



Lewiston-Porter Central School District

One Purpose, Your Pathway, Our Promise.

Office of the District Clerk

4061 Creek Road
Youngstown, NY 14174
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www.lew-port.com

Board Candidate Newsletter Biography

Name: Carl E. Turner Jr., LCSW-R

Education: 2008, B.S Criminal Justice Degree, Buffalo State College
2013, Master of Social Work Degree, University at Buffalo

Employment: Therapist in Private Practice
(Carl E. Turner Jr., LCSW-R, PLLC)



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

My combined 20+ year career as a Social Worker, Licensed Clinical Social Worker-Registered (LCSW-R), Therapist, and United States Air Force Veteran has forged a powerful and distinctive skillset, positioning me as an exceptionally qualified candidate for the Lewiston-Porter Central School District Board of Education. This extensive experience provides a robust foundation built upon a deep understanding of human development and well-being, complemented by proven interpersonal and leadership capabilities honed through years of service and clinical practice.

My distinguished service as a U.S. Air Force Veteran (1991-2001) instilled core values of leadership, discipline, and dedication, alongside proven abilities in collaboration, strategic thinking, and effective execution. This experience has also cultivated adaptability, resilience, and a deep appreciation for inclusivity, all crucial for navigating the complexities of the educational sector.

The tenure as a Social Worker and Therapist (LCSW-R) (2011-Present) has instilled a nuanced comprehension of the social, emotional, and cognitive landscapes of both children and adolescents. This expertise equips me to critically assess and advocate for comprehensive student support systems, including vital mental health resources and inclusive learning environments. My clinical work has also cultivated exceptional communication, collaboration, and problem-solving skills, essential for effective engagement with administrators, educators, parents, and the wider community. Furthermore, my understanding of systemic issues and a commitment to ethical practice will ensure a thoughtful and equitable approach to policy development and decision-making.

The intersection of these distinct experiences provides a holistic and invaluable perspective. I am not only prepared but driven to advocate effectively for the needs of *all* Lewiston-Porter students and families, to champion the success and well-being of our dedicated educators, and to contribute strategically to the overall health, innovation, and progress of our school district. My commitment is to leverage this unique blend of clinical insight, leadership acumen, and dedication to service to make a meaningful and lasting impact on the Lewiston-Porter Central School District.



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

My deep commitment to optimizing the learning environment for every student fuels my interest in serving on the Lewiston-Porter Central School District Board of Education. As a clinical social worker with extensive expertise in mental health, family systems, community resources, social justice, and child/adolescent development, I possess a unique understanding of the factors influencing student success. Critically, this background equips me to be a strong advocate not only for student well-being but also for strengthening the vital connection between parents and the school system. I firmly believe that parents are essential partners in education, and I aim to champion policies and practices that actively invite parental involvement, foster open communication, and ensure families feel heard, respected, and integral to the district's mission.

As a Board member, my primary focus will be applying my understanding of human behavior, mental health, and systemic dynamics to actively advocate for student well-being and academic achievement, always with an eye toward robust parent partnership. This involves a commitment to closely examining policies like the student code of conduct, both on school grounds and buses, advocating for progressive and restorative disciplinary practices. Crucially, I believe these practices must be developed and implemented with input from all stakeholders – students, staff, *and parents* – ensuring accountability, learning, and a positive school climate rooted in fairness, equity, and shared responsibility. I will strive to be a proactive voice for families, ensuring their concerns and insights inform the Board's work to create the best possible educational experience for all Lewiston-Porter students.