

My name is Elizabeth (Beth) Malvino and I am honored to announce my candidacy for the North Salem School District's Board of Education. Our children are living through unprecedented times. As a lifelong learner and champion for mental health and student wellness, I want to bring a broad set of skills to help K-12 kids thrive.

I have been a North Salem resident since 2013 and I have two children who currently attend the MSHS. In addition to being a catalyst for the school start time change initiative, I am also an active member of the NS school district's Mission Committee and Mental Health Awareness Team (MHAT). A licensed clinical social worker for more than 20 years now, my style encompasses empathy, warmth, and support. Most who know me would say I am very approachable, and I really want people to feel comfortable sharing their thoughts with me.

My education includes a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Skidmore College, Master of Social Work from Fordham University, and Lean Six Sigma certification. While being a mom is my favorite role by far, professionally I have experience as an inpatient social worker, support group facilitator, quality and safety coordinator, private practice therapist, and ADHD/executive function coach. These are all skill sets I can bring with me to help our district achieve its goals.

I am particularly concerned about the emotional wellbeing of our students. The NS school district has been outstanding in its pursuit of tackling this complex problem with SEL strategies, Yale RULER, and community conversations with the BOE. Despite valiant efforts, too many kids still feel depressed, unsafe, and apprehensive. Behavioral issues are on the rise in classrooms, taking valuable time away from instruction. And crucial skills for studying, planning, self-regulation, and time management are being addressed inconsistently. These are some of the issues I'd like to see our district focus on.

As a Board member, my goal would be to look at all concerns holistically, through multiple lenses, considering budgetary constraints and stakeholder input. My belief is that great policies are crafted via thoughtful collaboration with administration, teachers, community members, students, and Board colleagues. If elected, I look forward to serving you with purpose and compassion.