

**NAME: Michael Rudnick**  
**PARTY: Non-Partisan**  
**SEEKING: School Board, District 2**

**Why are you seeking your office?**

Since 2020, I have seen the Gwinnett County school system move away from a commitment to excellence and equal opportunity. I have tried along with many others to do the best I can as a citizen and stakeholder to stop this. Starting with the firing of our long-time Superintendent with no backup plan, I felt called to be on the board to make a difference for all 180K children and 20K staff. I am not a politician but rather a Dad who wants to make a difference in my community.

**2. What do you expect to accomplish if elected?**

I will bring a special needs look to the board and make sure policies are looked at through this lens whenever possible. I will look for ways in the budget to try and reduce class sizes. I will make sure the discipline policy is fair and just so that teachers and students are not afraid to enter the school. I will help Gwinnett get back to the top 10% of school systems in the state instead of near the 40% where we are now.

**3. What distinguishes your candidacy? \**

I have a child in the school system and have been involved as his advocate. I believe that gives a unique perspective into some of the trials facing our educators. Being a parent of a child in GCPS should be a prerequisite for a board member. I am not looking for political gain. I am looking to truly do what is best for the children and help them succeed in school and be successful when they leave the school system in whatever path they chose, be it college, tech school, the military, or a career.

**4. Pick any one issue. Expand on how you will address it.**

Special needs. I will be the board member who will be able to speak from real-life experience as a Special Needs Dad. Special needs students are 20% of our student population. I will make sure we have as many programs and opportunities for these children as possible to ensure their success when they leave the system. I will make sure the programs we adopt or currently have reach all the parents and are available throughout the district. I would try to make sure the teachers have the resources they need without having to come out of pocket.

**5. What are your ideas on curbing all the many area-wide shooting?**

I believe the answer to keeping our children safe is a deterrent like our SROs and parent involvement in each school. We need to support the SROs and make sure that they are a very

visible part of the Back-to-School Meetings and Events. They know our students and help diffuse more situations than we will ever know. But developing an early intervention policy with behavior issues in schools and more parental involvement, I believe we can hopefully not have a situation in GCPS that has happened in other school systems.

**6. Please give a 100-word summary on your background.**

Michael Rudnick grew up in Marietta and attended Lassister High School. He graduated from the University of Georgia and majored in Speech Communications. The Rudnicks moved back to Gwinnett County from Kentucky in 2018 after realized how bad the special need programs in Kentucky were. This was due to the first class education Gwinnett county offered. After settling in the Mill Creek cluster, Michael began working for the City of Lawrenceville as the Fleet Director. Michael has enjoyed being able to give back to the community while working in the public sector and serving the citizens of Lawrenceville.