# Shaun M. Hogan presents alternative platform for Brunswick school board election



Shaun M. Hogan, a Brunswick resident and school board candidate, has outlined his platform ahead of the upcoming special election on June 10, presenting an alternative viewpoint on local education policies and spending. Hogan, who brings extensive experience from his 25 years in education, 15 years in law enforcement and security, and background in business administration and cybersecurity, aims to represent a segment of the Brunswick community he feels has been underrepresented on the school board.

Having made Brunswick his home since 2006, Hogan has voluntarily contributed to the community by serving on boards including Maine Paws for Veterans, Brunswick’s Personnel Board, and the Nathaniel Davis Fund Committee. His campaign focuses on being a voice for all residents of Brunswick, highlighting that while the community is predominantly liberal, a significant minority holds middle-of-the-road or conservative perspectives that have been absent from school board deliberations.

Hogan criticises the composition of the current Brunswick School Board, pointing out that the nine elected positions have predominantly been held by women and exclusively by Caucasian individuals with children enrolled in public schools. He notes the absence of representation from senior citizens, parents of private or homeschooled children, minority races, and non-parents—all of whom contribute taxes to the school system but lack a voice in board decisions.

A major area of concern Hogan raises is the fiscal trajectory of the Brunswick School Department (BSD), which adopted a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) framework for decision-making. He notes a 44% increase in the school budget over seven years—from $40.1 million in fiscal year 2020 to a proposed $57.7 million for fiscal year 2026—despite a student population growth of less than 4% in the same period. Comparing this to typical household income growth, he suggests the budget growth is disproportionate and places financial pressure on taxpayers.

Hogan highlights the distribution of funds within the BSD, observing that while 80% of students are in regular education, receiving $23 million, approximately one-third of the education budget—$11.3 million—is allocated to the 20% of students in special education. He questions the equity of such spending, its impact on resource allocation, and comments on what he terms a ‘bloated and overpaid’ administration. Specific expenditures he criticises include investments in facilities such as bleachers, parking lot paving on non-school properties, replacement of functional lighting, and employment of numerous social workers and administrative staff. He recalls that the only budgetary restraint shown in recent years was the school board’s rejection of a proposal to replace an old but serviceable facilities tractor.

Reflecting on his policy intentions if elected, Hogan pledges never to endorse any measures affirming the DEI framework. He commits to opposing any wage or benefit increases for administrators for at least five years and to resisting any expansion of administrative staff in the same period. Moreover, he states he would not support the renewal or extension of the current superintendent’s contract.

On the issue of participation in school sports, Hogan enunciates a clear stance concerning transgender students, specifically addressing the participation of biological males in girls’ sports and access to girls’ locker rooms and bathrooms. He distinguishes his position as ‘not anti-trans, but rather pro-female and pro-fairness,’ advocating that participation should align with the student’s biological sex or occur in coed or open leagues. He emphasises respect and equal opportunity for all students while prioritising fairness in athletic competition.

Hogan shared his views in an open letter published in the Portland Press Herald, stating, "My overarching platform objective is to be a voice for ALL of Brunswick." He also remarked, "I fail to see how spending one-third of the education budget on one-fifth of the student body is equitable," underscoring his criticism of current budget priorities.

The special school board election in Brunswick is set for June 10, with voters deciding among candidates including Hogan, who campaigns on a platform of financial prudence, increased representation, and an end to the current DEI policies.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)