

## ***Matthew Susin***

3675 Mary Lou Lane

Melbourne, FL 32934

321-917-4780

[matthewsusin@gmail.com](mailto:matthewsusin@gmail.com)

### **Education**

Florida State University 1999  
Dual Major: Political Science and History.  
3.84 Major GPA; Deans List  
Political Science National Honors Society Phi Sigma Alpha  
Internship Florida House of Representatives – Beverly Kilmer Dist 7

### **Work History**

Twin Rivers Insurance 2014-Pres  
Director of Business Relations - Consulting Businesses on Benefits, Insurance, and Industry Solutions  
Cinncoinnatus Consulting 2014-Pres  
Owner  
Brevard Public Schools 2005-2014  
AP US History, AICE Cambridge US History, & American History Honors instructor  
Brevard Public Schools/ Central Area Adult Ed. 2009-2014  
GED Night Class  
Greenberg Traurig Law Firm 1999-2004  
Legislative Coordinator  
Clients - Ford, Pan Am Air, Delta Air, Spirit Air, United Healthcare, Cigna, William Scottsman

### **Professional Awards**

- Veterans of Foreign Wars Citizenship Education Teacher Award - *State of Florida & National Winner* 2013
- Jefferson Award for Public Service - *State of Florida Winner & National Finalist* 2012
- Project Citizen - *State of Florida Winner* 2011
- Sea World Environmental Excellence Award 2010
- Daughters of the American Revolution - American History Teacher of the year 2009
- FPS State Teaching Academy Competition – *State of Florida Winner* 2009
- Brevard County Coach of the Year – *Undefeated season* 2009
- Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year 2008
- Richard Dipatri Superintendent Special Accommodation Award 2008
- Brevard County Social Studies Teacher of the Year 2008
- Warren Tracy Beginning Teacher Award - *State of Florida Winner* 2007
- Brevard County Merritt Scholar Award 2007
- Brevard Schools Area IV Award of Excellence 2006
- National Council for History Education Award 2006
- Brevard County Recycling County Contest Winner 2006

### **Community Involvement**

- Space Coast Economic Development Council – Board of Directors / Chairman CPT Committee 2015-Pres
- Space Coast Machinist and Apprenticeship – Board Member 2015-Pres
- Space Coast Tech Council – Manufacturing Committee Chair 2015-Pres
- Take Stock in Children – Board Member 2015-Pres
- Melbourne Regional Chamber – Board Member 2014-Pres
- Suntree Rotary – Board Member and District Youth Chair 2014-Pres
- Brevard Schools ICOC Independent Sales Tax Advisory Committee 2014-Pres
- Brevard Schools SAIC Superintendents Insurance Advisory Committee 2013-2014
- Brevard Schools Curriculum Testing Advisory Committee 2012-2014
- Teaching American History Grant Studies – Foundations of American Democracy 2010-2012
- Teaching American History Grant Studies – Civil Rights throughout American History 2006-2008
- Harry T. Moore Civil Rights program director Space Coast High School 2006

## Endorsements

- AVID 2012
- AIC Cambridge United States History 2011-2012
- Advanced Placement United States History 2008

## School Leadership Involvement

- Eau Gallie High Avid Program – Mentor teachers and students on learning strategies.
- Eau Gallie High Business Partners - created a new program adding 217 businesses meshed with student involvement.
- Space Coast Jr/Sr High Security Committee – Developed and coordinate the school security plan.
- Space Coast Jr/Sr High Teaching Academy – Wrote Social Studies curriculum and started the Teaching Academy.
- Space Coast Jr/Sr High School New Teacher Mentoring Program – Mentored first time annual teachers.

## Coaching Experience

- Head Varsity Lacrosse Coach – Eau Gallie High School 2012-2013
- Assistant Varsity Football Coach - Space Coast Jr/Sr High School 2006-2011
- Head Varsity Wrestling Coach – Space Coast Jr/Sr High School 2008-2009
- Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach – Space Coast High School 2006-2008

## Involvement / Club Sponsorship

All American Flag Act 2012- Pres

- Students, teachers, and local politicians are currently supporting legislation that started as a class project to make all United States Flags that are on display in governmental institutions to be made in the United States with fibers grown in the United States.

