School Committee Turnover: 2001-2015

Contested Races:

Total: 28/64 (43%)

Incumbents defeated:

3/64 (4%)

Incumbents returned to office 45/64 (70%)

Total Turnover:

22/64 (34%)

Open Seats:

Total: 19/64 (29%)

Reason for turnover:

1. Term limits:

11/19 (57%)

2. Voluntary turnover:

6/19 (31%)

3. Change of circumstances:

2/19 (11%)

Contested/Uncontested:

Uncontested: 6/19 (31%)

Contested: 13/19 (68%)

Good news:

- Provides for institutional knowledge
- Provides for new blood

Not so good news:

 Power of incumbency makes it difficult for a newcomer to break in.

Good news:

- Much higher rate of contested elections with open seats
- Open seats often have 2 strong candidates

Not so good news:

Turnover is dependent on term limits

Constituencies to Consider:

- The needs of school community/larger community
- The staff (the School Committee negotiates contracts with staff)