



Lewiston-Porter Central School District

One Purpose, Your Pathway, Our Promise.

Office of the District Clerk

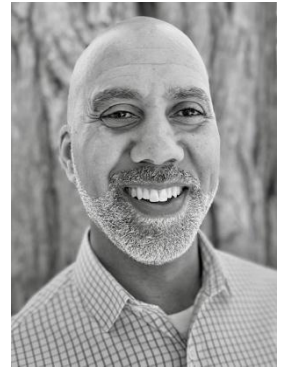
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Board Candidate Newsletter Biography

Name: Chris Bragdon

Education: MA, College Student Personnel, Bowling Green State University
BS, Geology, University of Maine

Employment: Associate Director of Residential Life at UB



1. Please identify previous and/or real-life experiences, which you believe qualify you to serve on the Lewiston-Porter Board of Education.

Education has been my life's work! For nearly 30 years, I have dedicated my career to policy administration and student learning, growth and development in higher education. I guide teams of professionals, collaborate with stakeholders, develop new educational initiatives and foster social environments where all students thrive. Through my work, I bring a spirit of humility, curiosity, and strategic thinking.

I've held leadership roles in international education where I facilitated study abroad programs and advised on U.S. immigration policy. This work required understanding complex federal rules and skillfully guiding students and staff through processes to ensure compliance. Years in the field of international education also honed my ability and desire to effectively promote cross-cultural competency among others.

As an Associate Director for Residential Life at UB, I help ensure the welfare of over 7,000 residential students. I routinely manage staffing issues, facilitate campus-wide programming and partnerships, and develop policy. For the past three years, I have served on the university's Student of Concern team alongside colleagues from university police, counseling services, student conduct, and student medical services. In this role, I regularly assess and respond to students exhibiting concerning or disruptive behavior by developing intervention plans to support the well-being of the student *and* the campus community.

Throughout my career, I have chaired committees and participated in hiring searches. I've also facilitated professional training efforts, managed staff accountability and administration and helped design and deliver a residential curriculum that supports student learning outside the classroom. Additionally, I've served as an instructor and led workshops on professional development topics for both colleagues and students, further reinforcing my commitment to teaching and student engagement. These experiences have given me a broad perspective on education, student needs and institutional responsibility—perspectives I am eager to bring to the Lewiston-Porter Board of Education in service to the district's students, employees, families, and community.



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2. Why do you want to be/become a member of the Board of Education?

As a transplant to Western New York, my wife and I decided to relocate to the area in 2008 so we could be closer to family. My wife, Megan, is not only a fellow UB employee, but also a proud Lew-Port graduate with deep roots in the community. In fact, we moved into a house across the street from her wonderful parents, Don and Rita Gallagher. We have since embraced the philosophy that it “takes a village” to raise a family and this also holds true within our schools.

Between our professional lives at UB and raising two active Lew-Port Lancers, our world revolves around education. Our children’s success at Lew-Port has been shaped by a team of equally dedicated educators and staff who want the best for *everyone’s* children. This work matters! The foundation students build in K–12—academically, socially and emotionally—is critical, no matter their background, learning needs or goals. I see the importance of this foundation every day in my role as a university administrator. As a member of the Lewiston-Porter Board of Education, I will work to ensure that:

- Lew-Port is a **safe** and **welcoming** learning environment for all students, teachers and staff.
- **Students’ needs** are central to Lew-Port’s values, mission and decision-making.
- Lew-Port maintains **financial integrity**, while thinking creatively about growth opportunities and challenges.
- All teachers and staff have a **voice** in helping shape the learning environment.
- All teachers and staff have the **resources necessary** to build and maintain a strong learning environment.
- The Board is **accessible** to families and taxpaying community members.

Serving on the Board of Education would be both a privilege and a natural extension of my work in education, commitment to student success and investment in the local community.