

Over the past six months I've had great conversations with teachers, school administrators, parents, students and concerned citizens about how we can make our great schools even better. It's been a chance to listen and learn and to share my own vision for our schools.

I'm grateful to have earned the support of elected officials like Sally Baird, Ingrid Morroy, Patrick Hope and Adam Ebbin. The Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund has endorsed me, as have many Past PTA Presidents from across Arlington. Recently the Wakefield High School Young Democrats voted unanimously to support me. And last week the School Board recognized me as an "Honored Citizen" for my service to our public schools.

There are four important differences between the other candidates and me.

I'm the only candidate in the race from South Arlington. My son attended Randolph Elementary School, a Title I school with diverse learners. There I worked hard to improve our neighborhood school. He is now in Thomas Jefferson Middle School and will graduate from Wakefield High School. With a perspective shaped by my experience in South Arlington schools, I will bring a critical balance to the school board. I will work to meet the needs of *all* school communities.

As a member of the Facilities Advisory Council (FAC), I am the only candidate who has worked for years with communities across Arlington to reduce school crowding. "Building tomorrow's schools today" isn't just a campaign slogan for me. It's what we must do in response to the APS capacity crunch. I have been immersed for the past three years in the most critical issue facing our school system—our need for additional seats for the wave of more than 7,000 students entering our school system in the next decade. I am working hard to ensure that APS provides sufficient resources to meet the needs of all our children in the most comprehensive yet reasonable way possible. The School Board and County Board must collaborate effectively to use property in their possession for new school campuses. New seats must be made available without delay. While updating and maintaining existing school facilities we must also continue developing relationships with area institutions of higher learning while also expanding options at the Career Center. My goal is to guarantee that APS has more seats for more students while also seeing to it that our facilities support the instructional needs of all students. Much more work needs to be done, but on these facilities-based issues I am the most experienced candidate.

As an Air Force veteran and a business professional, I am the only candidate with more than 25 years of professional leadership experience. I've held senior management positions in the private sector in healthcare, finance and technology. I understand the importance of long range planning and the need for fiscal responsibility. I will bring my professional experience to the job of working to build a stronger relationship between the School Board and the County Board. I will ensure that we plan smartly, use our resources wisely, and guarantee our school system's current and future needs are met.

Finally, I'm a foster parent and the only candidate who is the parent of an English language learner. I know from personal experience that we must do better for all of our children with special needs. A quality education is the single most effective strategy for addressing income inequality. We must close the achievement gap to help all students build the foundation for a good life. Our children with special needs—whether they are language, ability, or gifted—must receive the early intervention and consistent, effective support they need to succeed in school and in life. As a School Board member I will work hard to make certain that *all* of our children succeed in school and life.

A strong public school system, equity in educational opportunities, responsible management of limited resources, open and transparent dialogue throughout the public school community—these are my values. I'll bring a fresh perspective to the School Board while addressing crowding and achievement in a balanced and reasonable way. To learn more please visit my campaign site at www.gregreeley.com.

Please remember to vote in the School Board caucus. Voting will take place on Thursday, May 15, from 7pm – 9pm at Drew Model School, and on Saturday, May 17, from 11 am – 7 pm at Washington-Lee High School.

I would be honored to receive your support.