





Thank you for your patience with me. Moving forward, I have my family's blessing to serve on the school board if elected. 

For family reasons, I'd stepped down shortly after filing. Despite trying to dissuade people from voting for me, I passed August's primary and am on your November ballot. Since then I have wrestled with what I see as three options:

- ✖ 1. Continue to ask people not to vote for me, and not serve even if elected.
- ? 2. Let November play out and make a decision then. This has always seemed the least genuine. Regardless of my messaging, I may still win. I want to be able to tell people whether I plan to serve if that happens.
- ✓ 3. Ask for your vote and plan to serve if elected. There were reasons I stepped down. At the same time, there's everyone who supported me in standing up for our kids. With the larger trajectory the world is on—and its impact on our community and our kids—I find myself asking, "who will be that person who stands up?" 

Let me imagine with you two scenarios:

- ✖ • In the first, I'm elected, but don't serve. Although the situation varies by jurisdiction, usually the runner-up has no claim to the seat. There could be a special election, or the board could appoint the position; in either case the next board member could be outstandingly great—or not.
- ? • In a second scenario I'm not elected; the incumbent stays on, and I run in the future. While I would hope that most people would forgive my circumstances, I can't help but picture a seed of doubt that says, "will he stay in that race if some stress arises?" 

Perhaps that doubt weighs most heavily in my own mind. Perhaps that, more than anything, is why I'm choosing option #3. Perhaps it's why I share this with you, even going so far as to ask for your vote. 

There will always be ways to spend my time if I'm not elected—and a very good chance that, having not campaigned, I won't win. At the same time, I need to know, and I need you to know, that I'm willing to serve our kids and our community at this time. I am. 😊

So, please know that if you vote for me and I'm elected, I will serve.

Thank you for bearing with me.

-Ned Hammar 