

Edward Zhai



Edward Zhai has been a resident in Richmond Hill for over 9 years. He is an education professional with 17 years of experience in Ontario.

He has a B.A. Degree in English Linguistics and Literature, an M.A. Degree in Public Administration (Maxwell School), and an M.S. Degree in Computer Science. Also, he holds a Professional Certificate in Education from Harvard University.

Edward is a co-founder of Midway Education. He has been actively serving local students of all grades and their parents for the last 9 years in Richmond Hill. He is very familiar with the Ontario education policies and curriculum, including English, mathematics, ESL, the Gifted Program, the AP/IB Programs, and high school academic/applied course selection. In addition, he is an expert on standardized tests and academic evaluations, including EQAO, OSSLT, TOEFL, IELTS, SSAT, SAT, and university applications. He communicates with parents and adapts instruction to students' differences in development, learning styles, and needs to help students improve their academic performance.

He served as a Co-Chair of the Bayview Secondary School Council in 2019-2020. He worked together with other council members, the principal and vice-principals to improve student learning and to develop a shared sense of accountability for the public education system among both parents and educators. He helped increase parent contributions within the school community, supported student well-being, learning and achievement, and acted as a direct link between parents and the school principal.

Edward understands that the role of a York Region District School Board trustee is to assist the board in fulfilling its duties under Ontario's Education Act. The focus is on student achievement and well-being, and helping make decisions that benefit the whole school board district. Furthermore, a trustee is a communicator with the public, a policy maker, and an advocate for quality education. Trustees are accountable to all public school taxpayers in York Region.

2020 is a special year for all. COVID-19 has affected nearly every facet of people's lives, including traditional school education. Under such circumstances, safety is the No. 1 priority in Edward's platform. Virtual classes are an excellent alternative to in-person classes, but may take a while for both students and teachers to grow accustomed to. Communication is vital in these trying times, and steps must be taken to ensure that school continues to run smoothly, especially for kids to adjust to the new learning schedule in a safe way.

During these hard times, Edward promotes standing together, working together, and acting together with parents, schools, and communities to make the public education system function efficiently for every family and student in the neighborhood.

Combined with his academic expertise, professional experience, public policy analysis, education strategic plan, communication skill, vision, and leadership, Edward is ready to offer better service to parents, schools, board, and communities on student achievement and well-being as a York Region School District Board Trustee (Ward 1, 2, & 4).

Election Day October 19, 2020 or vote online October 14 – 19, 2020

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