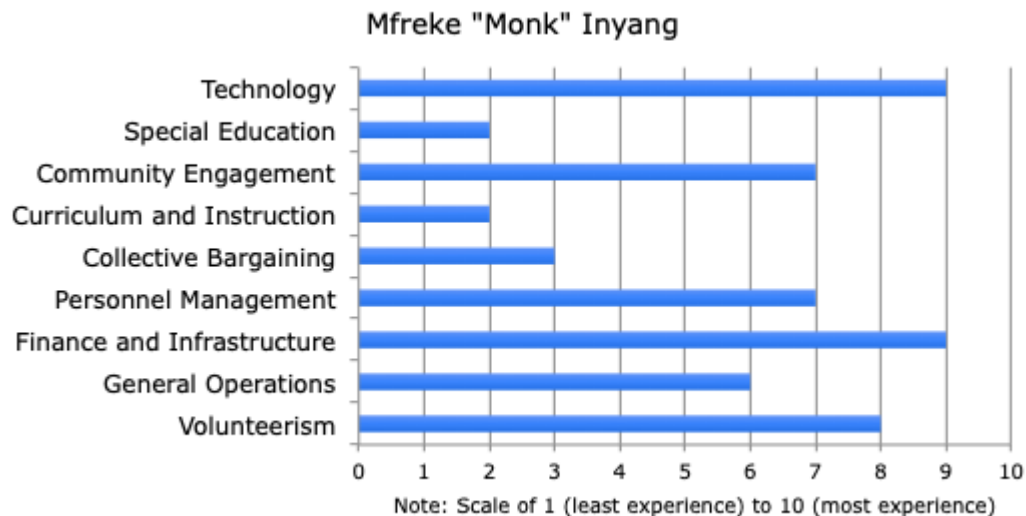




Mfreke "Monk" Inyang

1. Please provide 3 words that capture your candidacy.
2. Why are you running for the BOE? Is there a particular issue that motivates you to serve on the Board of Education.
3. Please rate your work/life experience in



Please feel free to elaborate on any of the above self-rating.

4. In what school district or community activities/organizations have you been involved?

Montclair School District, CHB PTA

5. If elected, what are your top 2-3 priorities for the BOE? Specifically, what do you think the BOE should prioritize in the next year and what should be prioritized in a longer-term plan?

1) Improve the yearly budget process, 2) Continue to expand restorative justice implementation in the district, 3) Continue the equity work for our students in the district.

6. In your opinion, what would be an "ideal/well" functioning BOE? How can the BOE be more accessible and more communicative with the community?



An ideal BOE is transparent and constantly looking to improve things that need attention while providing our students and staff everything they need to reach our collective goals.

7. Recognizing that relationships are a foundation of our school community, what specific steps would you take to improve the relationships between the BOE and the district administrators, the various unions, and parents/caregivers?

I'm optimistic about the potential for relationships between the BOE and the various stakeholders. Steps that will improve those foundations include the opening of townhalls for community members to discuss specific district wide resources and issues and proactive communications from the BOE.

8. What should MPSD do differently? Please be specific – academic programs, sports, civic programs, extra curriculars, etc.

MPSD should continue to increase our equity training for staff and administration, review and address any potential inequities in district policy and enforcement, and expand its support of extra curricular programming for all of our students

9. What are your thoughts on school district's programs for special education students? How can the BOE better serve the special education students, and what would you do as a board member to ensure our special education students' needs are being addressed?

Before joining to BOE I didn't have any experience or expertise with special education. Working with community members and board members like Ms. Silverstein has been extremely beneficial in learning about the needs of our special ed students. A big priority will be continuing to focus on providing the same level of service for our students and staff as we balance budgets and evaluate programming.

10. How can the BOE address the opportunity/achievement gap in our district? What are your specific ideas and plans for addressing the achievement gap and educational equity? In your opinion, what is the role of BOE in this area?

Achieving educational equity requires reviewing policies and data from our district and evaluating the actual impact we're seeing with our community. Training our staff to better identify our children's needs as we're returning from remote learning, and providing our students the curriculum and support they need.

11. How should the BOE balance the need to provide a quality education with the need to manage the local taxpayer burden? What should the district's capital spend priorities be? Would you consider budget cuts, if so – what specific areas would you cut?

A lot of improvements are underway and I'm excited about continuing that progress. Improving our school infrastructure and buildings will help with savings in our operating budget. As find and improve on the efficiencies in our budget, we will unlock funds that can be put to better uses in the district. The district's spend priorities should be on providing the best programming and curriculum possible for our children.



12. Montclair is known for its magnet schools, which are supported by a unique school ranking and placement process and a "courtesy busing" program. What changes, if any, would you consider with respect to the magnet system, the school ranking and placement process, and/or the courtesy busing policy?

I'm a strong supporter of the magnet school system and busing program. I wouldn't make any changes to these.