

2021 Tenafly Board of Education Trustee Candidates

Igor Frid



Igor Frid was born in a small town in Ukraine. While in high school, he was fortunate to have great teachers who inspired his life-long love for math and technology. In his senior year, he won Ukraine's National Competition in Computer Science and represented Ukraine at the International Olympiad in the Netherlands. Igor and his parents emigrated to America in 1996, when he was 18. Like many immigrants, Igor arrived speaking minimal English; he immediately started ESL classes while delivering newspapers. Soon after, he got a job using his technology skills and was able to pay for college, taking night classes while working full time. Igor earned a bachelor's degree in Finance from Pace University and an MS in Technology Management from Columbia University. Igor subsequently worked at Deutsche Bank and Citigroup, where he was a Director of Technology. In 2014, Igor co-founded a financial technology firm where he serves as Chief Technology Officer. In 2011, Igor and his family moved to Tenafly. He and his wife have two daughters, a fourth grader at Mackay and a sophomore at THS. In his free time Igor enjoys road cycling - you might see him along Piermont Rd with his fellow riders.

Michelle Harris



My name is Michelle Harris and I am excited to be running for the Tenafly BOE. I reside in Tenafly with my husband and two sons who currently attend Tenafly middle and high schools. We had two primary reasons for moving to Tenafly: first, the wonderful sports opportunities that have allowed me to serve as the TYB travel and recreational basketball coach for the past three years; second, the quality of education that generates outstanding student achievement and success. Professionally, I am a proud Principal in the NYC Department of Education and a certified Speech-Language Pathologist. I am passionate about supporting a trusting and safe learning community through collaboration, inclusion of all learners for equitable access and opportunities, and culturally responsive social emotional learning that will empower our Tenafly community to excel in 21st century learning. If elected, it is my goal to collaborate and share my passion for academic excellence, inclusion and equity towards policies that provide holistic learning experiences. Tenafly is amazing, and I would be honored to serve our community.

Inbal Israeli-Miller



Inbal Israeli Miller has been a Tenafly resident for 16 years. She has a unique perspective on education, raising three children with individual needs: gifted, mainstream, and special education. Her youngest will graduate in 2033. Serving our community as a BOE Trustee since 2019, Inbal has worked on various committees and district-wide groups: Curriculum and Technology, Communication and Policy, Negotiations, Finance and Alternative Revenue, Joint-Use, Nutrition Advisory Council, and Health Professionals & Administrators Roundtable. Inbal has championed issues like school nutrition, gifted and talented, and responsible spending. She strives for each student to fulfill their potential and thrive into their best selves. Since the pandemic, Inbal has been working diligently to help reimagine education in the COVID era: safely and equitably reopening our schools, maintaining academic rigor, and promoting wellness for students and staff. Inbal's educational background is in Economics, Statistics and Business Administration. She is an analytical thinker, never shying away from asking tough questions. Inbal devotes all her time and energy to her family and to our district. She is experienced, results-oriented, and serves our community with passion. Her creative forward-thinking out-of-the-box approach brings much needed diversity of thought to our BOE.

Lawrence Lewitinn



Lawrence Lewitinn first moved to Tenafly in 1979, starting at Smith School in 2nd grade and graduating Tenafly High School in 1990. He went on to graduate New York University with double major in economics and political science and earned an MBA and Master of International Affairs from Columbia University. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter holder. Lawrence moved back to Tenafly with his wife Robin to raise his two young children, ages 6 and 4. Lawrence is the managing editor of global capital markets at CoinDesk, the world's most-read cryptocurrency news site, and the co-host of a daily morning show on CoinDesk TV called "First Mover." Previously, he was a producer and writer at CNBC and Yahoo Finance. Lawrence also worked as a foreign exchange trader for Millennium Management and in commercial real estate management and development. Lawrence hopes to bring his critical skills to the Board of Education to safeguard our children's education. His goal is to return Tenafly schools to being the top-ranked in the state by uniting parents, teachers and administrators to provide each child with a thorough and well-rounded education that includes not just STEM but also languages, humanities and the arts.

Michael Wilderman



Dr. Wilderman is the Chief of Endovascular Surgery at Hackensack University Medical Center and is on faculty at the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine. Having attended public school in Pennsylvania, he received his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and completed a Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis, MO. He serves as a principal investigator for national clinical trials in his field of expertise and has lectured and published widely. Dr. Wilderman has been a member of the curriculum planning committee of the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine and has won multiple teaching awards. Dr. Michael Wilderman has been a Trustee of the Tenafly BOE since October 2020. Previously, Dr. Wilderman was a member of the volunteer group of physicians and mental health professionals who worked with the district to safely re-open our schools in September 2020. As the only Trustee who is a physician, when vaccines became available, he coordinated with executives at nearby hospitals to ensure that our staff were vaccinated as quickly as possible – an important action that kept our schools safely open for the entire 2020-21 school year and that continues to keep them safely open now.