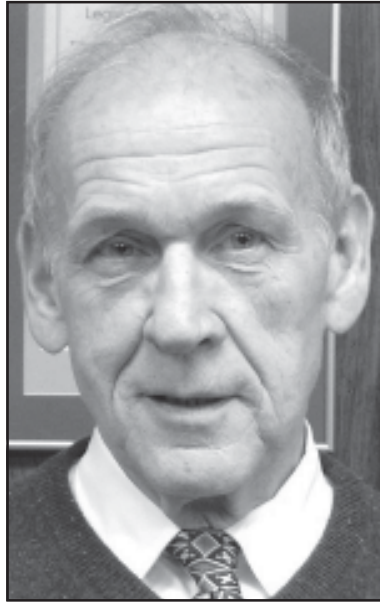


2009-10 Board of Education

This year, three district residents have declared their candidacy to run for the Owego Apalachin Board of Education. On May 19, district voters will be asked to choose two of these candidates to fill seats currently occupied by David Barton and John Crosby. Below are brief biographies submitted by each of the three candidates.



CROSBY

John Crosby

I am finishing my seventh year of serving on the board. My interest in the workings of the district started around 10 years ago when I began to believe that the community was too comfortable with being a middle-of-the-road school system in terms of academic achievement.

My first attempt at running for the board was unsuccessful, but I did gain the consolation prize of chairing the citizen's advisory committee, which developed and sold the concept of the new middle school as part of the common campus with the high school. That led to a successful run for the board three years after the first attempt.

I would have to say that my proudest accomplishment has been being part of the board that selected Dr. Bill Russell to be our superintendent of schools. While it's true that we all stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, Dr. Russell has assembled a top-notch team that, in tandem with our teaching staff, is producing measurable academic results that place the Owego Apalachin school system solidly above the average, while still moving upward.

If elected, I will stay out of the way of this team of educators as they manage the district, and contribute in the areas of policy, stretching goals for further improvements.

My wife Gae and I have seen one son through OFA, and a son and a daughter through the Vestal system. All have graduated from college and are raising families from New Jersey to Colorado. Gae and I are contributing to college funds for 6 (and a half) grandchildren, the point being that we have strong beliefs in the importance of education that we would like to continue to apply through my position on the board at OA.

Other positions I hold are area coordinator of Special Olympics for Broome and Tioga counties, and chairman of the Tioga County Subcommittee on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disability.



BARTON

David Barton

It has been my privilege and honor to serve on the Board of Education for the last three years. We have worked hard over this time to be fiscally responsible to the taxpayers while striving to provide the best educational opportunities for our students.

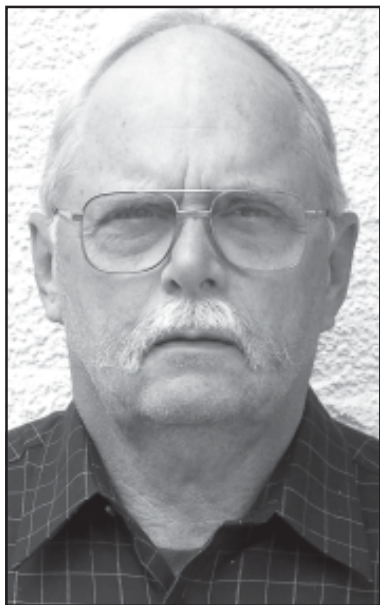
We've had a few challenges along the way, but our continuing goal is to provide open, honest communication with our residents and to ensure that we're always looking for new ways to reach out to the community and strengthen the partnership.

As a parent with two children in OA schools, I know that we must look for solutions that will advance the performance of our district. However, I also understand that funding is a finite resource and I'm proud of the work we've accomplished on the Board of Education to ensure that your tax dollars have been used efficiently.

I also believe that our students need to have adequate opportunities for extracurricular activities, such as arts and athletics, which will enable them to become well rounded young adults. I appreciate that any school district should reflect the character of its community, and I feel that I have been able to contribute to a strengthened connection.

My wife Kristin and I live in the Town of Owego with our two children, and I'm employed by Lockheed Martin. I'm also proud to maintain my military affiliation with continuing service in the Air National Guard.

I feel that the Board of Education is the key link between the community and the schools and I would be honored to be able to represent this district for another term.



PERKINS

Carl (Bill) Perkins

I have been a resident of the Owego Apalachin district for more than 30 years. I am married for 44 years and have four children who all attended this school district, and I have seven grandchildren, of which four attend the OA schools. In the past, I have been president of the Owego Little League and a league board member. I am currently a member of the Owego Fire Department with many duties, such as squad driver and officer, as well as a fire police member.

I served as a Fire Board member for 12 years. In total, I have been a member of the Owego Fire Department for 17 years. I am a retired IBM employee after 27 years and a recent retiree of the Owego Apalachin bus garage, where I spent 12 years as a bus driver.

I am a member of the VVA 480 located in Owego and I served in the United States Navy. In the future, I will reprise my role as bus driver, this time with Tioga Opportunities Head Start.

I am running for the OACSD Board of Education to listen to the taxpayers' concerns and to consider their wishes as to what they would like me to achieve for the children of our community, as well as to learn in what direction they see their schools going.