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 20TH, FROM NOON TO 8:00 PM IN THE SOUTH LEWIS AUDITORIUM. THIS YEAR, THERE ARE THREE CANDIDATES FOR THE TWO OPEN SEATS FOR THE SOUTH LEWIS BOARD OF EDUCATION. PLEASE READ A BRIEF STATEMENT FROM EACH CANDIDATE.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS ARE LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.



LUCY AUSTIN

Hello everyone, my name is Lucy Austin (formerly Lucy Cole). I am very excited to run for the South Lewis Board of Education. I feel that South Lewis is a wonderful school district that provides opportunities for our youth to be successful and I would like to increase the support from the members of our community.

I am a South Lewis alumnus and live on Chase Lake with my husband, who is part of the South Lewis team, and my sons, who are currently in 3rd and 1st grade. I work at Lewis County General Hospital as the Director of Pharmacy and am a member of First Mennonite Church. I love to spend my free time supporting and helping my children with their extracurricular activities, playing in the Lowville village band, bowling, and spending time in the great outdoors fishing and camping with my family.

I feel that South Lewis provided me with the opportunity and support to grow and succeed. As a parent, that is what we want for our children. As a member of the community, we want the district to make responsible decisions. I feel that with my leadership skills and experiences, I can bring the perspective of both sides to the table to be able to make informed decisions.

My commitment, experiences, and dedication to our youth and our community make me the perfect fit to be a member of the Board of Education. I would appreciate your support on May 20th because once a falcon, always a falcon!



PATRICK D'AMBROSI

Hello, I am Patrick D'Ambrosi, and I am running for a seat on the Board of Education at South Lewis Central School. For those of you who don't know me, I am a 1985 graduate of South Lewis and have lived in Turin most all my life. I lived in Hawaii for 5 years and worked for the Tapers Union. While Hawaii is a beautiful place, there is no place like home. I returned to Turin, and for the last 25 years, I have worked as a Senior Mechanical Designer for an engineering firm in Syracuse. I graduated from Potsdam College with a Bachelor's Degree in Math and a minor in Health. I also graduated from Canton College with an Associate's Degree in Computer Science and Mechanical Technology. My family and I reside in the village of Turin. Our children also attended and graduated from South Lewis.

All over the country, our schools and communities are experiencing some major challenges. As a board member, my primary focus is on our students, staff and taxpayers. I want to ensure that we are providing our students with the highest quality education and our staff with the most up-to-date resources and programs to educate our children. I believe it is important that we are giving our students, staff and district every opportunity available to make us better and stronger than we already are. I would love the opportunity to serve our community and my Alma Mater with a seat on the Board of Education. Once a Falcon, always a Falcon!



RICHARD VENTURA

My name is Richard Ventura and I reside in Port Leyden with my wife and my three children who are all graduates of South Lewis. I have had the privilege to serve on the South Lewis Board of Education for the past 15 years. During that time, the District has undergone several changes that have improved the educational experience and opportunities for our students. The District has faced challenging economic times which the Board has navigated without placing an undue burden on the taxpayers. The Board has placed the needs of the students at the top of the decision-making list and continues to do so. The position of a Board of Education member is to become a steward of the District finances and its resources by working with the administration to promote policy and programs for the students and staff, while remaining fiscally responsible to the taxpayers. I have fulfilled this responsibility to the best of my ability and would like the opportunity to continue supporting the District into the future.