



2026 Board of Education Candidate Survey

Candidate Name

Whitney Oak

Education Background

- Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Leadership, SUNY Oswego (2025)
- Master of Arts / Certificate of Advanced Study in School Psychology, SUNY Plattsburgh (2015)
- Bachelor of Science in Psychology, SUNY Plattsburgh (2012)
- Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts & Sciences, North Country Community College (2010)

General Background

I am currently serving as a Principal at CiTi BOCES, where I oversee a middle and high school program supporting students with autism and behavioral needs. Prior to this role, I spent 10 years at Sandy Creek as a school psychologist and coach. I am also a parent to two students within the district, which gives me a unique and personal perspective on the importance of strong schools and a supportive community.

Are you presently involved in any community activities? If so, please describe:

Yes, I serve on the Sandy Creek Little League board and coach youth softball and soccer. I am passionate about youth sports and the role they play in helping students build confidence, teamwork, and other important life skills.

What do you think that you contribute to the Sandy Creek Central School District?

I bring a well-rounded perspective as a parent, former employee, and current educational leader. My experience allows me to understand the district from multiple lenses- student needs, staff support, and system-level decision-making. I have a strong background in student-centered practices and I am committed to ensuring that ALL students have access to high-quality instruction, meaningful experiences, and the support they need to be successful.

Additionally, I value honest transparent communication, even when conversations may be challenging. I believe in working alongside fellow board members, district leadership, staff, and families to make thoughtful, informed decisions that prioritize students while supporting those who serve them every day.

What is/has been your vision for the Sandy Creek Central School District?

My vision for Sandy Creek is to stay grounded in what it means to be a “Creeker” - a strong, supportive community that looks out for one another, while continuing to grow and evolve. I want to see a district where all students, staff, and families feel supported, valued, and heard.

I believe in educating the whole child by maintaining strong academic programming while also prioritizing social-emotional well-being and providing meaningful, real-world learning experiences. Preparing students for life after graduation means giving them the skills, opportunities, and support they need to be successful in whatever path they choose. At the core, my vision is about continuing to build strong relationships within our schools and community so that Sandy Creek can be a place where everyone feels connected and supported.

What motivated you, and why have you run for the school board member seat?

Sandy Creek Central School has been an important part of my life for many years, both professionally and personally. I want to continue to stay involved and support the district in a meaningful way. Though I am not originally a “Creeker”, both of my grandparents are graduates of Sandy Creek. When I moved here right out of college to start my career, I was met with open arms and instantly knew this is where I belonged. I am motivated by the desire to continue to contribute to the community that has given me and my family so much over the years. I care deeply about our community and I want to make sure that Sandy Creek continues to be a wonderful place for people to learn, educate, and grow. Serving on the board feels like a natural way to continue that involvement!