Jefferson Awards for Community Service [www.jeffersonawards.org](http://www.jeffersonawards.org) 2011-Pres

- As a result of the projects completed Eau Gallie, finished fourth in the nation in Washington DC. .Projects included raising money for water filtration systems to be sent to Haiti, an anti depression/ suicide support group for at risk students, a bright future volunteer portal for students, and a scholarship data base of all local and national scholarships available to High School students.

J Kyle Braid Student Leadership Program <http://jkbranch.org/> 2008-Pres

- Established program at Space Coast High School and assisted with the program at Eau Gallie High School

Space Coast Institute of Politics 2008-2011

- In 2010 the institute made the front page of the Florida Today because the held a mock election which included the entire school voting in actual voter machines from the Supervisor of elections.
- Two days before the mock election the institute held a voter registration drive that registered 167 students to vote in the upcoming general election.

Community Problem Solving (Component of Future Problem Solving) 2007-2011

- 2011 Projects
  1. Power Line Project: looking into the power lines and their effect on the student body of a charter school.
  2. Fay Lights Project: Repainted facilities, and raised money to pay for lights so students could play at night.
  3. Outdoor Classroom Project: built an entire outdoor classroom and garden areas at Space Coast Jr/Sr High
  4. Sewage Project: reported on the high rate of sewage present in the canals surrounding the sewage treatment facility in Port St. John

Model Student Senate 2006-Pres

- Five straight titles of Best School, Best Committee, Best Senator, and Best Portfolio

Other Clubs Sponsored

- Student Government, Chess Club, Strategy Club, Rho Kappa Historical National Honors Society

## Scholarly Memberships

- Florida Council for the Social Studies
- National Political Science Honor Society (Pi Sigma Alpha)
- National Council for History Education
- Organization of American Historians
- The Historical Society
- Brevard County Historical Society
- National Association of Student Councils
- Florida Education Association



Please provide as much information as possible. Recognizing this form is general, certain questions may be more or less pertinent to a specific office.

## Candidate Profile – Personal Profile

1. Candidate Name - Matt Susin
2. Office You Are Seeking - Brevard County School Board District 4
3. Phone Numbers.

home: N/A  
office: 321-726-6550  
cell: 321-917-4780

*Please include a copy of your professional resume - Attached*

4. Current Occupation - Director of Business Development at Twin Rivers Insurance
5. Education

Florida State University Bachelors Degree  
Dual Major: Political Science and History.  
Political Science National Honors Society Phi Sigma Alpha  
Internship Florida House of Representatives – Beverly Kilmer Dist 7

6. Civic Involvement –

### **Community Based**

1. **Suntree Rotary** – Board Member
2. **Space Coast Tech Council** – Manufacturing Committee Chair
3. **Melbourne Regional Chamber** – Member
4. **Space Coast Machinist and Apprenticeship Program** – Board Member

### **Education Based**

1. **Jefferson Awards for Public Service** – Brevard Community Services Director
2. **Take Stock in Children** – Board Member
3. **Suntree Rotary** – Interact Club Sponsor
4. **Rotary District 6930** – Youth Services Chairman for 49 Rotaries from Boca Raton to Titusville overseeing Ryla, Interact, Youth Exchange, and Rotaract
5. **Space Coast Economic Development Council** – CPT Chairman in charge of getting students jobs in manufacturing.
6. **Space Coast STEM Alliance** – Assist in organizing STEM companies in the Space Coast to help put programs together for our schools.

7. Which local Chamber of Commerce are you involved in or have been involved with?  
**Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida**  
**Space Coast Tech Council**

8. Have you run for office before? If so, when and what was the outcome? Yes No

Soil and Water. As a teacher I entered the race to draw grants down for activities in my club. I raised money and printed signs, and ran an aggressive campaign. Problem was that on the last day of qualifying County Commissioner Andy Anderson's wife Sabrina entered the race. Trying to run a countywide election against a sitting County Commissioner with no connections were the reasons I lost. Andy later saw my passion for the school system and decided to be a host for my first fundraiser, and is now one of the advisors on my campaign.

\* As the Political Coordinator for Greenberg Traurig Law Firm I assisted on 24 House and Senate Campaigns from 2000-2004. We won all 26 except Ritch Workman's run against Thad Altman. Although the playbook has changed a little, the major components of the campaigns are still the same.

