

## Questions for School Board Candidates

### Jaclyn Savolainen

**1. Please provide your name, address, occupation, number of years residing in the District, family information (i.e. spouse name, # of children, etc.), education, and community service**

Jaclyn Savolainen, 75 Delano Drive. Librarian at Dutchess Community College. 12 years full-time resident. Spouse: Eric Savolainen. Two children. Bachelors from Yale University, Masters in Library and Information Science from University at Buffalo. BOE member since 2017, RSF grants committee member prior to that.

**2. What motivates you to want to become a school board member?**

One of my major goals as a board member has been to help the community understand what is going on in our district -- to take dense and complex information and make it accessible to the public. I will continue my efforts to that end by asking questions, diving deep into the issues, and making myself available to talk to people. Additionally, I want to continue to work on certain tasks, such as the district long-range plan, the capital project, and helping with the transition to the new superintendent.

**3. What is your vision for education in our community?**

My vision for education in our community has not changed; I believe in our district's stated mission, vision, and core goals. As a small district, we have particular opportunities that larger districts do not share, and I believe we should capitalize on those advantages wherever possible.

**4. In your opinion, what is the biggest challenge facing Rhinebeck Central School District? What should be the top two priorities for the Board of Education in 2020-21 SY and beyond?**

Covid-19 has dwarfed all other challenges and we must meet the needs of our students while keeping everyone safe. However, we still face declining enrollment and we have even more uncertainty in our revenue sources. We should continue to creatively preserve and grow programs, to nourish and support our students and staff while being fiscally responsible to our community as a whole.

**5. What experience do you have that will make you an effective leader as a member of the school board?**

As I answered the last time I ran, I am a big believer in creative problem solving while carefully and thoroughly considering the relevant facts and possible outcomes. In my professional life as a college librarian, I am immersed in teaching, research, and wide-ranging educational issues. I have worked in government, non-profit, and corporate organizations performing various roles

related to budget, management, and law. I am a patient, level-headed person and I try to see all sides of an issue.