



School Committee

CIVICS ACADEMY PRESENTATION BY

JERMAINE JOHNSON DISTRICT F & MOLLY MCCULLOUGH DISTRICT A

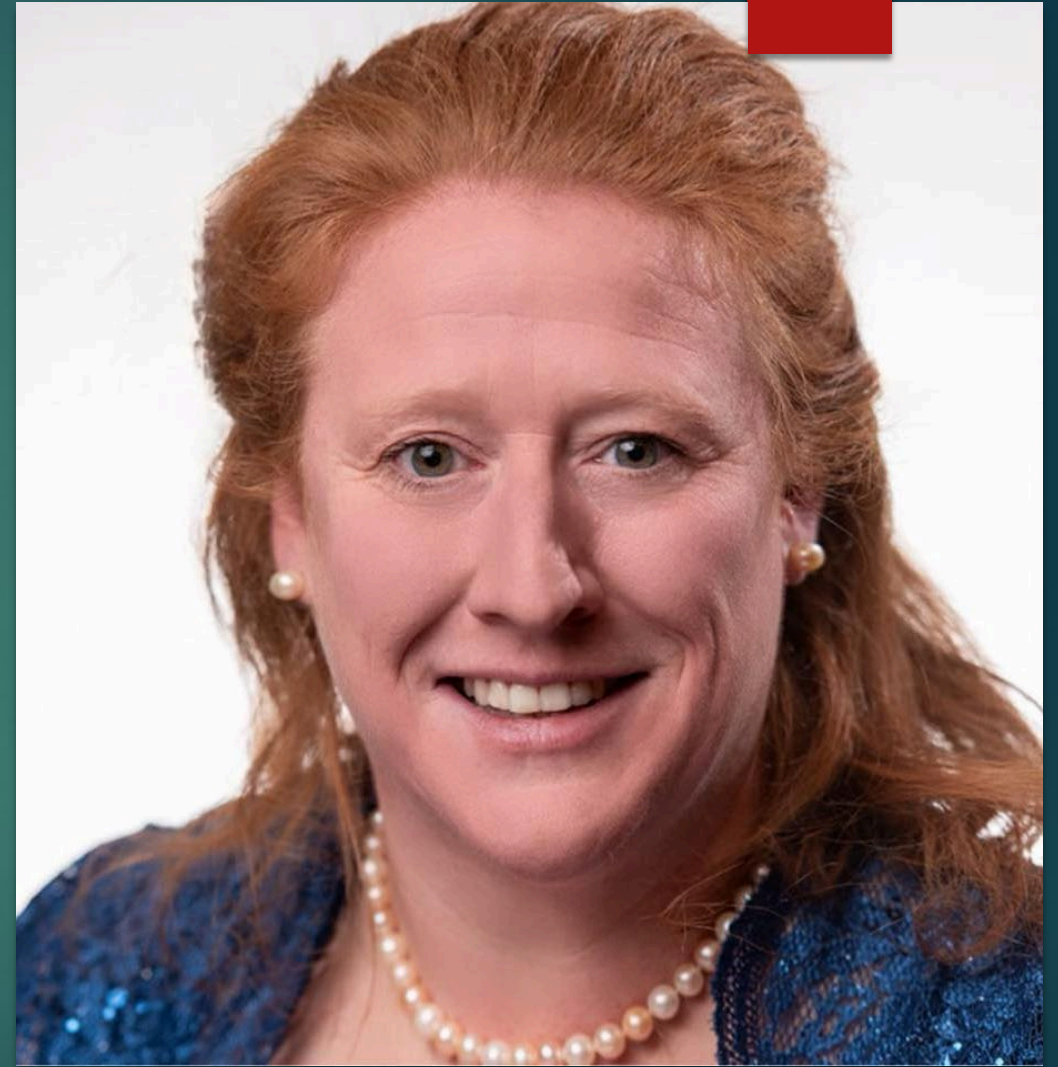
About Jermaine Johnson

- ▶ Jermaine Johnson is a dedicated advocate for education, youth empowerment, and community engagement in Worcester.
- ▶ He is a lifelong Worcester resident and a proud graduate of Worcester Public Schools.
- ▶ Professionally, he has been involved in various community initiatives, particularly those supporting young people and families.
- ▶ Parent of 2 WPS students.
- ▶ Experienced firsthand the challenges faced by students and families in Worcester and wanted to be a voice for change in those areas.



About Molly O. McCullough

- ▶ Grew up in Worcester and has always been passionate about education and community service.
- ▶ Background in political campaigns and community advocacy led to her decision to run for the Worcester School Committee.
- ▶ Inspired by the belief that strong public schools create strong communities.
- ▶ Initially got involved through volunteer work, local organizations, and attending community events.
- ▶ Works closely with city leaders, educators, and community members to improve Worcester Public Schools (WPS).
- ▶ Dedicated to ensuring students receive a high-quality education that prepares them for future success.
- ▶ Chair of Finance, Operations and Governance



WPS Budget Overview

- ▶ WPS operates on a budget of over **\$500 million**, primarily funded through state Chapter 70 aid and local tax revenue.
- ▶ The budget supports salaries, student services, technology, transportation, and infrastructure improvements.
- ▶ Balancing financial resources is critical to meeting the needs of over **24,000 students** across the district.
- ▶ Advocate for increased state and federal funding to support growing student needs.

Policy Work & Curriculum

- ▶ School Committee plays a key role in approving curriculum updates and ensuring educational standards are met.
- ▶ Recent policy work includes expanding **career and technical education (CTE)**, supporting **special education**, and enhancing **early childhood education**.
- ▶ Advocating for culturally responsive teaching and curriculum that reflects Worcester's diverse student body.
- ▶ Works with district leaders to implement new policies that promote student achievement and well-being.
- ▶ CKLA, Math and Science curricula.
- ▶ Ongoing policy work around, homework, health and wellness, naming policies and more.

Superintendent Hiring & Oversight

- ▶ The School Committee is responsible for hiring, evaluating, and overseeing the Superintendent.
- ▶ Works closely with Superintendent Rachel Monarrez to set goals and ensure accountability.
- ▶ Provides guidance on district-wide initiatives and long-term planning; including strategic plan.
- ▶ Ensures that the Superintendent follows policies that align with state and local education laws.

Working with Constituents and Departments within the System

- ▶ Engage with parents, teachers, students, and community members through public forums and meetings.
- ▶ Addresses concerns from families regarding school policies, funding, and student services.
- ▶ Collaborate with city officials, people within WPS and outside agencies to support the needs of the students staff and families of the WPS.
- ▶ Work with the Finance, Operations and Governance subcommittee. to address school operations and policy development.
- ▶ Support initiatives that strengthen school-community partnerships, such as after-school programs, mental health resources, and workforce development opportunities.
- ▶ Follow work that is ongoing in Teaching, Learning and Student Supports(TLSS) in order to provide adequate support.

Closing

- ▶ Encourage people to get involved in local government and advocacy.
- ▶ Highlight the importance of civic engagement in shaping public education.
- ▶ Stress that every voice matters in making Worcester Public Schools stronger for future generations.

THANK YOU!