9. Party Affiliation Republican Democrat Other: \_\_\_\_\_

10. How long have you been registered for the above Party? 3 years

## Campaign Profile

1. Managers Name – Tres Holton

2. Phone Numbers

office: N/A

cell: 321-960-2378

3. Treasurer - Myself

4. Other Consultants, Staff or Key Volunteers –

**Home School Coordinator** - Tim Reynolds

**Manufacturers** - Dale Coxwell (Coastal Steel) / Lynda Weatherman (EDC) / Robert Scaringe (Mainstream Engineering) –

**Fundraising / Political** - Andy Anderson (County Commissioner)

**Teachers** - Dan Bennett (Vice President Brevard Teachers Union)

**Rotary / Local Business Coordinators** - Mark Filichia (Owner My Coverage Pro Insurance), Bill Means (Owner UPS)

**Issue Advisors** – Joanne Longo (Chair Space Coast STEM Alliance); Dan Bennett (Vice President Brevard Teachers Union); Lynda Weatherman (Chairman Space Coast Economic Development); Don Weaver (Chairman MOAACC);

**Parent Volunteers** - Ray Gibson (St. Johns Water Management District)

**Student Volunteers** - Mariah Hoffman (Viera High Student)

**Social Media** - Holly Flicker (Mad About Hue Marketing)

**Veterans** – Don Weaver (MOAAC Chairman); John Cleland (Retired Brigadier General)

5. If qualifying by petition, how are you collecting petitions? Petitions have been all collected. Still collecting as an opportunity for conversation. I received the petitions in the following manor.

1. Knocking door to door

2. Presidential Primary Polling Locations

3. Speaking engagements at supporters homes

6. How many fundraisers have you had? 2 and have 3 more set for April, and 2 in May.
7. How many volunteers do you have engaged in your campaign and describe how you are engaging them? We have a large volunteer base. The following is how the team has structured them.
  1. Teachers – Dan Bennett (Vice President incoming President Brevard Teacher Union) – 73 teachers for Phone Banking, Door Knocking, Sign Waving, and opening their houses for meet the candidate speaking engagements.
  2. Students – Mariah Hoffman (Student Viera High School) - 206 Students for Door Knocking, and Sign Waving, Story Telling
  3. Businesses – Over 50 manufacturers and 100 separate businesses for endorsements, campaign donations, and support locations for media handouts and signs.
  4. Parents – Ray Gibson (St. Johns Water Management District) - 109 parents for Door Knocking, Sign Waving, Election day polls, and opening their houses for meet the candidate speaking engagements.
  5. Veterans – Don Weaver (MOAACC Chairman) – Help communicate to all the Veteran groups in the area through meetings and mailers in support.

8. What is your fundraising goal? 32,000

9. What type of voter contact are you budgeting for?

Mailers, meet the candidate functions, social media, print, radio, signs, and video.

10. Why are you running for this office?

I am running for office to create a school system not only where students can be inspired and achieve their dreams, but to create policy that improves the lives of the individuals and the businesses that choose to call Brevard home. I want to improve the rating of our schools which will influence individuals to move here, restructure and improve workforce training programs so site developers will make the decision to relocate their company here, and create an environment where our next generation of students is inspired to achieve their highest potential.

I made this decision to run based on the urging of my family, fellow teachers, and colleagues in business. My well-rounded professional group of supporters, who have seen my passion, encouraged me to take the next step and run for this office.

My board level leadership experience, passion for education, and history of successful civic projects that have inspired our community are why I am seeking to become the next school board member for Brevard County.

## Business Profile

1. Listed below are various groups who contribute to campaigns. Please indicate, by each group, whether you believe they will support or oppose your candidacy?

> Agribusiness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Personal Injury Trial Lawyers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Banking & Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Developers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Environment Groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Insurance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Labor Unions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Local Businesses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Manufacturers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Medical (Physicians)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Party Leadership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Architects/Engineers/CPAs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Realtors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose
> Teachers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Oppose

2. The Business community should support my candidacy because:

Action and proven success speaks louder than rhetoric and empty promises. Our next school board member should be a citizen of this county who has shown commitment to our community, our businesses, and our education system. Being a well-rounded passionate individual with a proven track record of success in all these areas is whom I feel the Business Voice should support for school board. My record of proven business board level leadership experience, being an accomplished educator who has received many national, state, and local

awards, and having a history of civic project successes that have inspired our community make up the foundation planks of my campaign.

