In 2018, Porter County, Indiana held its municipal elections concurrent with the national midterm elections. Using ArcGIS, the election results for the four-way race for the Duneland School Board at-large seat are mapped. These results are compared to other area election results, voter characteristics, and previous election results to try to visualize the correlation between factors affecting the race, including candidate ideology, geographic base, area demographics, turnout, and national electoral trends. This project serves as a demonstration of how GIS software can improve the understanding of what influences voters and election outcomes.

**Community Profile**

- Jackson, Liberty, Pines, and Westchester Townships
- Population: 37,833 (2017)
- 83.43% non-Hispanic White
- Suburban-exurban
- Density Divide: Anchored by Chesterton (central Westchester Township), density decreases significantly in outlying areas.
- Political Bellwether: Generally to the left of the state, and located in swingy Porter County, elections in Duneland can be indicative of broader electoral trends.
- Fragmented Economically: Newer residential subdivisions in the less dense areas, lakefront communities, and golf course communities have a higher median household income than longer established areas more central in the community.
- Older Outskirts: Rural and newly developing areas have a greater median age than the more established central communities.

**Local Races**

- **2018 School Board At-Large**
  - Lightfoot Pol
  - Filipek
  - Day
  - Rohe

- **2018 School Board vs Senate Turnout**
  - Duneland: 38.8%
  - Duneland: -13.4%

- **2018 Precinct Loyalty**
  - Pol/Donnelly: 19
  - Pol/Braun: 1
  - Filipek/Donnelly: 1
  - Filipek/Braun: 1

**National Races**

- **2016 President Lean**
  - Clinton (D): +6.6%
  - Trump (R): -6.6%

- **2018 Senate Lean**
  - Donnelly (D): +8.9%
  - Braun (R): -8.9%

**Background**

- Old and New Outskirts: Older and newer communities have a greater median age than the more established central communities.
- Fragmented Economically: Newer residential subdivisions in the less dense areas, lakefront communities, and golf course communities have a higher median household income than longer established areas more central in the community.
- Political Bellwether: Generally to the left of the state, and located in swingy Porter County, elections in Duneland can be indicative of broader electoral trends.
- Turnout varied significantly: Areas where few municipal elections were on the ballot cast significantly fewer votes for School Board than for Senate.