

# Our View

## Herald News Endorses

# Aguiar for State Rep.

**One candidate stands above the others, possessing the professionalism, experience, knowledge base and ability to successfully represent the city in the state capital: School Committee member Aguiar.**

**Aguiar doesn't want to be a legislator who disappears to Beacon Hill, rarely to return. He sees himself as a Fall River representative who will always remain an integral part of the local community even though he's asking voters to send him to Boston.**

**"People in the district need you," he said. "There's no sense being a representative of a district without knowing what happens there. I really want to be a Fall River person and make a difference here."**

**To that end, Aguiar plans to keep his seat on the Fall River School Committee, which he has filled for six years, even if he wins the four-way primary race Tuesday and the general election. His plan to remain on the committee shows his commitment to the city and to the voters who he pledged to serve when he was up for re-election just three months ago. Aguiar reasons that remaining on the School Committee will give him the direct contact with constituents state representatives often lack.**

**As a School Committee member and a high school guidance counselor, education is a big part of Aguiar's political resume. He also has achieved the highest level of education of all the candidates, earning a master's degree in education and continuing to work toward a second post-graduate degree. Naturally, Aguiar plans to make education the foundation of his Statehouse life, hoping to serve on the education and workforce development committees.**

**Aguiar believes — and The Herald News concurs — that a quality education, as well as a community with a well-educated workforce, is integral to economic development. Aguiar believes the state needs to do a better job funding education, particularly alternative education, giving "disruptive students" opportunities to succeed in specialized learning programs without distracting from the traditional classroom atmosphere. He supports the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System and believes it should be part of graduation requirements, as it is an indication that students have achieved certain standards necessary to earn a diploma.**

**While Aguiar is clearly an expert in education, he has also shown a clear understanding of other issues. Such versatility will serve him well in the Statehouse.**

**As for commuter rail expansion to Fall River, Aguiar is confident the state will eventually get it done. The economic benefits of encouraging Bostonians to come to Fall River and convenience it would afford SouthCoast residents who travel to Boston are simply too significant to ignore, Aguiar said.**

**Aguiar's firm grasp of the issues, intelligence, well-thought-out plans, professional demeanor, commitment and service experience make him the best candidate.**

***The Herald News endorses Kevin Aguiar in the 7th Bristol District Democratic primary.***

The preceding excerpts are from (Our View) Herald News, February 3, 2008