Being a chairman for organizations such as the Space Coast Economic Development Council, the Melbourne Regional Chamber's Space Coast Tech Council, and my local Suntree Rotary, not only speaks to my involvement in our community but also the level of leadership I have strived to accomplish. As an educator winning awards which include Veterans of Foreign Wars National Teacher of the Year, Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year, Warren Tracy Beginning Teacher of the Year for Florida, Brevard County Social Studies Teacher of the Year, and Brevard County Coach of the Year to name a few shows my commitment to the education system. Flying water filtration systems into Haiti, removing derelict boats from our waterways, and fighting to pass the All American Flag Act shows my proven collaborative community project based successes.

My actions have shown my commitment to our community, our businesses, and our youth. This makes for a well-rounded passionate candidate with a proven track record of success that will help keep Brevard Schools attracting new businesses and individuals to the Space Coast. I feel these traits exemplify what the Business Voice is looking for in a candidate, and why I am the best choice for your nomination.

3. Describe your experience that qualifies you for the position you seek.

Elected school board members are decision makers for the largest budget, group of buildings, and staff in the county. Board members also have to understand curriculum policy that effects the classroom and the students within the walls of our school system. Having the most experience and understanding of each of these areas is crucial to having a strong school system that draws companies and talented employees to our county. The following are the most important issues and areas that a current candidate needs to have experience in to help our school system.

Expansion of Vocational Programs – We are the largest manufacturing county in the state and the eighth largest in the country. As manufacturing jobs are now coming back onshore companies are scrambling to fill the workforce needs to fill the contract orders. Over 50% of our workforce will retire in the next twelve years. We need to create programs that will train our students, and returning veterans to fill these positions. As Chairman of the Space Coast Economic Development Council's Certified Production Technician Committee we have successfully filled over forty-five jobs and am currently expanding the program to train more than one hundred in the coming year. As Chairman of the Space Coast Tech Council's Manufacturing Committee I have begun to put together the first Career and Technical Fair in sixteen years in Brevard County, and created the first private on the job training position with Structural Composites in Brevard in over fourteen years. This will show our students what types of manufacturing industries are here in Brevard, and give them the on the job training needed for them to gain experience.

Facilities and Construction - The School board has the largest footprint of buildings in the county. Understanding how a facility works and the construction it takes to build it is crucial. I feel that my experience as a board member on the Sales Tax Exemption Committee and growing up on my fathers construction sites have given me the experience needed to understand chiller systems to low voltage IT, and security infrastructure. On the Sales Tax



Committee I have reduced cost through suggesting purchasing bulk items now to avoid future rise in costs, and grouping projects for competitive bidding. I also was able to find out reasons why millions of dollars of chillers are failing across the county and made policy changes to avoid those future pitfalls.

Budget and Cost Reduction – The school Board Budget is the largest in the county. Understanding how it works and focusing on areas that may reduce cost are crucial. Through policies I introduced as a member of the Super Intendants Health Insurance Committee, my colleagues and I collaborated to bring a seventy five million dollar Health Insurance budget that had an eighteen million dollar deficit to a twelve million dollar surplus in one year. We introduced innovative programs to drive healthier habits, drove individuals to basic generic drugs, and forced contracted companies to give prescription rebates and other services to help reduce the cost. I have also presented on privatizing the school lunch counter and using advertising on our maintenance vehicles to increase revenue for school programs.

Collaboration – Collaboration and buy in from all entities is crucial to create the change desired. My roll as an educator and now a businessman in the private sector has given me the opportunity to receive the respect from the entities involved because of my work on many successful projects. The All American Flag Act is an example of how myself along with other teachers and students pulled together veterans, businesses, city governments, and the education community to pass a very honorable piece of legislation.

Education Curriculum / System Experiences – It is crucial to understand the curriculum and systems that are currently in place to try and effect change to them in a positive way. As the end of year tests were being handed down from the state in 2012, our school board was in a panic to develop a system to prepare our teachers to teach the new standards. I met with a handful of teachers over the summer and developed the end of year test plan in the form a publication that the Social Studies teachers used to help become more prepared for the test. This publication is still in use for our teachers today. I also wrote the social studies curriculum for the Space Coast High School STEAM and Teacher Academy in 2008, and am certified to teach Advanced Placement, and Cambridge college curriculums.

It is due to my experiences in these areas that I feel I have the capability to make our Brevard School System a national leader in achievement.

*Candidates may be asked to fill out more detailed issue questionnaires, specific to their race.*