

E. Richard Carpender  
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Portsmouth Town Council  
2200 East Main Road  
Portsmouth RI 02871

Council Members

This past Presidential Election will be my last election as the Chairperson of the Portsmouth Board of Canvassers. I will be resigning from the Board effective March 1, 2021 ending my public service career. My career started when I was elected to the School Committee where I served as a committee member and as committee chair for several years. In all, my public service career covered 30 years. (14 on the school committee and 16 on the canvassing authority).

It has been a wonderful and exciting ride. The exhilaration of accomplishing major projects as a member of the school committee such as the construction of a new Field House and passing a major education bond that allowed us to provide needed maintenance to all of our school buildings and upgrades to some of the Buildings leaves lasting memories. I've also had the honor of working with hardworking and dedicated teachers, students, and Parents to provide Portsmouth Students with the best education system possible. I've had the thrill of presenting graduating students with their diploma including 3 of my own children and my grand-daughter. The bonds that developed with the teachers and administrators will be something that I will always cherish.

As a member of Board of Canvassers I also worked with hard working individuals in the Registrars' office a vital department. It was a privilege to work alongside these people who are dedicated to ensuring that every Election Is fair and safe and everyone's right to vote is protected. These committed people work long hours leading up to the Election and sometimes as long as 15 to 18 hour days on Election Day itself. I loved working alongside all of them.

I want to thank members of this council and previous Councils for having confidence in me and appointing me 3 times.

I would also like to thank the voters in Portsmouth for having enough faith and confidence in me to return me to office several times.

Public service has been exhilarating, at times frustrating, sometimes filled with anxiety, concern, sadness and politics but in all those times, it has always been rewarding allowing me to sleep well. It is now time for me to turn the responsibility of public service over to a younger generation.

I will close by encouraging anyone who may have a desire to be involved in public service and their Town to do it. It has been incredibly rewarding for me and I am confident it will be just as rewarding for you.

Sincerely

  
E. Richard Carpender