

# GILBERTSVILLE-MOUNT UPTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

## 2023 Candidate Jed Barnes



Hello, my name is Jed Barnes and I am running for a seat on the Gilbertsville-Mount Upton CSD board.

A little background about me, my entire childhood was spent here in the district. Growing up, I attended GMU and worked on our family dairy until I graduated in 2002. I attended Alfred State College, where I obtained an associate degree in Animal Science. From there, I continued my education at Cornell University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science. After graduation, I moved to Jerome, Idaho, where I took a job as a herd manager on a large dairy farm. I worked there three years and managed multiple people while learning a lot about working well together as large team.

My wife and I moved back to New York to join in a partnership with my family and expand our family's business. We have grown the business 10-fold since 2010 and I have learned a great deal about managing a business. I believe I can bring great value to the board with my financial and business experience.

My wife and I have 3 children who attend GMU. It comes without saying, but I want the best for my children. I believe I received a great education from GMU when I attended, and I would like the same opportunity for my kids. The motto at GMU is "It's the Quality of the journey that counts" and is one that we, as a board, need to stay focused on for our students. I believe we need to create a team environment that allows all kids to succeed and be ready for the next step in their lives. We need to be financially responsible while offering as many opportunities that all kids can take advantage of. I believe it takes a collaborative effort between students, parents, teachers and staff of great communication and dedication to give each student the best possible education. At the end of the day, life is hard and we need to as a community prepare these students to handle hard.

I feel with both my professional and personal experience I would be of great value to the school board, and I would like the opportunity to continue to serve. Thank you.



# 2023 Candidate Christopher Ostrander



My name is Christopher Ostrander and I've been a lifelong resident of the Mt. Upton area. After graduating from GMU in 2001, I attended BCC and Morrisville, where I majored in Criminal Justice and Business Management. After a long run working for small businesses, I am currently exploring our local industrial manufacturing work force.

My wife, Jessica Ostrander (GMU 2001), and I have 2 children who attend GMU. I spend my free time as a Scout leader for Pack 44 Gilbertsville, as well as volunteer for Little Raiders coaching baseball. Our family enjoys spending time together camping and fishing and being outdoors, when time (and weather) allows.

I have been filling a seat on the BOE since August 2021, and I would like the opportunity to fill that seat permanently. Being on the BOE allows me to be involved in my children's education, and recognize and potentially offer solutions to the educational challenges faced by our rural community.

