

## Questions for School Board Candidates

### Megan Barbera

**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**

Megan Barbera

57 Burger Road

Licensed Clinical Social Worker

14 years - District

Greg Tumolo, veterinarian

Children: 2 (8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade)

Cheyenne Mountain High School - 1991

Colorado State University - 1995 (BA)

University of Denver - 2001 (MSW)

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

The most precious treasure in this community is our children. Investing time in their development is both a privilege and great responsibility. I am looking forward to collaborating with other District leaders and our new superintendent to move our District forward on their behalf. I'm also ready to be a strong advocate for parents, teachers and school personnel.

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

Rhinebeck is a vibrant community that has undergone significant changes in recent years. I envision an inclusive, engaging, innovative and safe educational environment that reflects our community's needs. This vision includes a diverse community of parents and educators who respect one another and work together to educate our next generation. Rhinebeck offers the charm of a small town and positive influence of forward thinking. This creates opportunity for people from different backgrounds to learn from one another.

**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?**

Declining enrollment and budgetary challenges are obvious areas of concern. Also concerning are the alarmingly high levels of anxiety and depression in children. It will be important to make well-informed decisions that support and further destigmatize mental health needs.

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

I am the parent of two RCSD students. My involvement with their educators over the years has been invaluable. I've learned how easy it is to push one's own agenda, and much more challenging to consider the needs of our greater school community. I've been in the mental health field for over twenty years as a clinical social worker. I currently have a private practice in Rhinebeck where I treat teens and adults. I believe that my background offers a valuable voice to the Board.